

# ***Bethany Lutheran Church***

## **NEW YEAR'S DAY**

***January 1, 2023***

***9:30 AM***

### **WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship. Here are some things to remember as we are gathered together today:

**Before** worship, talk to God! (see inside cover of hymnal for pre-service prayer prompts)

**During** worship, let God talk to you!

**After** worship, talk to one another; and if you're a visitor, please stop by the Connections table before you leave today and capture the QR codes for more information.

**Parents of Young Children:** *We love to have children in worship.* God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to completely suppress it in God's house. We know the presence of children in worship is a gift to the church! It is in the Lord's house that we learn how to listen and speak to our God with our brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of those leading worship. Children learn how to worship by copying you. If you have a need, we have "worship bags" in the Narthex filled with items to help children and families during worship. There is a **Cry Room** across the courtyard in the office complex, where you as a parent may take your little one needing a break. You will still be able to hear the worship service; and thus be able to continue your worship of the Lord.

**Please** place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

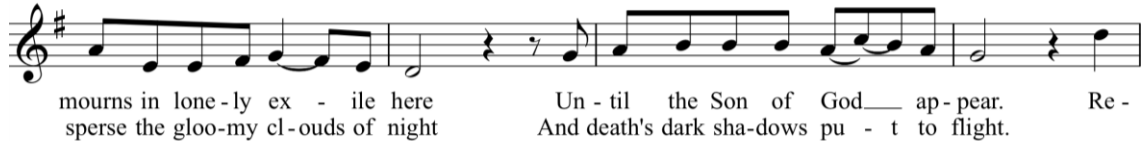
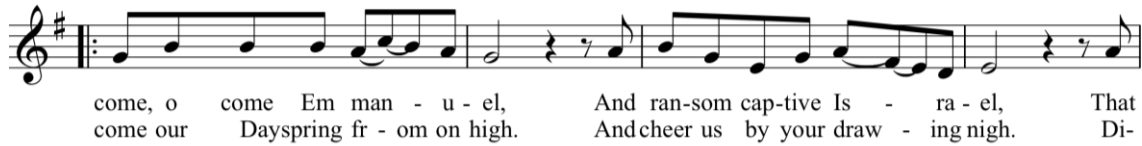
### **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: In the Name of Jesus, the Savior, sent from the Father, conceived through the power of the Spirit, full of grace and truth, brother of God's children and friend of sinners. Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

*“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*



## **SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Isaiah 7:1-10***

**A**gain the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel." – NIV ®

## **CHRISTMAS PRAYER:**

Leader 1:     Almighty God and Father of light,  
                  a child is born to us and a Son is given to us.  
                  Your eternal Word leapt down from heaven  
                  in the silent watches of the night,  
                  and now Your Church is filled with wonder  
                  at the nearness of her God.

*Leader 2:     Open our hearts to receive His life  
                  and increase our vision with the rising of dawn—  
                  that our lives may be filled with His glory,  
                  and that we may reflect the brilliance of His peace,  
                  who lives and reigns forever and ever.  
                  Amen.*

SONG:

*“Jesus, Coming Light”*



1 Je-sus, Co-ming  
2 Je-sus, Co-ming  
3 Je-sus, Co-ming  
4 Je-sus, Co-ming



Light, draw near, and spark with-in us hope. Tho-ugh sha-dows fi-ght with  
Light, draw near, and spark with-in us peace. May Your child-ren ga-a-ther  
Light, draw near, and spark with-in us joy. As a hum-ble hea-rth You  
Light, draw near, and spark with-in us love. Heart of Hea-ven la-id a-



all their might, they'll ne-ver ov-er-come. In brill-iance, You don't come to  
in its glow. Warmth bids all come and see. When You re-turn we'll need no  
come to dwell, not speed-ing to de-stroy. / Glad-den hearts and bright-en  
mong the low in the star-glow from a-bove. With love, il-lu-min-ate Your



blind, but on-ly that the blind would see. Ho-san-na! Ha-le-lu-u-ja-h!  
sun, but on-ly Word made Flesh to shine. Ho-san-na! Ha-le-lu-u-ja-h!  
eyes, like spark-led rays in win-ter's dark. Ho-san-na! Ha-le-lu-u-ja-h!  
Church, that ev-ery soul would know its worth. Ho-san-na! Ha-le-lu-u-ja-h!



Je-sus, Com-ing Light, draw near.  
Je-sus, Com-ing Light, draw near.  
Je-sus, Com-ing Light, draw near.  
Je-sus, Com-ing Light, draw near.



**SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Isaiah 9:2-7***

**T**he people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.  
You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.  
For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.  
Every warrior's boot used in battle  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be destined for burning,  
will be fuel for the fire.  
For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on His shoulders.  
And He will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of His government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over His kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this. – NIV ®

## HYMN:

*“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*

1.Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hathsprung!  
 2.I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in mind;  
 3.O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man woe;



Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as pro-phets long have sung, It  
 With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er king. To  
 O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness know: Bring



came a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the cold of win - ter,  
 show God's love a - right, She bore to us a Sav - ior,  
 us at length we pray To the bright courts of heav - en,



When half - spent was the night.  
 When half - spent was the night.  
 And to the end - less day.

**D.S. al Fin**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Micah 5:2-5a***

**“But** you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.”

Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.

He will stand and shepherd His flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God.  
And they will live securely, for then His greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.

And He will be our peace. – NIV ®

**HYMN:** *“Away in a Manger”* LSB 364  
(Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

**Leader:** Glorious God in the highest heaven, we confess that we allow the joy of  
Christmas to fade and flee all too quickly.

**People:** **Unlike the shepherds, at times  
we find it hard to be in awe over Your presence and promises.  
Unlike the angels, we have on occasion kept Your praise to ourselves.**

**Leader:** Like the townsfolk of Bethlehem, often we determine that there is no room  
in our lives for You, and perhaps at best, we’ll offer a small, unoccupied  
corner of our heart as a place for You to dwell.

**People:**       **Father, we have sinfully managed to get wrapped up in ourselves.  
Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
who entered this world in human flesh,  
and was born this night to live and die for us and, thus,  
become our brother, our Savior, our Lord and our Friend. Amen.**

**Leader:**       I am here with Good News of great joy! For us, Christ was born.  
Through Him, our sins are forgiven. In Him, our lives are centered in the  
miracle of Immanuel. God is with us.

**People:**       **Amen.**

### **CHRISTMAS PRAYER:**

**Leader:**       Sweet Child of Bethlehem, put into our hearts and the hearts of all men  
and women, Your peace; the peace for which we sometimes seek so  
desperately, yet which You alone can give. Help us to know one another  
better, to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Heavenly  
Father. Awaken our hearts to the dawning of Your day, enlighten us with  
love and gratitude for Your goodness and reveal the brilliance of faith in  
all we do and say. Amen.

**HYMN:**                       ***“O Little Town of Bethlehem”***                       LSB 361  
*(Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.)*

### **SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Hebrews 1:1-4***

**L**ong ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. – NIV ®



**CHRISTMAS PRAYER:** *(based on St. Augustine's Nativity Prayer, AD 354-440)*

Leader 1: Let all Christians rejoice, for Christ is born.

*Leader 2: Let the just rejoice, for Righteousness is born.*

Leader 1: Let the captives rejoice, for Freedom is born.

*Leader 2: Let those who are free rejoice, for Liberty is born.*

Leader 1: Let the lonely rejoice, for Abiding Presence is born.

*Leader 2: Let the children of God rejoice, for God's own Son is born.*

**HYMN:** ***"O Come All Ye Faithful"*** LSB 379  
*(Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.)*

**CHRISTMAS DEVOTION:** ***"20 Marveling Questions"***

**HYMN:** ***"What Child is This?"*** LSB 370  
*(Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.)*

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER:**

Leader: God of love, Father of all, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of Your Word made flesh. Make us a people of this light. Make us faithful to Your Word that we may bring Your life to the waiting world.



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be got - ten  
2. Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed,

Ere the world be gan\_ to be. He is  
when the vir - gin full\_ of grace, By the



Al-pha and O - me - ga,  
Ho-ly Ghost con cei - ving,

He the source, the end - ing He.  
Bore the Sa - vior of our race.



Of the things that are that have  
And the babe, the world's re - deem -

been, And that  
er, First re -



fu - ture years shall see  
vealed His sa - cred face

Ev - er more and ev - er -



more.

more.

Oh



Oh

Oh

(Oh)

3. O ye heights of heav'n a-dore Him. An-gel hosts His prai-ses sing. Pow'rs, do

min-ions, bow be-fore Him, And ex-tol our God and King;

Let no tongue on earth be si-lent. Ev-'ry

voice in con-cert ring. Ev-er more and ev-er-

more. Oh

Oh Oh Oh

Oh Oh

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON: *John 1:1-18***

**I**n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him. Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John testifies concerning Him. He cries out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me.'" From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known. – NIV ®

## **CHRISTMAS PRAYER: (*St. Bernard of Clairvaux 1090-1153*)**

Leader: Lord, let Your goodness appear to us so we, made in Your image, may conform ourselves to Your likeness. Lord, you have come to us as a small child, but You have brought us the grandest gift of all, the gift of God's eternal love. Caress us with Your tiny hands, embrace us with Your tiny arms and pierce our hearts with Your soft sweet cries. Amen.

**HYMN:** *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* LSB 380  
(*Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.*)

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON: *Luke 2:1-20***

**A**nd it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because

he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. – KJV ®

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER:** *(text Martin Luther AD 1483-1546)*

Leader 1: Oh, dearest Jesus, holy child, prepare a bed soft undefiled,

Leader 2: *a holy shrine within my heart, that You and I need never part. Amen.*

**HYMN:** *“Silent Night, Holy Night”* LSB 363  
*(Please refer to the burgundy hymnal for the singing of this song.)*

## THE BENEDICTION:

Leader 1: Incarnate Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts anew, that we may receive you always with a living faith.

Leader 2: *And by that same Spirit, make us one with You, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until You come in final victory.*

## CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World"

The musical score for "Joy to the World" is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure is a whole note G4, followed by four measures of eighth notes: A4, B4, C5, and D5. The second staff begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The lyrics for the first ending are "1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let" and for the second ending are "2. Joy to the earth, the Sa - vior reigns! Let". The third staff continues the melody with lyrics: "earth men re - cei - ve her King; Let", "men their so - ngs em - ploy, While". The fourth staff has lyrics: "ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him and room And", "fie - lds and floods, rocks, hil - ls and plains Re -". The fifth staff has lyrics: "heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And", "peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -". The sixth staff has lyrics: "hea - ven, and hea - ven and na - ture sing.", "pe - at, re - peat the sound - ing joy.". The seventh staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature, ending with a double bar line and repeat sign.

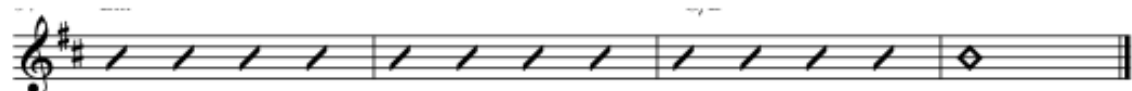
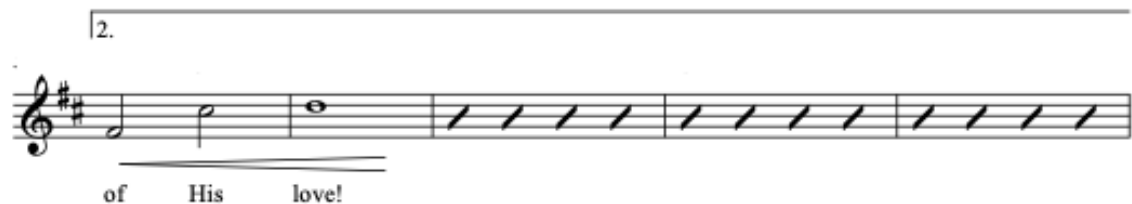
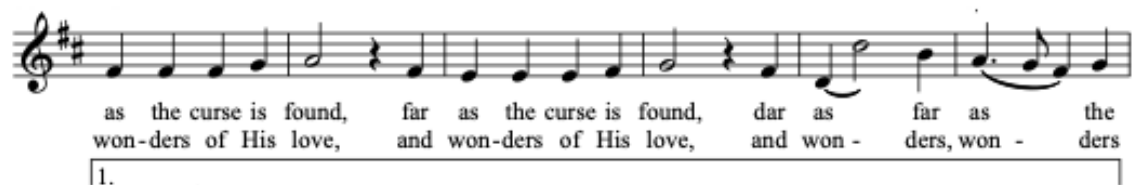
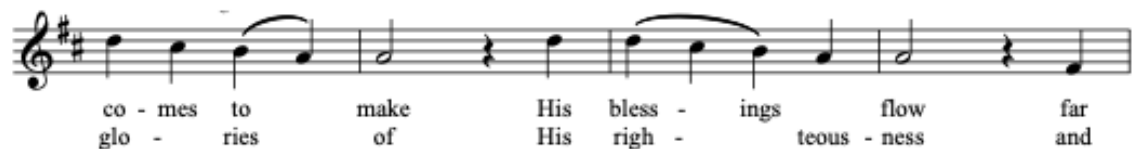
1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let  
2. Joy to the earth, the Sa - vior reigns! Let

earth men re - cei - ve her King; Let  
men their so - ngs em - ploy, While

ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him and room And  
fie - lds and floods, rocks, hil - ls and plains Re -

heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -

hea - ven, and hea - ven and na - ture sing.  
pe - at, re - peat the sound - ing joy.



**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!*

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**SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**

Acolyte...	Crucifer...
Usher Team...	Elder...
Artist in Residence... Blake Flattley	
Worship Leaders... Blake Flattley and Senior Pastor Kevin L. Kritzer	

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“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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“Lo, How A Rose E’re Blooming”

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“Away in a Manger” LSB 364

Text: *Little Children’s Book*, Philadelphia, 1885, sts. 1-2; *Vineyard Songs*, Louisville, 1892, st. 3, alt.

Tune: James R. Murray, 1841-1905; setting: Joseph Herl, b. 1959. Text and tune: Public domain.

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“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LSB 361. Text: Phillips Brooks / Tune: Lewis H. Redner. Public domain.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” LSB 379. Text and music: Public domain.

Text: John F. Wade; tr. Frederick Oakeley. Tune: John F. Wade; setting: *The Hymnal* 1940.

“What Child is This” LSB 370. Text and music: Public domain.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98. Tune: English, 16<sup>th</sup> cent.; setting: John Stainer, 1840-1901, alt.

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” LSB 384

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“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” LSB 380 – Charles Wesley. Public domain

“Silent Night” LSB 363

Text: Joseph Joseph Mohr, tr. John F. Young. Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber. Text and music: Public domain.

“Joy to the World”

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