

# Third Sunday after Epiphany

## January 25, 2026



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

# Third Sunday after Epiphany

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

## PRELUDE

Welcome, Birthday/Anniversary Bank  
*(money given to Bethany's Human Concerns Fund)*

## We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

*(Please Stand)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,  
C: **you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: **Amen.**

*Refrain*  
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

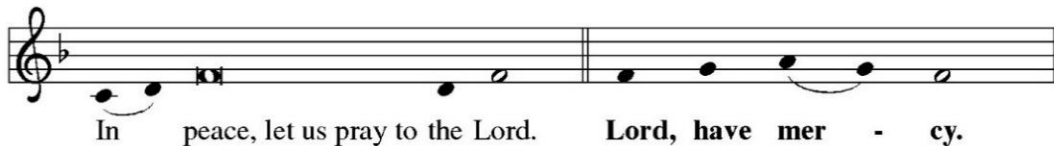
Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God and go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

**GREETING**

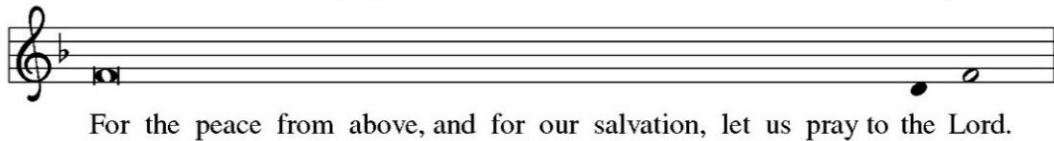
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

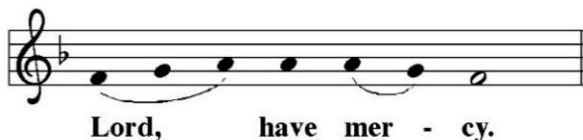
# KYRIE



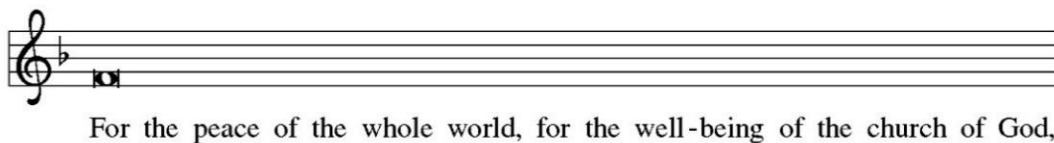
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



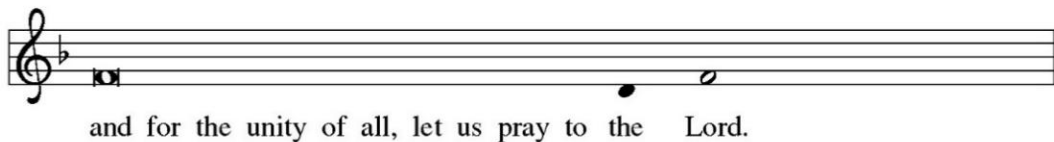
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



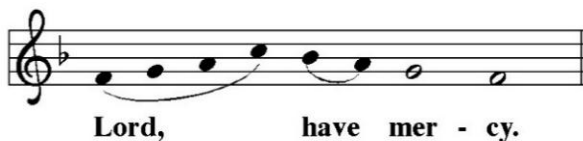
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



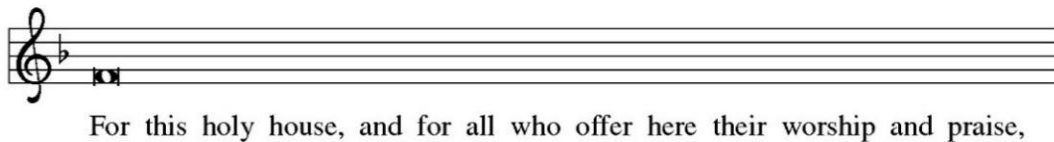
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



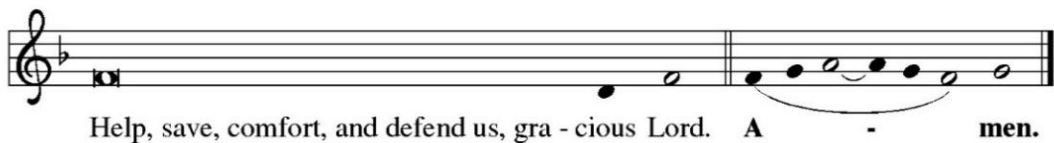
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

## We Listen to God's Word

*(Please be seated)*

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

- L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- C: One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**
- L: For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- C: Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**
- L: Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.
- C: My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face."  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**
- L: Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

*(Please be seated)*

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

- L: Word of God, word of life.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Gospel according to Matthew the 4th chapter.

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

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 4:12-23**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—  
<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of our Lord

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

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock

(Please Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

ELW Hymn 798



1 “Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 “Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 “Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 “Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

# We Respond to God's Word

## THE 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.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

*(Please be seated)*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Each petition concludes:*

P: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

# We Share in the Holy Meal

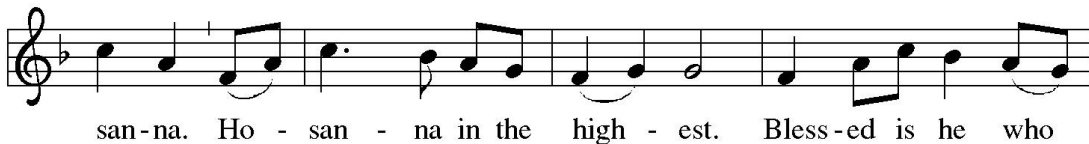
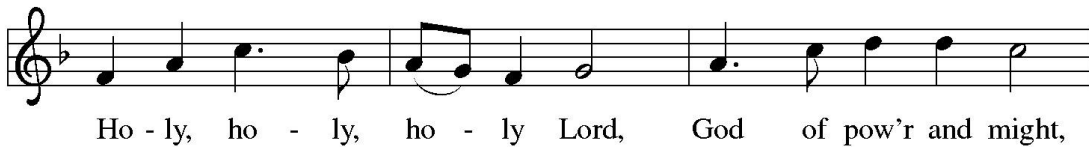
*(Please Stand)*

## DIALOGUE



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....

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



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## 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.**

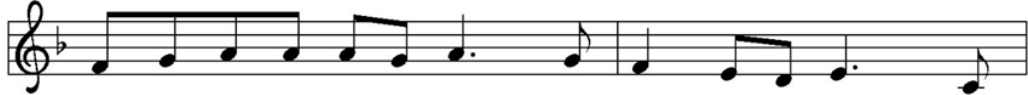
**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

*(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.

## 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

*"Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"*

ELW Hymn 696

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":  
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king,  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.



*(Please Stand)*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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.**



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.  
 C: Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Lector: Vicki Stoller  
Usher: Susan Swanson  
Communion: Steve & Sue Rogers  
Greeters: Judy Craven  
Missionary Support: Michelle & Tiffany Huppenbauer  
Altar Flowers: Open  
Remember in prayer: Norma Bock; Bill Ward, Jr.; Mark Hermann

~~~~~

*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.*

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**ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

Today: **Third Sunday after Epiphany-Joint Service @ Bethany**  
9:00 a.m. Worship w/ Holy Communion  
**10:15 a.m. Annual All-Congregational Meeting**  
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

Tuesday: **7:00 p.m. Messiah Youth Confession & Forgiveness  
Service @ Messiah**

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study @ Messiah

Next Sunday: **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany-Joint Service @ Messiah**  
10:30 a.m. Worship w/ Holy Communion  
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

**ANNUAL ALL-CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND JOINT SERVICE**

The Annual All-Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 25, immediately following worship service. This Sunday will also be a joint service with Messiah at Bethany.

**JOINT SERVICES**

As previously stated, we will have a joint service w/Messiah on Sunday, January 25 at Bethany. Also, we will be having a joint service at Messiah on Sunday, February 1!

**YOUTH LED CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS SERVICE**

The Confirmation students will be leading a Confession & Forgiveness Service on Tuesday, January 27 at 7:00pm at Messiah! Please come hear what these kids have been working on!

## **SINGERS NEEDED FOR LENT HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES**

We are looking for singers to lead Holden Evening Prayer services on Wednesdays during Lent at Bethany (Feb. 22, Mar. 4, Mar. 11, Mar. 18, & Mar. 25). If you are interested in covering one of these services, please call/text Cory at (319)530-1196 or leave your contact information with your church office and he will contact you.

## **FLOWER CHART**

The new flower chart for this year is up and available! Lots of dates are still available! Please stop in the hallway on Sunday morning and choose your special date!

## **FEBRUARY OUTREACH DONATIONS**

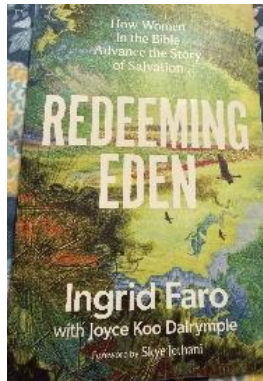
Food Pantry Donations for February will be: Canned Goods of any kind!

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

Lunch Bunch will meet next on Wednesday, February 11 @ 12:30pm @ All-Star Maid-Rite Diner! To sign up, if you have questions, or need transportation arrangement, please call Dave Nuebel at 19-237-6933.

## **FEBRUARY PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB**

Our February book club gathering will be Tuesday, February 10 @ 5:00 p.m., here at Bethany. All are invited to join us! For this month, we will be reading "Redeeming Eden" by Ingrid Faro!



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Bethany Lutheran Church  
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www.bethanyburlington.org

**Office Hours**

Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 9:00am-1:00pm  
Tuesday & Thursday - 1:30pm-4:30pm

**Pastor Misha's Office Hours**

Bethany: Monday & Tuesday

Messiah: Wednesday & Thursday

***\* Pastor Misha's hours vary in the office from week to week as she may be out of office on visits or other Pastor duties. Please call or text her to make an appointment or to see if she is in the office. \****

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

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**Our Staff**

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

Pastor  
Organist/Choir Director  
Office Administrator  
Financial Secretary  
Custodian