

# ***Bethany Lutheran Church***

**4644 Clark Avenue**

**Long Beach, CA 90808**

**[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)**

**(562) 421-4711**

**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY      +      +      +      JANUARY 23, 2022**

**9:30 AM**

## **+    *God Gathers Us In His Presence*    +**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN:      “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”      LSB 901**

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be  
en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee  
Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the  
is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(Based on Colossians 1:2)*

**Leader:** Holy and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ,  
grace and peace to you from God our Father.  
**People:** Amen.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:** *(Based on Colossians 1:13, 3:8 & 1:14)*

**Leader:** God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.

**People:** Yet, I have failed to rid myself of anger, rage, malice, slander,  
and filthy language as God's Word has commanded me to do.  
Lord, have mercy on me, forgive me my sins,  
and restore me to Yourself for the sake of Christ.

**Leader:** In Christ, we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins;  
so in His stead and by His command I forgive you all your sins  
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**IN ALL THINGS LITANY:** *(Based on Colossians 1:15-20)*

**Leader:** Jesus is the image of the invisible God.

**People:** All things were created by Him and for Him.

**Leader:** In Him all things hold together.

**People:** He is the head of the body, the church.

**Leader:** God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Christ.

**People:** and to reconcile all things to Himself.

**Leader:** All things, in heaven and on earth.

**People:** and to provide peace in all things through Jesus blood.

## + *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10***

**W**hen the seventh month came, all the people gathered together in the courtyard in front of Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of Moses' Teachings, which the Lord had commanded Israel to follow. Then Ezra the priest brought the Teachings in front of the assembly. This included men, women, and any children who could understand what they heard. This took place on the first day of the seventh month. From daybreak until noon, he read from it in the courtyard in front of Water Gate to the men, women, and children who could understand it. All the people listened to the Book of Moses' Teachings...

Ezra, standing higher than all the other people, opened the book in front of all the people. As he opened it, all the people stood up. Ezra thanked the LORD, the great God. All the people responded, "Amen! Amen!" as they raised their hands and then bowed with their faces to the ground and worshiped the LORD...

They read the Book of God's Teachings clearly and explained the meaning so that the people could understand what was read.

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people told them, "This is a holy day for the LORD your God. Don't mourn or cry." All the people were crying as they listened to the reading of God's Teachings. Then he told them, "Go, eat rich foods, drink sweet drinks, and send portions to those who cannot provide for themselves. Today is a holy day for the Lord. Don't be sad because the joy you have in the LORD is your strength." – GW®

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *1 Corinthians 12:12-31***

**F**or example, the body is one unit and yet has many parts. As all the parts form one body, so it is with Christ. By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Whether we are Jewish or Greek, slave or free, God gave all of us one Spirit to drink.

As you know, the human body is not made up of only one part, but of many parts. Suppose a foot says, "I'm not a hand, so I'm not part of the body!" Would that mean it's no longer part of the body? Or suppose an ear says, "I'm not an eye, so I'm not a part of the body!" Would that mean it's no longer part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how could it hear? If the whole body were an ear, how could it smell? So God put each and every part of the body together as He wanted it. How could it be a body if it only had one part? So there are many parts but one body.

An eye can't say to a hand, "I don't need you!" Or again, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" The opposite is true. The parts of the body that we think are weaker are the ones we really need. The parts of the body that we think are less honorable are the ones we give special honor. So our unpresentable parts are made more presentable. However, our presentable parts don't need this kind of treatment. God has put the body together and given special honor to the part that doesn't have it. God's purpose was that the body should not be divided but rather that all of its parts should feel the same concern for each other. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts share its suffering. If one part is praised, all the others share in its happiness.

You are Christ's body and each of you is an individual part of it. In the church God has appointed first apostles, next prophets, third teachers, then those who perform miracles, then those who have the gift of healing, then those who help others, those who are managers, and those who can speak in a number of languages. Not all believers are apostles, are they? Are all of them prophets? Do all of them teach? Do all of them perform miracles or have gifts of healing? Can all of them speak in other languages or interpret languages?

You only want the better gifts, but I will show you the best thing to do. – GW®

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 4:14-21***

**J**esus returned to Galilee. The power of the Spirit was with Him, and the news about Him spread throughout the surrounding country. He taught in the synagogues, and everyone praised Him.

Then Jesus came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. As usual He went into the synagogue on the day of rest—a holy day. He stood up to read the lesson. The attendant gave Him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened it and found the place where it read:

"The Spirit of the Lord is with me. He has anointed me to tell the Good News to the poor. He has sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin and the restoring of sight to the blind, to forgive those who have been shattered by sin, to announce the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus closed the book, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue watched Him closely. Then He said to them, "This passage came true today when you heard me read it." – GW®

SERMON HYMN:

*"We Are Your Body"*



BRING US HUM - BLY TO YOUR FEAST AS WE EAT

AS WE DRINK WE KNOW WE KNOW YOU'RE ALL WE NEE - D FOR OUR SINS

YOU HAVE PAID E - VRY TRESS - PASS FOR THE WAGE OF SIN IS DE -

ATH SIN IS DE - ATH SIN IS DE -

WE ARE YOUR BO - DY RE STORED AND RE - NEWED BU - RIED WITH YOU AND WITH YOU RAI - SED FROM OUR

TO - MBS FILL US WITH YOUR PRE SENCE AND MA - RE US ONE

MAKE US ONE AS YOU ARE FA - THER SON AND HO - LY GHOST

FA - THER SON AND HO - LY GHOST

**SERMON: "Isn't This...?"**

**Text: Luke 4:14-21**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

***"In Christ Alone"***

1.....In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
2.....In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
3.....There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the  
4.....No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the  
light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,  
God in help - less Babe! This gift of love and right - eous ness,  
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day,  
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry, to fi - nal breath,  
firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love,  
scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on the cross  
up from the grave He rose a gain! And as He stands  
Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. **\*\*No pow'r of hell,**  
what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort - er,  
as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin  
in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am His  
no scheme of man, can e - ver pluck me from His hand. 'Til He re - turns  
my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

\*\*\*At the conclusion of stanza 4 the congregation repeats again the phrase: "No pow'r of hell...."

**APOSTLE'S CREED:** (*\* catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

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

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

**+ *We Give Thanks for God's Word* +**

**OFFERING:** *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**



## + *The Service of Holy Communion* +

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.*

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE BLESSING: *(Based on Colossians 2:6-7 & 3:17)*

Leader: So, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord,  
continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him,  
strengthened in the faith and overflowing with thankfulness;  
and whatever you do, do it all in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN: “Lord Jesus Christ, the Children’s Friend”** LSB 866

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the chil - dren's friend, To each of  
 2 In Chris - tian homes, Lord, let them be Your bless - ing  
 3 That car - ing par - ents, gra - cious Lord, And faith - ful  
 5 That all of us, Your chil - dren dear, By Christ re -  
 6 Then guard and keep us to the end, Se - cure in  
 them Your pres - ence send; Call them by name and  
 to their fam - i - ly; Let Chris - tian schools Your  
 teach - ers find re - ward In lead - ing these, to  
 deemed, may Christ re - vere; Lead us in joy that  
 You, our gra - cious friend, That in Your heav'n - ly  
 keep them true In lov - ing faith, dear Lord, to You.  
 work ex - tend In liv - ing truth as You in - tend.  
 whom You call, To find in Christ their all in all.  
 all we do Will wit - ness to our love for You.  
 fam - i - ly We sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.

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“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” LSB 901

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“We Are Your Body”

Steve Zank. Used with permission

“In Christ Alone”

Keith Getty/Stuart Townend. CCLI Song # 3350395. ©2001 Thankyou Music

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“Lord Jesus Christ, the Children’s Friend” LSB 866

Text: Henry L. Lettermann, 1932-96. Tune: William Knapp, 1698-1768;

setting: based on James Turle, 1802-82. Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE#A-706149. Tune: Public domain.

### **SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**

Children's Sermon... Karl Fink

Acolyte 9:30... Carter Ryskamp

Ushers 9:30... Team 4

Camera... Felix Rivera

Organist... Robert Bottoms

Liturgist... Karl Fink

Crucifer 9:30... Caleb O'Conner

Sound... Jon Widmann

Artist in Residence... Blake Flattley

Preacher... Senior Pastor Kevin L. Kritzer

### **PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING WAIVER:**

When you enter a Bethany Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur.

Bethany Lutheran Church takes photographs and/or makes audio and/or video recordings of members involved in church related activities. Staff and/or participants may use such photographs or video records to recall activities or participants. In addition, such photographs and audio/visual recordings may be used in Bethany Lutheran Church's publications, advertising materials to let others know of our ministry, and/or streaming and website hosting of worship services.

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### **THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT**

Having been called to Faith in Christ, moved by the love of God the Father  
and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the members of Bethany Lutheran Church are committed to:

***Worshiping Faithfully*** - (Acts 2:42, 46)

***Forming Spiritually*** - (Colossians 1:10-14)

***Serving Passionately*** - (Ephesians 2:10)

***Giving Proportionately*** - (Luke 21:1-4)

***Sharing Intentionally*** - (Matthew 28:19-20)

# WEEKLY CHIMES

THE PARISH LIFE OF BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808  
562-421-4711  
www.bethanylutheran.org

WEEK OF  
JANUARY 23 – 30, 2022

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Phyllis Lee	Merlyn Wagner	Sue Swick	
Charlene Mitchell	Heidi Moyer-Miser	Grace Hennings	
Kathy Jones	John Fredrickson	Bill Hutchinson	Ron Miner
Mary Mendez	Levi Rose	Jean Barton	Evelyn Rucks

## **OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY TO:**

- Ted Spaseff, Tony Mitchell, family and friends for the passing of their beloved sister/mother, Judy Richell, who went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 17, 2022. A Service of Victory will be held in Tennessee where she lived.
- The friends and family of Shirley VanCamp (long time former member), who went to her heavenly home on Friday, January 7, 2022. A Service of Victory was held yesterday at Forest Lawn, Cypress. If you would like to send a card to the family the address is: 11877 - 207<sup>th</sup> Street, Lakewood, CA 90715.

*"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." ~ John 11: 25-26*

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH:** We would like to thank everyone for your phone calls, prayers and cards sent to Judy Richell, she appreciated it so much. While she lived in Tennessee, she considered Bethany her Church family. Thank you to everyone for all your thoughts and prayers; they meant so much to her and us. ~ Ted Spaseff & Family

**HIATUS EXTENDED:** **The Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study** will NOT meet until Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Parish Lounge. Please continue with your own personal Bible study and daily devotional time with God. ~ Meg Velez

## **BAPTISM:**

Are you interested in learning more about baptism? Scan the QR code or send an email to Pastor Seth at [smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org).



## **WORSHIPING FAITHFULLY: Hebrews 10:25**

### **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...**

You can hear them as podcasts on our website [www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org).

### **THE SAME TEXT WILL BE EXPLORED AT ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SITES:**

Bethany Lutheran in Long Beach, Holy Cross in Cypress; and of course on the Live Streamed via our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/BethanyLutheranLongBeach> at Bethany's 9:30AM Worship Service.

## **FORMING SPIRITUALLY: Colossians 1:10-14**

### **LOOKING FOR A DAILY DEVOTIONAL FOR 2022:**

You are invited to join Pastor Seth and others in reading through *The Mockingbird Devotional—Good News for Today (and Every Day)* next year. Pastor Seth and others will post some of their thoughts about the readings every day in a special Facebook Group. If you want to be added to Facebook group, please email Pastor Seth ([smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)). You can pick up your copy of the book on Amazon or at [www.mbird.com](http://www.mbird.com).



**COUCH CONVERSATIONS:** Take some time this week with your family, or on your own to have some conversations about our text and theme for worship. Perhaps you can do this on the couch right after the last song or later around the dinner table. You could even use them to have conversations in the car. We hope that these conversations will help you as you continue to be

formed spiritually. **Sharing Intentionally ~ Luke 4:16-30**

Jesus came into the world to seek and to save the lost that includes you and me. He did so by sharing God's Word. In Luke chapter four, Jesus uses the words of Isaiah to describe his mission and ministry. These words informed the rest of his life as He did the will of the Father.

- How might these same words inform the rest of your life?
- How does sharing intentionally change hearts and communities?
- What is one way God can use you this week to "tell Good News" to others?

### **THEOLOGY ON TAP:** Season 4 of the Theology On Tap Podcast with Pastor Seth, Pastor Kevin, Pastor



Kyle, Pastor Mark and Kayleigh is out now! Get it wherever you get your podcasts including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Anchor.fm. This season the team tackles the idea of how to interpret the Bible and why many people struggle when doing it. So, grab yourself a cold beer, warm glass of milk, hot cup of tea, bottle of water, and pull up a chair and join us for Theology On Tap, and get ready for a lively discussion of theology, spirituality and sharing life together.

**LIVING WAY BIBLE STUDY:** The Incarnation, the Immaculate Conception and virgin-birth, angels sent to shepherds and Magi led by a star, an elder prophet and prophetess who see and hold the hope of endless ages and a despotic bloodthirsty temporary king whose prey escapes his wrath and flees safely to a foreign land... we are coming through a season of miracles and the miraculous! Yet, of course, miracles and the miraculous are not confined to the New Testament. The Old Testament too is filled with both the miraculous and miracles. Our Living Way Bible study will continue to explore these accounts, ponder at the power and wonder of the Lord and apply these events to our lives and context. **The Great Miracles of the Old Testament continues on Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM on the campus of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Cypress.** If you missed the first few semester you can still join us (and you can also get the materials for our coming lessons and previous lessons from the HCC office.)

## **WELCOME TO THE BIBLE QUIZ**

The answers to these questions will be found in next week's Sunday Chimes, along with 3 new questions. See how many questions you and your family can answer.



1. GOD sent Nehemiah to rebuild the \_\_\_\_\_ around Jerusalem.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ decides which spiritual gift each person should receive.
3. What did the people of Nazareth want to do to Jesus?

## **ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S BIBLE QUIZ**

1. At the wedding in Cana, Jesus turned water into \_\_\_\_\_?

**Answer: Wine. ~ John 2:1-11**

2. In Isaiah, the Messiah is pictured as a bridegroom; what "city" is depicted as His bride?

**Answer: Jerusalem. ~ Isaiah 62:1-5**

3. GOD gives each of us spiritual gifts that are empowered by the \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Answer: Holy Spirit. ~ 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

## **SERVING PASSIONATELY: Ephesians 2:10**

**GRIEF SHARE CLASS UPDATE:** We will be starting our next GriefShare classes on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, running through the spring. We will plan to meet on Sunday afternoons, starting at 12:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room #215 on the school side. GriefShare is a 12-13 week class in a small group setting, where we watch a video presentation, have time to discuss and share, and then pray together. If you know of anyone who is experiencing grief of any kind, please invite them to these classes. If you have contact information for them, please get it to me, so that I can send a postcard of invitation very soon. If you have any questions regarding the GriefShare classes, please contact me in my office or via email. May God hold you during these times of grief. ~ Karl Fink

## **ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER OPPORTUNITIES - JANUARY & FEBRUARY DATES:**



I am interested in knowing which youth wish to acolyte for Sunday Worship services. Possible for 4<sup>th</sup> graders on up. Boys and girls welcome. Service times are 8:00 & 9:30AM. Training is available if you will be a first time acolyte. If you have any questions concerning this ministry opportunity, please contact me at the email or phone number listed below. **Crucifer & Acolyte Sign Ups for February are Now Open.** Please prayerfully consider this service opportunity and sign up.

~ Karl Fink – DCE [kfink@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:kfink@bethanylutheran.org) 562.421.4711, ext. 19

**MISSION ALASKA 2022:** Interested in serving as a short-term missionary in Alaska this summer? Come to an informational meeting on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 AM in the Youth Center. Tentative travel dates for the trip are July 22 thru August 1. Got questions? Email Pastor Seth ([smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)) or Kayleigh Lopez ([klopez@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:klopez@bethanylutheran.org)).



**HEARING ASSISTED DEVICE FOR SANCTUARY:** Our hearing devices and headsets once stored in the usher's closet no longer work. However, there is a solution. Do you recall the option of using your car radios when we were worshipping outdoors on the field? That option is still available and works inside the sanctuary. All you need is a small FM band radio with a 3.5 mm earplug/headphones jack, tuned to 87.9 FM. If you don't have one of these small cheap pocket radios, they are easily purchased where electronics are sold or online, like a: Personal FM AM Pocket Radio Portable, Mini Digital Tuning Stereo Walkman Radio with Rechargeable Battery, Earphone, LCD Display for Walking Jogging. There are no interruptions or static and the transmission is very clear. It is not affected by one's location in the sanctuary. ~ Thanks to Jon Widmann and Felix Rivera for working this out.

## **GIVING PROPORTIONATELY: Luke 21:1-4**

**THE 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES**  
**ARE READY FOR PICK UP.**  
**PICK YOURS UP TODAY**  
**IN THE PARISH LOUNGE.**



### **WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN**

*At Bethany we know that “our stuff is not our stuff!” All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!*

**There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:**

Giving Online      Text to Give      Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany’s website for more information on how to make your offering. **If you need further assistance, contact our Financial Administrator at [mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org)**



**SCRIP:** Gift card fundraising is the easiest and best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. The brand is the one giving back. It’s never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted. Support a Bethany ministry today! ~ Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator [rlopez@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:rlopez@bethanylutheran.org) or 562-420-7783 ext. 58

## **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: Act 2:44**



**ANNUAL CAMPOUT RETREAT:** Bethany's Annual Family Campout Retreat is February 19, 20 and 21 at Mobiland RV Park in Ocotillo Wells. Bring your special dish for Saturday's pot luck supper, and Sunday evening hors d'oeuvres along with some firewood for the campfire. A worship service will be held Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. For questions or reservation please call or text Philip Lopez, at (562) 416-5960.

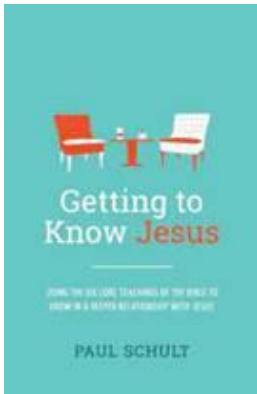
## **LEADERSHIP READ #2**

*Getting to Know Jesus* ~ by Paul Schult

*How can I get to know Jesus better?*

*How can I possibly understand all that the Bible teaches and reveals?*

*What is the most important teaching in the Bible for me to know?*



Getting to Know Jesus connects the dots between knowing the right Bible answers and having a real relationship with Jesus Christ. The six core teachings in Martin's Luther's Small Catechism summarize the most critical truths of the Bible. However, the heart of the Bible is not just to know the right answers; it's to know Jesus.

Drawing on his personal experience as a pastor, the author unpacks six core teaching of the Bible in easy-to-understand relationship language. You will discover a deeper meaning in worship, prayer, Bible study, and personal devotions and be more deeply connected to Jesus. Plus, you'll be better prepared to talk to family and friends about your relationship with Jesus in a clear and personal way.

At the end of each chapter there are some personal reflection questions that you can use to dig a little deeper into the topic. There are even more questions and some scriptures in the back of the book for you to work through if you want. You can purchase the book on Amazon or at your bookseller of choice. We have a limited supply of books on hand. Please contact Pastor Kevin ASAP to get your hands on a copy ([kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org)). It is our hope that everyone who holds a leadership position in our combined ministry will read this book.

Each week we will post a short video on our YouTube page with some insights from one of our staff members to help you process the material and to stay on track with the reading. There will also be opportunities for conversation via zoom half way through and in person at the end.

### **"GETTING TO KNOW JESUS" READING SCHEDULE**

Week 1: 2/6 Introduction & Chapter 1: p.p. 15-36

Week 2: 2/13 Chapter 2: p.p. 37-57

Week 3: 2/20 Chapter 3: p.p. 59-66

Week 4: 2/27 Chapter 4: p.p. 67-78

Week 5: 3/6 Chapter 5: p.p. 79-88

**ZOOM DISCUSSION EVENT:** There will be an AM and PM option on 3/15

Zoom link forthcoming.

Week 6: 3/13 Chapter 6: p.p. 89-98

Week 7: 3/20 Chapter 7: p.p. 99-108

Week 8- 3/27 Chapter 8: p.p. 109-125

**BIG GROUP GATHERING EVENT:** Saturday, April 23: Time & Location TBD





**ST. VALENTINE'S PARTY @ HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**When: Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm**

**Where: Holy Cross Fellowship Hall**

**4321 West Cerritos Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630**

**What: Bingo (w/prizes) and an old fashioned Ice Cream Social**

**How: Call the Holy Cross church office at 714-527-7225**

**Please join us for an afternoon for fun and friendship.**

**Will you be My Valentine?**

For God so lo**V**ed the world  
th**A**t he gave his  
on**L**y  
begott**E**n  
So**N**,  
tha**T** whoever  
bel**I**eves  
i**N** him should not perish  
but hav**E** everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)