

He is the Vinegrower;
we are the Vineyard.



Returning to
the Vineyard

Isaiah 5 & 11

Thanksgiving Eve November 22, 2023

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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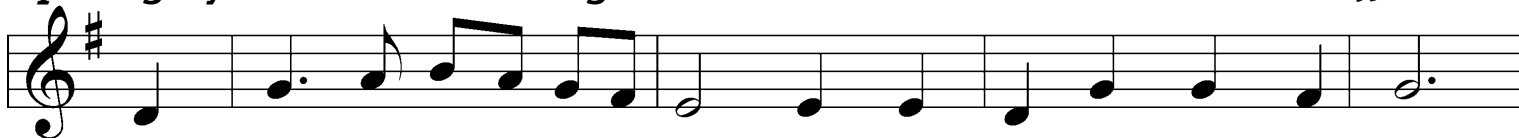
PSALMS (BOOK ONE)

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Book One of the Psalms (1-41).

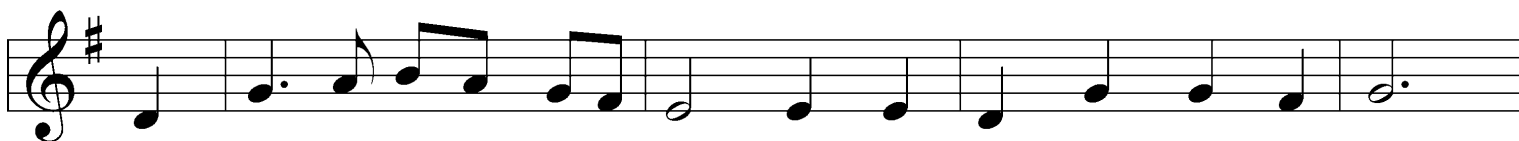
Opening Hymn

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

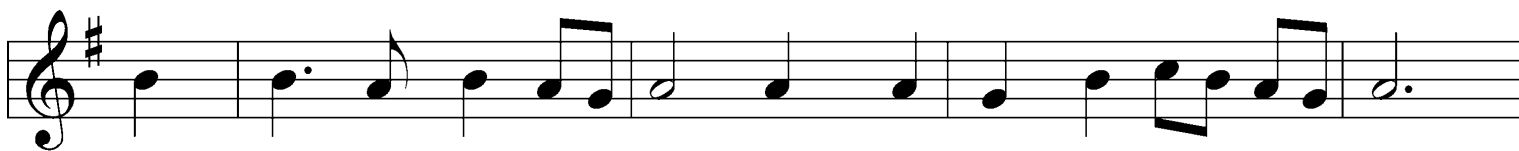
LSB 893



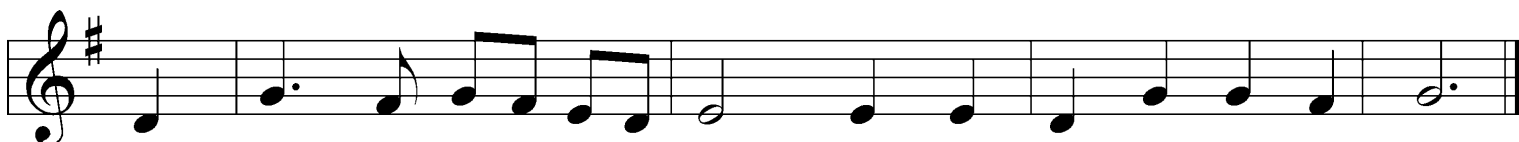
1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.
The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

Invocation (based on Psalms 8:1-2, 24:7-10)

P: O Yahweh, our Lord,

C: how magnificent is your Name throughout the earth!

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: You reveal your majesty in the heavens above.

From the mouths of children and babies and adults and seniors,

C: You have given us words to praise You,

"Yahweh" is the personal Name of God the Father in Hebrew, often translated simply as "LORD".

P: Your strength over Satan and all evil.

C: Look up, you gates.

P: Rise up, you eternal doors.

C: Then the majestic king will enter into our presence.

P: Who is this majestic king?

C: The Lord who is strong and mighty.

The Lord who is mighty in battle.

Look up, you gates.

P: Rise up, you eternal doors.

C: Then the majestic king will enter into our lives.

P: Who is this majestic king?

C: The Lord of Heaven's Armies.

He is the majestic king. Amen.

Song-Psalm of Praise (Based on Psalm 8) How Majestic is Your Name

O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is Your name in all the
earth. O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is Your name in all the
earth. O Lord, we praise Your name. O
Lord, we mag-ni-fy Your name: Prince of Peace. Might-y
God, O Lord God Al-might - y. O y.

Confession of Sins (based on Psalms 19:12-13, 25:4-7)

P: Oh, Yahweh, our God, who can know all their errors?

C: *Please do not punish us for sins we are unaware of.*

P: More than that, keep us from committing flagrant sins;

C: *do not allow such sins to control us.*

P: But only in the blood of Jesus, we will be blameless,

C: *and innocent of blatant rebellion.*

P: Make us understand your ways, O Lord.

C: *Teach us your paths.*

P: Guide us into your truth and teach us.

C: *For you are the God who delivers us;*

P: on you we rely all day long.

C: *Remember your compassionate and faithful deeds, O Lord,*

P: for you have always acted with such steadfast mercy.

C: *Do not hold against us the sins of our youth or our rebellious acts.*

P: Because you are faithful to us,

C: *extend to us your favor, O Lord,*

because of the life, death, and resurrection of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

P: We pause in the presence of the Lord

C: *Remembering our sins and our need for the Lord's forgiveness.*

(silent meditation)

Absolution (Declaration of Forgiveness) (based on Psalm 25:8a,11,14b,20a,22)

P: The Lord is both kind and fair;

For the sake of the Lord's reputation, His holy Name, Yahweh,

He forgives your sin, because it is great—

but not so great that He cannot redeem you and make you His holy ones.

Through the work of Jesus who fulfilled the Lord's covenant faithfulness for you,

He protects you and delivers you and rescues you from all your distress.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

Song of Praise (based on Psalm 25)

tune: LSB 892



1 Lord, I lift my soul to you; in your ho - ly name I trust.
3 Don't re - call my sins of late; help re - lease me from their hold.



Long I've known your paths are true; all your ways are good and just.
Je - sus save me from my fate; keep me hum - ble, keep me bold.



Wait - ing ev - er for your love, lead me in your truth and grace
May re - demp - tion be my course, and my trou - bles be no more.



Per - fect guid - ance from a - bove, ev - er more in your em - brace.
With your grace my on - ly source, you will my new life re - store.

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Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires. © 2023.
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Today's reading adapted from Robert Alter's translation in *The Hebrew Bible: Volume 2, Prophets* (New York: Norton, 2019).
Today's Collect adapted from: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/prayer-of-commitment-isaiah-51-7.html>
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Today's Narrative Lectionary Readings

(Robert Alter, alt.)

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing to my Beloved,
my love song for His vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a hillside rich in soil.
²And He dug it and hauled out its stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
And He built a watchtower in its midst,
and a winepress, too, dug out of rock.
And He hoped to get good grapes,
but it put forth rotten fruit.
³“And now, O dweller of Jerusalem
and man of Judah,
judge between Me and My vineyard.
⁴What more could be done for My vineyard,
that I did not do?
Why did I hope to get grapes
and it put forth rotten fruit?
⁵And now, let me tell you,
what I am about to do to My vineyard:
take away its hedge,
and it shall turn to waste,
break down its fence,
and it shall be trampled.
⁶And I will make it a wild field,
and it shall not be pruned or raked,
and thorn and thistle shall spring up;
And I will charge the clouds not to rain on it.”
⁷For the house of Israel is
the vineyard of the LORD of Armies.
and the men of Judah are
His delightful planting.
He hoped for justice, and look, jaundice,
for righteousness,
and look, wretchedness.

Isaiah 11:1-5

¹And a shoot shall come out from
the stump of Jesse,
a branch shall bloom from his roots.
²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and valor,
a spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD,
his very breath in the fear of the LORD.
³And not by what his eyes see shall he judge,
and not by what his ears hear
shall he render verdicts.
⁴And he shall judge the poor in justice
and render right verdicts
for the lowly of the land.
⁵And he shall strike the land
with the rod of his mouth,
with the breath from his lips
he shall put the wicked to death.
And justice shall be the belt round his waist,
faithfulness the belt round his loins.
L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Lord God, our Father, You ask of us today: “My people, answer Me: What more could I have done for you?” Thank You that You did not leave us a wild field, but sent Your Son to restore the vineyard, to restore Your people. Teach and help us to respond with our whole being to your daily forgiveness and patience, to the riches of life brought us by Jesus, to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, that we may be a people that bears lasting fruits. May we bring to all a justice animated by love, may we learn to share as you do with us. All of this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, the Worker in the Field who brings restoration and will one day restore all things.

C: Amen.

Anthem

We Come to Say Thank You

Adult Choir

Thank You, O Lord, we come to say, “Thank You.”

For all You’ve done, we say,

“Thank You, that You today for all the blessings You send our way.”

Thank You, O Lord, we come to say, “Thank You.”

For all You’ve done, we say,

“Thank You, that You today for all the blessings You send our way.”

For the beauty of the earth, for the glories of the skies,

For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,

Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,

Stars of heavenly light.

Thank You, O Lord, we come to say, “Thank You.”

For all You’ve done, we say,

“Thank You, that You today for all the blessings You send our way.”

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent child.

Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thought and mild.

For Thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given,

For the great, great love Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Endless joy in heaven!

Thank You, O Lord, we come to say, “Thank You.”

For all You’ve done, we say,

“Thank You, that You today for all the blessings You send our way.”

Thank You, O Lord, we come to say, “Thank You.”

For all You’ve done, we say,

“Thank You, that You today for all the blessings You send our way.”

For all the blessings You send, we thank You, Lord.

We thank You, Lord!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Now Thank We All Our God

LSB 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,

2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,

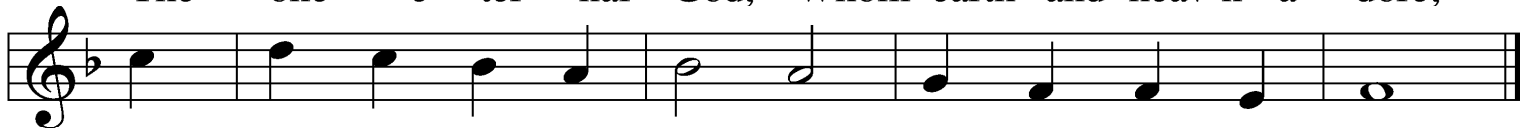
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Confession of Faith (Based on Psalm 23, the Apostles' Creed & the Catechism) **(spoken in unison)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe the LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

All this he does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy,
without any merit or worthiness in me.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
 Jesus has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
 purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.
 I believe He prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 He anoints my head with oil; my cup overflows.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
 He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth,
 and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.
 On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead,
 and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (Based on Psalm 30) O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand
(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

tune: LSB 526



1.O God of Be - thel, by whose hand thy peo - ple still are
 2.Our vows, our prayers we now pre - sent be - fore thy throne of
 3.Through each per - plex - ing path of life our wand'-ring - foot - steps
 4.O spread thy cov - ering wings a - round till all our won - derings



fed, who through this wea - ry pil - gri-mage hast all our fath - ers led.
 grace; God of our fa - thers, be the God of their sec - ceed - ing race.
 guide; give us each day our dai - ly bread, and rai - ment fit pro - vide.
 cease, and at our Fath - er's love a - bode our souls ar - rive in peace.

Prayers of the Church (Based on Psalm 33:1-5,8,13-15,18-22)

P: You godly ones, shout for joy because of the Lord!

It is appropriate for the ones-made-righteous in Jesus to offer him praise.

C: Give thanks to the Lord with songs and words;

Sing to him a new song.

Pray as you shout out your praises to him.

P: (...Pastor offers thanksgivings. . .)

As the psalm declares: For the Lord's decrees are just, and everything he does is fair.

He promotes equity and justice;

the Lord's faithfulness extends throughout the earth.

C: Let the whole earth fear the Lord.

Let all who live in the world stand in awe of him.

P: (...Pastor prays for the world and the nation. . .)

As the psalm declares: The Lord watches from heaven; he sees all people.

From the place where he lives he looks carefully at all the earth's inhabitants.

He is the one who forms every human heart, and takes note of all their actions.

C: Look, the Lord takes notice of his loyal followers,

those who wait for him to demonstrate his faithfulness

by saving their lives from death and sustaining them during times of famine.

P: (...Pastor prays for specific needs. . .)

As the psalm declares: We wait for the Lord; he is our deliverer and shield.

C: For our hearts rejoice in him, for we trust in his holy name.

May we experience your faithfulness, O Lord, for we wait for you. Amen.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed

are invited to receive Communion with us

if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,

and the wine is the blood of Christ,

truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you

believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a

further chance to talk. We invite those who are not

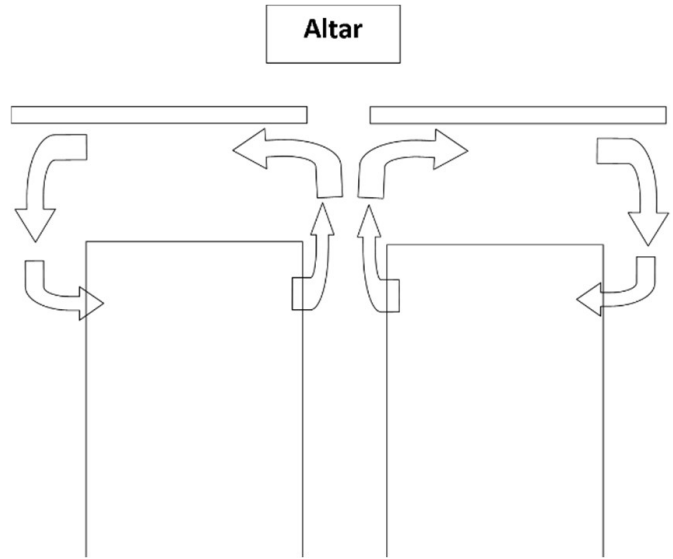
communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a

blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Psalm 30:3-5,8,10-12)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, you pulled us up from judgment and hell;

C: you rescued us from among those descending into the grave forever.

P: Sing to the Lord, you faithful followers of his;

C: give thanks to his holy name.

P: For his anger lasts only a brief moment,

C: and his good favor restores one's life.

P: One may experience sorrow during the night,

C: but joy arrives in the morning.

P: To you, O Lord, we cried out; we begged the Lord for mercy:

C: Hear, O Lord, and have mercy on us.

O Lord, deliver us.

P: Then you turned our lament into dancing;

you removed our grieving clothes and covered us with joy.

C: So now our hearts will sing to you and not be silent;

O Lord our God, we will always give thanks to you.

Sanctus (based on Psalm 30)

Video (Poor Bishop Hooper)

I will exalt you, Lord, my God
for you alone have brought me up
you haven't made my enemies
to triumph over me

thank you that your anger lasts only a moment
thank you your anger lasts only a moment moment moment

when I cried you healed all my sickness
and brought me from the pit of death
you spared me from my rightful place
so sing all you of faith

thank you that your anger lasts only a moment
thank you your anger lasts only a moment moment moment

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")



Distribution Hymn Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637



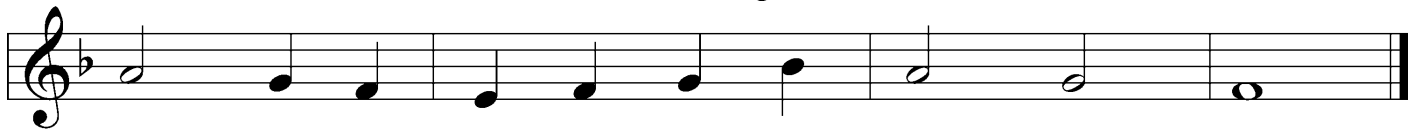
1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord....

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer Song (based on Psalm

Video (Poor Bishop Hooper)

thank you that your anger lasts only a moment
thank you that your anger lasts only a moment
thank you that your anger lasts only a moment
thank you your anger lasts only a moment moment moment

his favor lasts a lifetime
though weeping we spend the night
there'll be joy in the morning (4x)

you turned my mourning on into dancing
you stole my clothes of ash
and you robed me in gladness
you set me standing upon a mountain
so i will sing your praise sing your praise sing your praises forever (3x)

Benediction (Blessing) (based on Psalm 40:1-4a)

P: You waited patiently for the Lord;

and he turned toward you and heard your cry for help.

He lifted you out of the watery pit, out of the slimy mud.

May he place your feet on a rock and give you secure footing.

He has given you reason to sing a new song, praising our God.

C: **May many see what God has done,**

so that they might swear allegiance to him and trust in the Lord.

P: How blessed are you who trust in the Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

For the Fruits of His Creation

LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY W/COMMUNION) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM (IN GYM) – 4PM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.



Poinsettia Order Form

Due on Sunday, December 3rd

Orders are being taken for poinsettia plants to decorate our worship areas on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The cost for a plant is **\$12**.

Name: _____

Phone or E-mail address: _____

How many plants_____

Price.....x \$12

Enclosed Payment.....\$_____

Make checks payable to “Bethel Altar Guild”, and place clearly marked payment in offering or bring to the church office.

Please place my plant(s)

In memory of: _____

In appreciation of/to honor:_____

To the Glory of God

Poinsettia(s) can be picked up after the Christmas Day worship service or that week. All plants will be red.