

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

"You have a place here! Joyfully we profess our faith through God's unconditional love. Here and now God dwells in all of our lives, bears our sins on the cross, and forgives us all."

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 am on Sunday, December 16, 2018

Holy Communion Worship

Pr. Dave Johnson, presiding



The presence of the Lord “in your midst” in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The family of Bethany hopes that your worship experience is spiritually fulfilling and your day begins with our Lord's gifts of peace and joy.

If you are visiting today, you are invited to the Communion Table.

As Christians of the Reformation tradition, we believe that the Sacrament of the Altar is the Real Presence of Christ's body and blood, instituted by Christ Himself as a sign of unity. All baptized and confessing believers are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction—the dipping of the wafer into the wine when the chalice is offered. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The assembly is to line up down center aisle and return to seats by side aisles.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE SEASON OF PENTECOST

Minister/Leaders speak regular print—Congregation speaks bold print

Arrow directives indicate the following: ▲ stand if able ▼ be seated

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

▼ **Prelude Reflections for Meditation**

▼ **Welcome and Greeting**

▼ **Prayers and Praises**

▲ **Invocation**

We gather together in the name of the Father,
the † Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

▲ **Advent Reading**

We move from one task to another from one responsibility to another.

The holidays may wear us out with worries about preparations,
about family relationships, about money, about those last-minute gifts!

We are scattered and busy about too many things. We call out in our fatigue:

Where is the joy of this season amid the chaos, O God?

Where is your gift of presence in our lives?

Let us light this third candle of Advent, a candle of Joy.

In its light, let us turn our worries into prayers for God to be present to us right
now, as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

Let this candle of Advent Joy shine in our hearts all week to remind us to pray and
praise and place Christ at the center this season.

▲ Advent Song and Lighting of the Advent Candle

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" verses 1, 2 & 3



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
 He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
 Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

▲ Confession and 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.

▲ **Hymn of Gathering**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (page 10)

Children sing 1st verse

Congregation sings verses 2 & 3

▲ **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

▲ **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God,

You have made Yourself known in Your Son, Jesus, Redeemer of the world.

We give thanks for His birth as our Savior,

for He sets us free from the slavery of our sin: through Jesus Christ,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Christmas Jubilee

A Christmas Presentation by Young Children

An Invitation

*Reading by: Josh Schiltz, Wyatt & Owen Dunkes, and
Maddex Burklund*

Song

Jubilee Bells performed by WWWJ students

Who is this Baby? Reading by: Tony Stark, Carter Grondine, and Zayden & Zuri Rochon

Song “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (page
Children sing 1st verse
Congregation sings verses 2, 3 & 4)

Jesus is Born Reading by: Grace Schiltz & Josh Schiltz, Mckenzie Kerins, Owen & Wyatt Dunkes, and Maddex Burklund

In a Little Stable Reading by: Gabriella Stark, Jordyn Johnson, Zahlia Rochon

Angels Tell—Christ Has Come Reading by: Mckenzie Kerins

Song Away in a Manger — WWWJ students

We Rejoice in Jubilee! Reading by: Grace Schiltz

Alphabet Jubilee recitation WWWJ students

The Song Jubilee! (page 12)
Children sing the refrain and first stanza.
The congregation is invited to join in signing the refrain each time it is repeated.

▲ **Prayers of Intercession**

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church,
the world, and all of creation.

(A brief silence)

For choirs, hymn writers, musicians, and off-key singing,
we give you thanks, Holy One. Fill us with your song of joy.
Open us to proclaim your glory in our singing, speaking, and silence.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect the creation, life-giving God. Sustain the mountains and hills.

Restore the rivers. For the hurting places in creation;
for seas and lands ravaged by natural disasters;
for communities and creatures displaced by floods and droughts.
Grant peace through your presence and joy in your healing.

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

For peace to ring out in our hearts and in our homes;
for mercy and forgiveness to reign in every community;
for war to cease and hunger to end.

Give us this joy now, Holy One.

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

For those who are oppressed;
for soldiers and veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and their families;
for neighbors who have no access to medical care;
for those who are ill and those who mourn.

We pray especially for —

*Kim Davis, Orice Walters, Tom & Dorothy Temple,
Sarah Underhill, Kristin Underhill, Mike, Theresa, Erick Schultz, Tony Solda,
Ron Arnold, Terry, Kierstin, Jen, Rosie Buteyn, Arlene Coulter, Debi Phelps,
Dan Gyselinck, Paula Conery, Ryan Dedo, Blake Sternhagen, Jean Guldswog,
Rodney Walter, Paula Reynolds, Danielle Kitz, Sandy Verbos,
those who have received prayer shawls and are in need of comfort,
those who have requested special prayers through our website,
and others that we now name silently or aloud.*

(brief silence)

In every situation help them to know you are with them always, let us pray.

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

For foster families opening their homes; for grandparents raising grandchildren;
for single parents struggling to make ends meet;
for expectant parents who now grieve. Give strength and comfort, Holy One.

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

We offer our own prayers to You, either silently or aloud.

(other intercessions may be offered)

In thanksgiving for preachers and teachers who have guided us on the way.
 Bring us with them to rejoice eternally in you.
 Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us,
 we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken,
 in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

*September-December Mission ~ Good Samaritan Fund
 Special envelopes available—(make checks to Bethany Lutheran Church)*

▲ **Offertory Prayer**

God of abundance,
**we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
 and with them our very lives.**
**Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need
 until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

▲ **Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
 and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

▲ **The 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.

▲ **Invitation To Communion**

God fills the hungry with good things.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

▲ **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace until He comes again.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

▲ **Post Communion Prayer**

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.

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

▲ **Hymn of Sending**

“Silent Night” (page 13)

▲ **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
 In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

▼ **Announcements**

Anyone is welcome to announce any upcoming events or share thoughts of interest

▲ **Dismissal and Sharing of the Peace**

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

Go in peace and share that peace with one another.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Greet those seated near you with love and the sign of Christ’s peace.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(For alternate lyrics, use *LSB* 380)

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!”
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim,
 “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King!”

The Congregation

2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
 Christ the everlasting Lord,
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
 Hail the incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as Man with us to dwell,
 Jesus, our Immanuel. *Refrain*
3. Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Ris’n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
 Born that we no more may die,
 Born to raise each child of earth,
 Born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

O Come, All Ye Faithful *(LSB 379)*

1. O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

The Congregation

2. Highest, most holy,
Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: *Refrain*
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

The Congregation and Children

Jubilee!

Children sing the refrain and first stanza. The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain each time it is repeated.

T.K.D.

Terry K. Dittmer

Refrain

Praise the Lord and join the cel - e - bra - tion.

Praise the Lord and join the Ju - bi - lee!

Hear the peo - ple say - ing, hear the peo - ple pray - ing.

God has re - deemed us, Ju - bi - lee!

1. Tambourines are ringing,
People's voices singing,
Great excitement tingling, Jubilee!
Tambourines are ringing,
Tambourines are ringing, Jubilee! *Refrain*
2. Lutes, guitar, and cello,
Praise to God they bellow,
Praise both loud and mellow, Jubilee!
Lutes, guitar, and cello,
Lutes, guitar, and cello, Jubilee! *Refrain*

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright!

Round yon virgin, mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild.

Sleep in heavenly peace! Sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night! Holy night! Shepards quake at the sight.

Glories stream for heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah!

Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God love's pure light.

Radiant beams from thy holy face. With the dawn of redeeming grace.

Jesus Lord at thy birth! Jesus Lord at thy birth!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Following worship this morning, join us for the 3rd Sunday BLG Breakfast and also the Crossroads Bake Sale Fundraiser.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR DECEMBER 23

Lector—Erv Sparapani

Prayer Assistant —Erv Sparapani

Communion Assistant —Dave Lofholm

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE/SOUP SUPPER

Join us on Wednesday evening, Wednesday, December 19, at 6:00 pm for the Advent midweek service and soup supper. Grace Methodist will be providing the meal for this coming Wednesday.

YOUTH GROUP

There will be NO Youth Group meeting on Friday, December 14th.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24th—Christmas Eve Family Worship will be on at 3:00 pm and the Christmas Eve Traditional Worship will be held at 11:00 pm. **NO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY.**

BETHANY CALENDAR OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

Bethany meetings and events are posted on the
homepage of www.norwaybethany.org

Sun, Dec 16	Third Sunday in Advent, Pr. Dave Johnson presiding Children's Christmas Program 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am BLG 3rd Sunday Breakfast and Crossroads Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser
Mon, Dec 17	10:30 am Prayer Shawl Sisters 6:00 pm Council Meeting
Tue, Dec 18	9:00 am Community Coffee 9:00 am Cover Girls
Wed, Dec 19	10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Midweek Advent Worship/Soup Supper
Thu, Dec 20	7:00 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 6:30 pm Pub Theology
Sun, Dec 23	Fourth Sunday in Advent, Pr. Dave Johnson presiding 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Coffee Social
Mon, Dec 24	3:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion
Tue, Dec 25	NO CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Ministers	All the members of this Body of Christ
Church Address	130 O'Dill Dr., Norway, MI 49870
Pastor	Pr. David Johnson
Pastor's Hours	Mon & Thurs—10:00 am—12 pm and by appointment
Emergency Phone	651-769-3365
Pastor's Email	ftp565@yahoo.com
Office Secretaries	Linda Hawkinson; Assistant Secretary-Andrea Anderson
Office Hours	Mon & Thurs-9am-12pm; Tue & Wed—flex time, call first
Office Phone	906-563-8472
Office Email	bethanyoffice@norwaymi.com
Website	www.norwaybethany.org

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVE AS WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY . . .

Leader	Pr. Dave Johnson
Greeters/Ushers	
Lector	Peggy Gattrra
Prayer Assistant	Peggy Gattrra
Communion Assistant	Pat Losey
Music—Synthia	(Barb Rice or Ray Anderson)
Altar Guild	Leslie Randall and Kathy Hart

ALTAR FLOWERS

To the Glory of God

Altar flower sign up forms at front entry - \$15 per bouquet (checks: Bethany Ladies Guild)

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