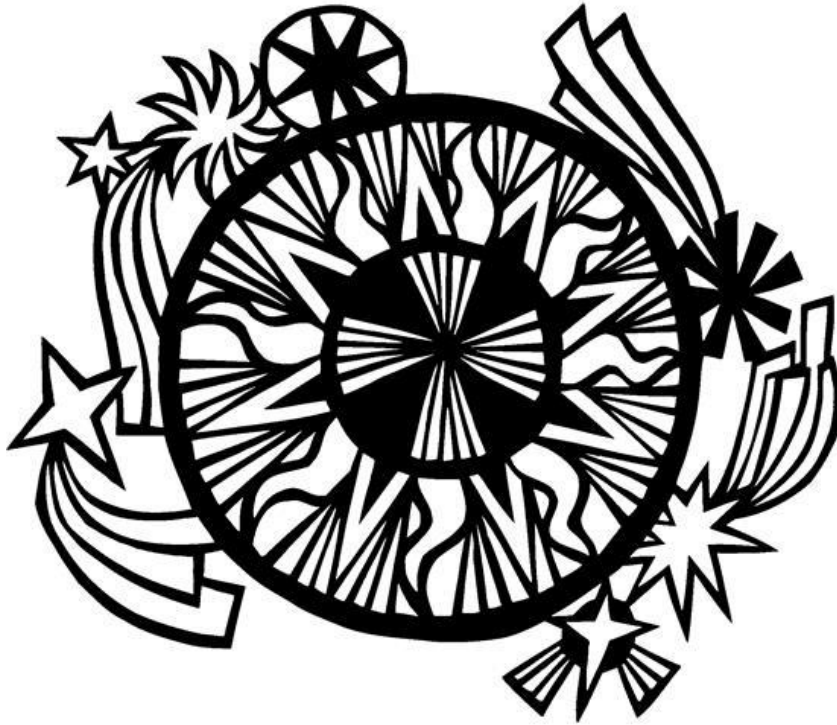


Second Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany

January 5, 2025



Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA

Phone: (319) 752-3621

www.bethanyburlington.org

Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love - we are God's people.

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

Second Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany

ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship-red hymnal

PRELUDE

Welcome, Celebration Bank
(money given to Human Concerns Fund)

We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

(Please stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

C: God-with-us, we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C: Amen.

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



1 In a deep, un - bound - ed dark - ness, long be - fore the
2 Though our world is ev - er - chang - ing, you are con - stant,
3 Joy trans - forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your
4 God of Ha - gar, God of Sa - rah, God of no - mad



first light shone, you, O God, be - yond all mer - it
firm, and sure, faith - ful to your cov - 'nant prom - ise.
match - less grace, send - ing Christ to dwell a - mong us,
A - bra - ham; God of Mir - iam, God of Mo - ses,



worked a won - der faith makes known: in your mer - cy,
Trust - ing you, we live, se - cure: sing - ing prais - es,
Word made flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav - ior,
Fi - 'ry Pil - lar, great I AM: lead us home - ward,



in your mer - cy, you em - braced us
sing - ing prais - es, long as heart and
Friend and Sav - ior, in whose life we
lead us home - ward, to the love - feast



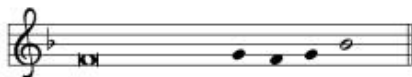
as your own,
breath en - dure, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
glimpse your face,
of the Lamb,

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



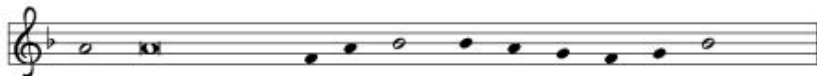
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



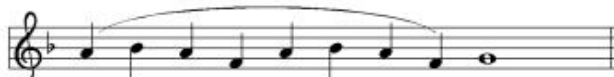
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace




to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.




1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain




Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the




high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

L: Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

**C: Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

L: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

**C: Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

L: In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**C: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

L: May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

**C: For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

L: He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

**C: From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

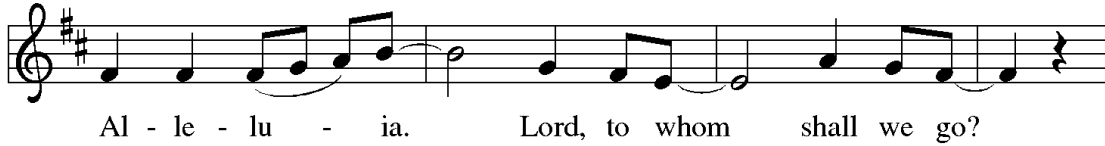
⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Gospel according to Matthew the 2nd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ELW Hymn 270

We Respond to God’s Word

APOSTLES’ CREED *(unison)*

**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.**

(Please Stand)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(Please be seated)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

P: God of grace,

C: **receive our prayer.**

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please Stand)

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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

P: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

(Please be seated)

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The musical score is written on four staves in G minor (one flat). It features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) over the notes 'a-way' and 'mer-cy' in the first three lines. The final line ends with a double bar line.

DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are welcome to come for a blessing. You will be given a wafer. The glasses of dark liquid are wine; the middle ring is juice. There is a bowl of water if you would like to remember your baptism.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*“What Feast of Love”
“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”*

ELW Hymn 487

ELW Hymn 295

(Please stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.
Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

ELW Hymn 275

THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector: Rachel Lindeen
Usher: Susan Swanson
Communion: Teresa Morehead; Bill Mundt
Greeters: Carol Dodge
Missionary Support: Open
Altar Flowers: Open
Remember in prayer: Eleonore Benninghoven; Jim & Bev Felland; Genieve Hingst; The Families of William Ward, Sr. & Marian Chaddock

~~~~~

A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right.  
There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters  
who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week.  
Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship  
hall following the worship service. We would like to  
get to know you and offer our friendship.

~~~~~

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today: **Second Sunday of Christmas**
9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 a.m. Unhanging of the Greens
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study @ Messiah
6:30 p.m. Finance

Next Sunday: **Baptism of Our Lord**
Baptism of Jim Webb
9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 a.m. Church Life
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

NEW YEAR, NEW SETTING

We will be moving to a new setting in our liturgy. Starting January 5th, we will be using setting 6!

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are out for pickup in the Fellowship Hall!

UNHANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, January 5, we will be needing volunteers to stay after worship to help take down Christmas decorations and put away until next year!

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Reports will be out on Sunday, January 12!

BILL WARD, SR. FUNERAL

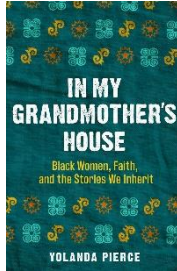
The Funeral for Bill Ward, Sr. will be held on Monday, January 6th at 10:00am at Bethany with burial to follow at Aspen Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 5 at Prugh's Funeral Home. Time is still being determined.

A REQUEST FROM PATTY CHACEY

Patty Chacey would love to have some visitors come see her! She is currently out at Klein's Nursing Home.

PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB!

Pastor's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm at Bethany. We are reading "In My Grandmother's House" By Yolanda Pierce.



OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

We will not have donations for January for food pantry. Thank you everyone for your generosity! Stay tuned for what February will be!

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*Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA Phone: (319) 752-3621
www.bethanyburlington.org*

***Pastor Misha's contact info: 412-628-6382;
damisha.mcfarlandpollock@gmail.com***

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Our Staff

Rev. Misha McFarland-Pollock
Cory Byrne
Kim Engle
Wendy Bell
Michelle Huppenbauer
Pam Crable

Pastor
Organist/Choir Director
Stephen Minister Coordinator
Office Administrator
Financial Secretary
Custodian