

# • Bethel Lutheran Church •

DECEMBER 7TH, 2025 • SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<i>Preacher</i> Pastor Kathy Hartley	<i>Assisting Minister</i> Pastor Jonathan Dahl	<i>Musician</i> Lois Dahl	<i>Altar Set-Up</i> Jan Houseman, Karen Mohlin, Challis Ronning, & Jocelyn Wester
<i>Communion Servers</i> Alyssa Abrahamson & Nancy Skalla	<i>Ushers</i> Phil Beyer, Chris Geer, John Hartley, & Pat Walter	<i>Acolytes</i> Sawyer Dahl & Nathan Skalla	
<i>Fellowship Time</i> Don & Jan Houseman		<i>Audio/Visual Booth</i> Annika Dahl & Jeff Johnson	

## BETHEL STAFF

Pastor Jonathan Dahl <a href="mailto:jon@bethelwillmar.org">jon@bethelwillmar.org</a>	Sarah Dahl Children, Youth, and Family Ministry/Music Coordinator <a href="mailto:sarah@bethelwillmar.org">sarah@bethelwillmar.org</a>	Elizabeth Kompelien Administrator <i>Elizabeth</i> <a href="mailto:@bethelwillmar.org">@bethelwillmar.org</a>
Pastor Bob Dahl <a href="mailto:rldahl1@charter.net">rldahl1@charter.net</a>	Barb Blomquist Servant Coordinator <a href="mailto:servantcoordinator@bethelwillmar.org">servantcoordinator@bethelwillmar.org</a>	Rick Klavetter Custodian
Pastor Kathy Hartley <a href="mailto:kathyhartley99@gmail.com">kathyhartley99@gmail.com</a>		Sue Klavetter Custodian
Deacon Beverly Baseman <a href="mailto:bbaseman@bethelwillmar.org">bbaseman@bethelwillmar.org</a>		Dwayne Ninow Custodian



*Advent Art by  
Raylee Johnson*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<i>Sun - Dec 7</i> 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship Time 10:30 am Sunday School	<i>Tues - Dec 9</i> 12:00 pm Box Elders @ Bethesda 5:00 pm Yoga	<i>Thurs - Dec 11</i> 9:00 am Quilters 9:00 am Men's Bible Study 5:00 pm Yoga
<i>Mon - Dec 8</i> 9:30 am Women's Book Study	<i>Wed - Dec 10</i> 10:00 am Matins 10:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Matins Movie	<i>Sat - Dec 12</i> 8:00 am Yoga

*Christmas Lunch...* All are invited to a Christmas lunch on December 17th following the 11:00 am Advent Holden Prayer service. A meal from McMillians will be served in Luther Hall. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased by December 10th. Sign up outside the office.

*Save the Dates For the Holiday Season:*

- \*Wednesday, December 10th – Advent Holden Prayer Worship at 6:30 pm in the Chapel
- \*Saturday, December 13th – Sunday School Program Practice at 10:00 am
- \*Sunday, December 14th – Bethel Christmas Program at 9:15 am followed by our Lucia Day Celebration and Fellowship in Luther Hall
- \*Wednesday, December 17th – Advent Holden Prayer at 11:00 am in the Chapel followed by a Christmas Dinner in Luther Hall
- \*Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm
- \*Wednesday, December 31st – New Year's Eve Matins Worship at 10:00 am in the Chapel followed by Fellowship

*Christmas Program Singing Opportunity...*

Bethel's Christmas Program is fast approaching and we need YOU to help out as a singer! Youth (Grades 5-12) and adults are invited to be a part of the choir. We plan to rehearse on Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm in the choir loft. If needed, we will schedule another rehearsal for Saturday, December 13th at 11:00 am. Those who would like to participate in singing the traditional Lucia song at the Christmas Program will practice on December 10th at 5:50 pm.



WORSHIP PRAYER LIST

Aleah Auge  
Pat Johannes  
Joyce Nelson  
Judy Wetterling  
Jacque Jensen upon the death of Howard

*Noisy Coin...* For the month of November, our Noisy Coin was split three ways with 1/3 going to the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf, 1/3 going to the Good Samaritan Fund of the Willmar Area Community Foundation, 1/3 going to United Community Action Agency and \$500 added weekly from Bethel's Community Outreach Fund. **For the fifth week of November, \$673.19 was sent to each of these entities for a total of \$2,019.57, making a monthly total of \$11,759.77.** Thank you for your participation in this effort!

BETHEL CHURCH INFO

*Interested in info about Bethel?* Do you have any questions about the church? Would you like more explanation about anything you see or are experiencing at Bethel? Send Pastor Jon a message at [jon@bethelwillmar.org](mailto:jon@bethelwillmar.org) or 320.441.9100 or scan the QR code to share some information with us. We will be glad to connect with you!



*Volunteers/servants/sponsorships* are needed in the days and weeks ahead. See the schedule and opportunities and sign up on our website, [www.bethelwillmar.org](http://www.bethelwillmar.org) or by scanning the QR code (you can sign up as you anticipate the start of worship!) or by emailing our Servant Coordinator, Barb Blomquist, at [servantcoordinator@bethelwillmar.org](mailto:servantcoordinator@bethelwillmar.org).



*Offering* is collected by our kids during “Noisy Coin Offering.” All checks (unless otherwise noted in the memo line) and cash in envelopes will go toward Bethel’s general offering. Any loose cash or change will go towards this month’s Noisy Coin designation, ELCA World Hunger. Offerings can also be given to Bethel through Venmo: @bethelwillmar, or through our website.

*Children...* We encourage all kids to participate in worship. You are welcome to enjoy our “prayground” located near the pulpit at any time during the service. This area has quiet toys and crafts with which young children can play.

*Holy Communion...* Here at Bethel EVERYBODY is welcome to the Lord’s Table to receive the meal of Holy Communion. Jesus fed and ate with all – making the meal of Holy Communion God’s gift to us, meeting us where we are to renew and forgive and fill us in the ways God knows we need. Therefore, everyone is welcome to come and receive the meal regardless of what your past or current church participation has been or is or hasn’t been! Come and be fed OR come and receive a blessing. We are very glad to have you be part of this meal of God’s love for all here at Bethel. (An usher will invite you forward pew by pew; gluten-free wafers are available and the wine is red and the juice is yellow. If you are unable to receive communion at the altar, please inform the usher and the Pastor will come to you.)

*Watch from Home...* While we encourage in-person worshipping on Sundays, we realize this simply isn’t possible for everyone. Our worship can be viewed live on Sunday mornings at [facebook.com/bethelinwillmar](https://facebook.com/bethelinwillmar). They are also kept on Facebook to be viewed at a later date or time. The Willmar Access Channel airs our worship on channel 180, Sundays at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 9am and 6pm.

## COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFO

### *Lutheran Social Services of MN...*

Bethel is the Willmar hub for LSS’ Meals on Wheels program. Four routes bring meals to approximately 40-50 units on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Routes depart between 10:30-11:00 am and are typically completed within one hour.

### *Family Promise of Kandiyohi County...*

Family Promise (the shelter where families live is in the northern portion of downtown Willmar) exists to serve homeless families in our area and help them stabilize their family, work life, and help them secure housing. Bethel is a sponsor church, and we partner with The Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus our Living Water to provide a week of food through grocery shopping and providing 3 hot meals every 10-12 weeks. Currently, Family Promise is serving: Family of 3 (Mother 33, Son 15, Daughter 9), Family of 3 (Mother 33, Son 12, Daughter 4), Family of 5 (Mother 39, Daughter 12, Daughter 6, Son 4, Son 2), Single Female 36, Family of 2 (Mother 44, Son 12), Family of 2 (Father 36, Son 12). If you are interested in helping with or financially giving to this ministry, please contact Pastor Bob Dahl at [rb Dahl1@charter.net](mailto:rb Dahl1@charter.net) or 320.262.5295.

## PRELUDE

Lois Dahl

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT CANDLE PROCESSION

## ADVENT HYMN

*Prepare the Royal Highway, #264*

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!**

**Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!**

**Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:**

**Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

**God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!**

**Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!**

**God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!**

**Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

**Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!**

**Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.**

**All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:**

**Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

**His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.**

**His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.**

**So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding:**

**Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

## ADVENT LITANY

*God of the Cracks*

God of the cracks,

**God of the edges and the spaces in-between,**

God of the hidden, the fragile, the broken,

**God of the unlikely and the overlooked,**

God of the shadows and the places where light sneaks through,

**Come find us here.**

Help us to live with the cracks in ourselves and in others,

**Not rushing to mend them,**

But seeing how grace grows through brokenness.

**Make us bearers of your light,**

Letting love leak through the fractures of our lives,

**Lighting dark places we never thought could shine. Amen.**

## ADVENT HYMN

### *For the Troubles and the Suffering of the World*

(sung twice through)

**For the troubles and the sufferings of the world, God, we call upon your mercy:**

**The whole creation's laboring in pain!**

**Lend an ear to the rising cry for help from oppressed and hopeless people:**

**Come! Hasten your salvation, healing love!**

**We pray for peace, the blessed peace that comes from making justice,**

**to cover and embrace us. Have mercy, Lord!**

**We pray for pow'r, the pow'r that will sustain your people's witness:**

**until your kingdom comes. Kyrie eleison!**

## TIME FOR YOUTH

## SHARING OF PEACE

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him,  
and his dwelling shall be glorious.

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

Pastor Kathy Hartley

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*, #290

(refrain) **Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev’rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.** (refrain)

**The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.** (refrain)

**Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.** (refrain)

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles’ Creed*

**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.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

## OFFERING SONG

All offering can be collected by the children at this time. All check and envelope offerings will go toward the Bethel General Fund unless otherwise indicated. Offerings can also be given to Bethel through Venmo: @bethelwillmar, or through our website. Any loose cash or change will go towards this month's Noisy Coin designation, ELCA World Hunger.

*This Little Light of Mine*, #677

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

## WORDS OF PROMISE FOR THE MEAL OF HOLY COMMUNION

## 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.**

## SHARING OF THE MEAL

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*, #272

(vs. 1-3)

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,  
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the bold of winter, when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.**

**This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.  
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.**

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*, #275

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: (refrain)

(refrain) Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. (refrain)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star. (refrain)

All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising to eternal Three in One. (refrain)

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, #276

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

BLESSING

May the God who comes among us, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share courageously, today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*, #283

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

(Refrain) O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the father now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest: (Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: (Refrain)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



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