

# ***Bethany Lutheran Church***

**4644 Clark Avenue**

**Long Beach, CA 90808**

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

**(562) 421-4711**

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

+ + +

**JANUARY 30, 2022**

**9:30 AM**

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

**PRELUDE:**      ***“Andante Sostenuto” from Symphonie Gothique, Op. 70***  
                         ~ by Charles Marie Widor

**Organ**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN:**      ***“Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten”***

**LSB 914**



1 Light of Light, O Sole - Be - got - ten Ra - diance of the  
2 Word e - ter - nal, through Your be - ing God cre - at - ed  
3 Still Your brood - ing Spir - it hov - ers O - ver cha - os,  
4 Come, Lord Je - sus, by Your Spir - it In our hearts Your



Fa - ther's face, Word made flesh, who lived a - mong us  
all we see, When the emp - ty spac - es ech - oed  
dark and deep, Call - ing out with in - vi - ta - tion:  
work be - gin, Bring the heal - ing res - to - ra - tion



Full of truth and full of grace, Shine up - on our  
With the Fa - ther's "Let there be . . ." Light and life burst  
"Rise, a - wak - en from your sleep; Christ the Lord will  
Of Your im - age lost by sin; From Your full - ness



hu - man dark - ness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.  
from the glo - rious Pow - er of Your maj - es - ty!  
shine up - on you And from death your soul shall keep."  
all re - ceiv - ing Grace on grace, new life with - in!

**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 1:21, 3:5, 1:22 & 2:13)***

**Leader:** At one time you were alienated from God, enemies of His  
because of sinful behavior.

**People:** **I confess to You Lord, and to my brothers and sisters,  
that I often stray and behave in a way  
that is contrary to Your will and Your way.  
My thoughts, words and deeds are soiled with sin;  
impurity, lust, greed, and idolatry.  
For Jesus sake forgive me and let me delight in Your will  
and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Leader:** God has reconciled you to Himself by Christ's death.  
Through Jesus you are holy in God's sight, without blemish,  
free from accusation; for God has made you alive in Christ.  
He has forgiven all your sins. 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:** *Genesis 14:18-20*

**T**hen King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was a priest of God Most High. He blessed Abram, and said,

“Blessed is Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
Blessed is God Most High,  
who has handed your enemies over to you.”

Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything. – GW®

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING:** *1 Corinthians 13:1-13*

**I** may speak in the languages of humans and of angels. But if I don’t have love, I am a loud gong or a clashing cymbal. I may have the gift to speak what God has revealed, and I may understand all mysteries and have all knowledge. I may even have enough faith to move mountains. But if I don’t have love, I am nothing. I may even give away all that I have and give up my body to be burned. But if I don’t have love, none of these things will help me.

Love is patient. Love is kind. Love isn’t jealous. It doesn’t sing its own praises. It isn’t arrogant. It isn’t rude. It doesn’t think about itself. It isn’t irritable. It doesn’t keep track of wrongs. It isn’t happy when injustice is done, but it is happy with the truth. Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up.

Love never comes to an end. There is the gift of speaking what God has revealed, but it will no longer be used. There is the gift of speaking in other languages, but it will stop by itself. There is the gift of knowledge, but it will no longer be used. Our knowledge is incomplete and our ability to speak what God has revealed is incomplete. But when what is complete comes, then what is incomplete will no longer be used. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child, and reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I no longer used childish ways. Now we see a blurred image in a mirror. Then we will see very clearly. Now my knowledge is incomplete. Then I will have complete knowledge as God has complete knowledge of me.

So these three things remain: faith, hope, and love. But the best one of these is love.

– GW®

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 20:45 – 21:4*

While all the people were listening, Jesus said to the disciples, “Beware of the experts in Moses’ Teachings! They like to walk around in long robes and love to be greeted in the marketplaces, to have the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at dinners. They rob widows by taking their houses and then say long prayers to make themselves look good. The experts in Moses’ Teachings will receive the most severe punishment.”

Looking up, Jesus saw people, especially the rich, dropping their gifts into the temple offering box. He noticed a poor widow drop in two small coins. He said, “I can guarantee this truth: This poor widow has given more than all the others. All of these people have given what they could spare. But she, in her poverty, has given everything she had to live on.” – GW®

### SERMON HYMN:

### *“Take My Life and Let It Be”*

LSB 783



- 1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.  
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.

**SERMON: "My Stuff..."**  
**Text: Luke 20**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**                    **"Lord of All Good"**                    **LSB 786**  
(Tune: MORECAMBE, LBW 486)

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;  
We give our minds to un-der-stand Your ways;  
Fa-ther, whose boun-ty all cre-a-tion shows;

Use them Your ho-ly pur-pose to ful-fill.  
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de-sign;  
Christ, by whose will-ing sac-ri-fice we live;

To-kens of love and pledg-es they shall be  
Hearts with the flame of Your own love a-blaze  
Spir-it, from whom all life in full-ness flows:

That our whole life is of-fered to Your will.  
Thus for Your glo-ry all our pow'rs com-bine.  
To You with grate-ful hearts our-selves we give.

**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 Maralee 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.*



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



**G** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



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



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**PREFACE:**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE BLESSING: *(Based on Colossians 1:10 & 3:12-13)*

Leader: Chosen and dearly loved people of God,  
may you live a life worthy of the Lord  
and bear fruit in every good work,  
growing in knowledge of God,  
being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might,  
clothing yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility,  
gentleness and patience.

People: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:**     *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*     LSB 411



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*  
 In Him there is no dark - ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

**POSTLUDE:**     *“Toccata” from Symphony No. 5, Op. 42 No. 1*     Organ  
                                  ~ by Chales Marie Widor

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

Children's Sermon... Pat Gagan

Acolyte... Robby Hernandez

Lector... Mike Riordan

Camera...Jonathan Goebel

Preacher... Senior Pastor Kevin L. Kritzer

Organist...Robert Bottoms

Crucifer... Carter Wegman

Liturgist...Karl Fink

Sound...Jon Widmann

### **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:

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

**WEEK OF**

**JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 6, 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:**

- Doug and Cindy Morlok, family, and friends for the passing of Cindy's step father, Jack Reighard, who went to be with the Lord on Saturday, January 22, 2022. A Service of Victory will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE.
- The friends and family of Gail Glenn (former member), who went to her heavenly home on Saturday, January 22, 2022. No service arrangements have been received at this time.

*"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*

## **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.

### **Giving Proportionately ~ Luke 4:31-44**

Giving sounds really easy until it's actually time to give. Jesus gave of himself continually as he walked the earth healing and teaching. This served as a foretaste of what he would do when he gave himself up completely on the cross to give life eternal to all.

- Share about a time when you gave something to someone? How did that make you feel?
- Why can giving be so hard?
- How can you give to others so that they might know Jesus more?

**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.



## **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. As Jesus cast out demons from people, the demons came out crying: "You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."
2. Paul said that without love one is clanging \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The prophet Jeremiah is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ prophet.

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

1. GOD sent Nehemiah to rebuild the \_\_\_\_\_ around Jerusalem.  
**Answer: Walls. ~ Nehemiah 4:1-14**
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ decides which spiritual Gift each Person should receive.  
**Answer: Holy Spirit. ~ 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**
3. What did the people of Nazareth want to do to Jesus?  
**Answer: Throw Him off a cliff. ~ Luke 4:16-30**

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

**TODAY STARTS GRIEF SHARE CLASS:** We will be starting our next GriefShare classes TODAY. 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 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 AND 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

## **PLEASE NOTE: Mission Alaska 2022 Meeting:**

Due to some logistical issues, the Mission Alaska informational meeting scheduled for today, January 30<sup>th</sup> has been postponed. We will let you know as soon as we schedule a new date. Got questions? Email Pastor Seth ([smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)) or Kayleigh Lopez ([klopez@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:klopez@bethanylutheran.org)).



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



**BRIANNA ESSWEIN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNEY NEWS:**

The 2022 tourney has been locked in at Lakewood Country Club for Friday, March 25. Start time is once again 1:00PM. Should you have any questions now, kindly speak to any of these people on the committee: Marty Callow, Bob Newell, Phil Lopez, Craig Dean, Ted Spaseff, or Marty Platt. Forms were attached in the bullet this past week and are able to print and fill out. Please look for our table in Friendship Square with the forms. Coming in a couple of weeks will be a way to fill out the forms and pay online! Feel free to contact me as well with any questions or concerns. So looking forward to being back at this event again! - Karl Fink

**BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

Beutel Scholarship Grant Applications are now being accepted for academic year 2022-2023 and are available in the Church Office. These applications are for students attending a college or university of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in preparation for a full-time career as a pastor, teacher, deaconess, youth director, social worker, lay missionary worker, medical missionary, or parish worker. The purpose of the grant is to encourage our young people to pursue a career in church work and to give them assistance in reaching this goal. All scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. If a student needs scholarship help for the school term beginning in the fall of 2022, they must apply between January 1 and March 1 of this year. Applications are available in the Church Office for completion in a folder marked BEUTEL SCHOLARSHIPS. In order for students to be eligible, they MUST RETURN APPLICATIONS to the Church Office (Elder's Box) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Swick at (562) 714-3196.

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



**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



## **FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF LOVE**

The Bethany 5<sup>th</sup> grade Girl Scouts are organizing a Blanket Drive as part of their Bronze Award Project. They will be working with the spcaLA in Long Beach collecting clean, used blankets and towels for the shelter. Currently, the animals are on cold cement-floored kennels, and would love a warm snuggly blanket or towel to lay on to keep warm. Share your love through the whole month of February by giving a blanket or towel to help keep the animals warm. They don't care if they aren't in perfect condition or have a stain, just as long as they are clean. Here's a win-win idea... take any blankets or towels that are looking a little worn out of your cupboard... buy yourself some new items to replace the old. Then, donate your used blankets and towels by putting them in the box in the Church Narthex on Sundays, or take them to the Church Office during the week. The dogs, cats and other animals at the shelter will be so happy you did!



## **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)**

## **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.



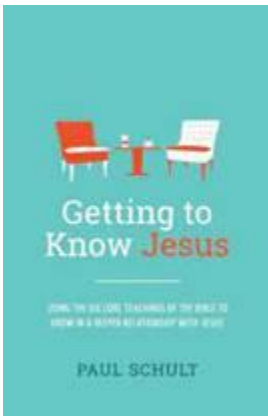
## **LEADERSHIP READ #2**

*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: Contact Betty ([bettykoester2@att.net](mailto:bettykoester2@att.net)) or Dave ([jacdevo@ca.rr.com](mailto:jacdevo@ca.rr.com))  
or 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?**



### **BETHANY MUSIC ACADEMY:**

Our Winter Recital will take place TODAY in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Please join us for an hour filled with the sounds of our Academy students praising God with His gift of music. All are invited!

**+ Make a joyful noise to the LORD Ps. 98:4-6 +**

### **SPRING SEMESTER ENROLLMENT OPEN, BETHANY MUSIC ACADEMY:**

Twelve weekly private lessons will be offered beginning the first part of February. Students may select from the following instruments: piano (2nd grade and up), and trumpet (4th and up). Lessons are held on our campus after school, between the hours of 3:15 and 6:00 p.m. Tuition: \$300 plus \$25 annual registration fee. Information sheets and enrollment forms may be picked up in the school or church offices; you may also go online to download these items: [www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org) **Enrollment forms are due no later than Wednesday, February 2** to secure your child's spot. Questions? Contact Academy Administrator, Mara Widmann at (562) 421-4711 ext. 55, or [mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org)

## **A MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE TO THE CONGREGATION**

The Community Impact Committee had hoped to alert the congregation about human trafficking of our community's children. We had hoped to alert and give knowledge on our annual Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is Sunday, February 6. The committee started planning last October. We desired a speaker who could effectively inform us on human trafficking, so we in turn would be alert to this wickedness.

This is what we already knew as we began planning: "Human trafficking, also known as trafficking in persons or modern-day slavery, is a crime that involves compelling or coercing a person to provide labor or services, or to engage in commercial sex acts. The coercion can be subtle or overt, physical or psychological. Exploitation of a minor for commercial sex is human trafficking, regardless of whether any form of force, fraud, or coercion was used." (U.S. Dept. of Justice)

As we prepared to present to you we realized we needed to know more ourselves to select the best speaker(s). Some members were able to attend human trafficking task force zoom meetings and ask for resources. We found the more we learned, the more we didn't know.

January is **National Human Trafficking Prevention Month**. Every year since 2010, the President has dedicated the month to raise awareness about human trafficking and to educate the public about how to identify and prevent this crime. The U.S. Department of State raises awareness of human trafficking domestically and abroad, through U.S. embassies and consulates. (U.S. Dept. of State) Note: In 2019 there were 1507 *reported cases* of human trafficking in California. **Be alert to messages in print or TV this month.**

*"Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from hand of the wicked." Ps. 82:4*

Together let us learn more and hear about being vulnerable for the vulnerable among us from **Dominic Rivkin, PSWD Mission Developers, who will preach on "Let My People Go" on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, February 6, 2022.**