



# Bethel Lutheran Church

Pastors: Jonathan Dahl  
Kathy Hartley  
Bob Dahl  
Deacon: Beverly Baseman

Today at Bethel:  
Preacher: Pastor Jonathan Dahl  
Worship Leader: Deacon Beverly Baseman  
Lector: Jean Raatz  
Musician: Jane Kochis

*December 9, 2018*

*9:15 a.m.*

**Welcome to Bethel! We are glad you are here!**

PRELUDE *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Jane Kochis

CALL TO WORSHIP *All Earth is Hopeful* JuBellant Ringers  
All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!  
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:  
This, the labor of people who struggle to see  
how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT HYMN *Prepare the Royal Highway* #264  
(vs. 1-2)

ADVENT READING & CANDLE LIGHTING

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

To you, O God, **we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

ADVENT HYMN *Prepare the Royal Highway* #264  
(vs. 3-4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Together we pray: **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

TIME FOR YOUTH

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

READING

Malachi 3:1-4

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Philippians 1:3-11

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Dahl

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Drawn to the Light*

#593

CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

OFFERINGS ARE RECEIVED

(In gratitude for what God has given us, we offer something of our lives to God and as part of our joyous service to the world.)

NOISY COIN OFFERING

*This Little Light of Mine*

#677

OFFERING

*He is Born*

JuBellant Ringers

THE TABLE BLESSING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF PROMISE FOR THE MEAL OF HOLY COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table. Children receive a blessing. Please inform the pastor if you need a gluten-free communion wafer. The cups in the middle of the communion tray are grape juice. Upon returning to your seat, enjoy silent prayer or singing.)

*What Child Is This*

#296

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

#247

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

#282

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

Together we pray: **Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

#270

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sing a new song! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

*Once In Royal David's City*

Jane Kochis



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*Altar  
Flowers*

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas,  
given by Steve and Dawn Renquist