

An Advent Midweek Series



Wednesday, November 29, 2017

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,

Mandi Stilson – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Elder:	Mike Bandman
Communion Elder:	Bob Souza
Acolyte:	Jacob Herstowski
Lay Readers:	Cheryl & Dave Ross
Ushers:	Monte Stoltzman, OPEN
Greeters:	Nichole & Chelsi Todd

THE LITURGY FROM THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

This service carries the themes of Advent using words drawn from the New Testament Letter to the Hebrews—the Hebrew Christians who welcomed Jesus as Messiah.

Opening Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Invocation and Greeting

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

P: Grace be with all of you.

Hebrews 13:25

C: *And also with you.*

P: In a very little while, the One who is coming will come and will not delay. *Heb. 10:37*

Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the age

to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 9:26

C: *I will put my trust in him.*

Hebrews 2:13

P: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

C: *I will put my trust in him.*

P: I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters.

C: *In the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Amen.*

Hebrews 2:12

Confession of Sin

P: Brothers and sisters, we have come to Mount Zion

Hebrews 12:22-24

and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem,

and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,

and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,

and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,

and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,

Jesus, the Son of God,

let us hold fast to our confession.

For we do not have a high priest

who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses

but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are,

yet without sin.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,

so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Heb. 4:14-16*

Silence for meditation on our need for Christ's forgiveness.

Absolution (Forgiveness)

P: The Holy Spirit says,

Hebrews 10:15-17

“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”
and, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”
Your sins are forgiven

in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen. Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the age
to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.***

Hebrews 9:26

I will put my trust in him. Amen.

Hebrews 2:13

Hymn of Response

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born LSB 624, sts. 1&2; tune: 571

1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con

ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought

forth came He, A - noint ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ***And also with you.***

P: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may
be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty
deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

C: ***Amen.***

A Reading from an Advent Prophet

Isaiah 64:1–9 (ESV)

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.
L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Old Testament Canticle (sung three times)

from LSB # 261

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Corinthians 1:3–9 (ESV)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Magnificat (based on the Song of Mary) Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord LSB 935, st. 2

2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
His ho-ly name, the Lord, the Might-y One.

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Gospel Declaration

P: Long ago in many and various ways

God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C: But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

P: He is the reflection of God's glory

and the exact imprint of God's very being,

C: and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

P: When he had made purification for sins,

C: he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Amen.

Hebrews 1:1-3

Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1–10 (ESV)

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn of the Day

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

Sermon

“Who is Waiting? More People Than You Know”

Offering

Offertory (based on the Song of Mary) Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord LSB 935, st. 1
Sung as our Offerings are brought forward to the Altar



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

I Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!

Un - num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it voice;

Ten - der to me the prom - ise of His Word;

In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.

Prayers

P: In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications,
with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death,
and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Hebrews 5:7

Brothers and sisters, let us pray to the God of peace.

Hebrews 13:20

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,
you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care;

C: Come and show your people the way to salvation.

P: O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, you showed yourself
to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the holy law on Mt. Sinai;

C: Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.

P: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice;

C: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

P: O King of the nations, the only joy of every heart;
O Keystone of the mighty arch of humankind;

C: Come and save the creatures you fashioned from the dust.

Continues on the next page.



P: O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people.

C: Come and set us free, Lord our God.

P: To Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the way, the truth, and the life,
let us make our humble prayer:

C: Come and stay with us, Lord.

P: Son of the Most High, Your Advent was announced to the Virgin Mary by Gabriel,

C: Come and rule over your people forever.

P: Holy One of God, in your presence John the Baptist leapt in Elizabeth's womb,

C: Bring the joy of salvation to all the earth.

P: Jesus the Savior, the angel revealed your name to Joseph,

C: Come and save your people from their sins.

P: Light of the world, for whom Simeon, Anna, and all the faithful waited,

C: Come and comfort us.

P: Watchful at all times, we pray for strength to stand with confidence before our
Maker and Redeemer. May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and
bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

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.

Benediction

P: Now may the God of peace,
who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in everything good
so that you may do his will,
working in you that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn**Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise**

LSB 917



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

Announcements**Acknowledgments**

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<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/texts/daily2/prayers/prayers.aspx#advent>

Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Advent Worship:

- Wednesday, 11/29 at 6:30pm in Sanctuary
- Wednesday, 12/6 at 6:30pm in Sanctuary
- Wednesday, 12/13 at 6:30pm in Sanctuary
- Wednesday, 12/20 at 6:30pm in Sanctuary

Children's Christmas Worship:

- Sunday, 12/10 at 4:00pm in Gym

Christmas Eve Worship-Sunday, December 24:

- ONE service at 10am

There will be a short devotion and video

- 6pm: Candlelight service in Gym

- 11pm: Candlelight service in Sanctuary

Christmas Day Worship

- 10am Festival in Gym

Sunday 12/31:

- Communion at 10am in Gym, followed by fellowship

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10