



***4th Sunday in Advent
December 24, 2017***

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Pastor Ben Squires

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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

ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SING

This service is based on the Praise service in the hymn/songbook, All God's People Sing.

Opening Hymn

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

LSB 900



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
 2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid - en moth - er told,
 3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
 4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
 For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
 When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
 Under all the mighty heav'n
 Whereby those to sin enslaved
 Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
 Human name of God above;
 Pleading only this, we flee
 Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Invocation

P: In the Name of God the Father:
 P: In the Name of His Son, Jesus:
 P: In the Name of God the Spirit:
 P: Let us join our thankful voices,

C: Praise to our creating God!
C: Praise to our redeeming God!
C: Praise to our renewing God!
C: Amen! Amen! Praise the Lord!

Confession (based on Psalm 51)

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your unfailing love;

C: according to Your great compassion, wipe out our sin.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

C: and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us. Amen.

Absolution (based on Psalm 103)

P: The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He does not deal with you according to your sins,
nor repay you according to your iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove your transgressions from you.
According to this Word from the Lord, and by the command of our Lord Jesus
Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you your sins in
the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Bless His Holy Name! Amen.

Words of Praise

P: From all that dwell below the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise;

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Let the redeemer's name be sung, Through every land, by every tongue.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Eternal are Your mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Your Word;

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Your praise shall sound from shore to shore, 'Til suns shall rise and set no more.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins
which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You
live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2–5a (ESV)

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;

then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he shall be their peace.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

Romans 16:25–27 (ESV)

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26–38 (ESV)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388

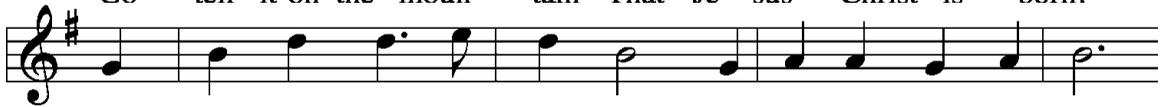
Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night,

2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Be - hold, through - out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.

Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.

And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Offering & Prayer Requests

During the Offering, please write down any Prayer Requests on the papers available in each row. Pass them to the center aisle. They will be picked up during the film. After the film, Pastor will include your requests in the Prayers of the Church.

Devotional Film

“The Very First Noel”



Prayers

Luther's Evening Prayer

P: Let us pray together.

C: *I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. 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: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C: *Amen.*

Acknowledgements

This service is based on the Praise service in *All God's People Sing*. Other portions adapted from *Lutheran Service Book*.

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Closing Hymn

First Noel

LBW #56



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say Was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star Shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star Three .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north-west, O'er . .



cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; In fields where .
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; And to the . .
 Wise . Men came . . from coun - try far; To seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; And there it . .



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . great light, And . . so it con -
 king was their . . in - tent, And to fol - low the
 did both stop . . and stay Right . . o - ver the

Refrain



night . that was . . so deep.
 tin - ued both day . . and night.
 star . . wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place . where Je - sus lay.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

5 Then entered in those Wise Men three, And offered there in his presence
 Full rev'rently upon their knee, Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain