

Stained glass depicting John the Baptist preaching, St Etheldreda's Church, London, England

The Second Sunday in Advent

Divine Service 3

December 10, 2023

Scripture of the Day

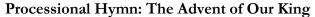
Isaiah 40:1–11 2 Peter 3:8–14 Mark 1:1–8

A Prayer before Worship

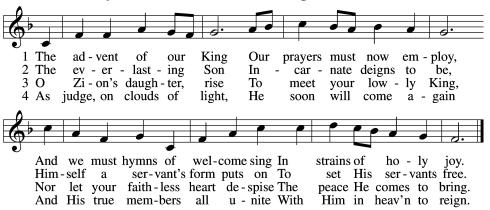
O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Prelude: ST. THOMAS ("The Advent of Our King"), J. Behnke

Please stand and face the Processional Cross.



LSB 331



- 5 Before the dawning day, let sin's dark deeds be gone, The sinful self be put away, the new self now put on.
- △6 All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free, With Father, Spirit, ever one, through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt. Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76

Text and tune: Public domain



Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Matthew 28:19h; [18:20]
- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

 [Hebrews 10:22]
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

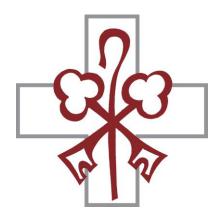
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the H Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 [John 20:19-23]
- C Amen.



♣ Service of the Word ♣

Introit Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b; antiphon: v. 3



- Restore us, | O God;*
 let your face shine, that we | may be saved!
- Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*
 You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.
- You brought a vine out of | Egypt;*

 it took deep root and | filled the land.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- Restore us, | O God;*

 let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Kyrie Mark 10:47





Salutation and Collect of the Day



E Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

2 Timothy 4:22

C Amen.

Sit



The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading 2 Peter 3:8–14

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel Mark 1:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

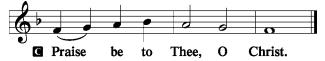


¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, 3the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





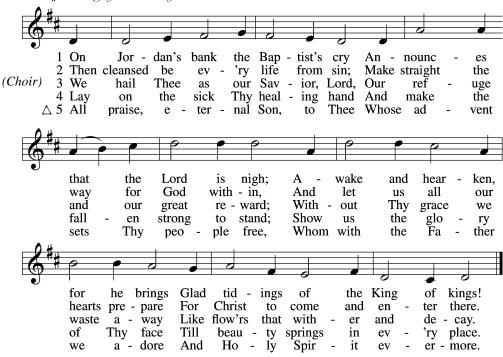
Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,	Deuteronomy 6:4, Isaiah 44:6
the Father Almighty,	Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3
maker of heaven and earth	Genesis 1:1; John 1:1
and of all things visible and invisible.	Colossians 1:16
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,	Romans 10:9
the only-begotten Son of God,	John 3:16; Matthew 16:16
begotten of His Father before all worlds,	John 1:2
God of God, Light of Light	John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1
very God of very God,	Colossians 2:9
begotten, not made,	John 1:2
being of one substance with the Father,	John 10:30
by whom all things were made;	Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3
Who for us men and for our salvation	Matthew 20:28; Galatians 4:4-5
came down from heaven	John 3:13, John 6:38
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary	Luke 1:34-35
and was made man;	John 1:14
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.	Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18
He suffered and was buried.	John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures	1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6
and ascended into heaven	Acts 1:9
and sits at the right hand of the Father.	Acts 7:55
And He will come again with glory	Matthew 26:64
to judge both the living and the dead,	Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12
Whose kingdom will have no end.	2 Peter 1:11
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,	John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38
the Lord and giver of life,	Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 12:3
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	John 15:26
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and	glorified, Mt. 3:16-17; Lk. 2:14
Who spoke by the prophets.	Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,	1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,	Ephesians 4:5, Acts 2:38
	ns 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
and the life $+$ of the world to come.	Isaiah 65:17-19; Revelation 21:1-4
Amen.	Psalm 106:48

Please remain standing for the Hymn of the Day.

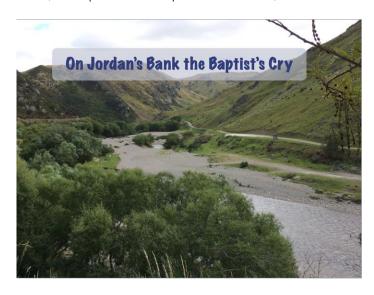
Hymn of the Day: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Stanza 3 sung by Choir only



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. Composite Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621 Text and tune: Public domain





Sermon Rev. Stephen Schumacher

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- **P** Lord, in your mercy.
- C Hear our prayer.

Thank you for continuing to support the Lord's Work here at Bethany. Offering plates are available at the back of the sanctuary, or consider giving through the Vanco Mobile app or online at www.bethanylcs.org.

Psalm 51:10-12

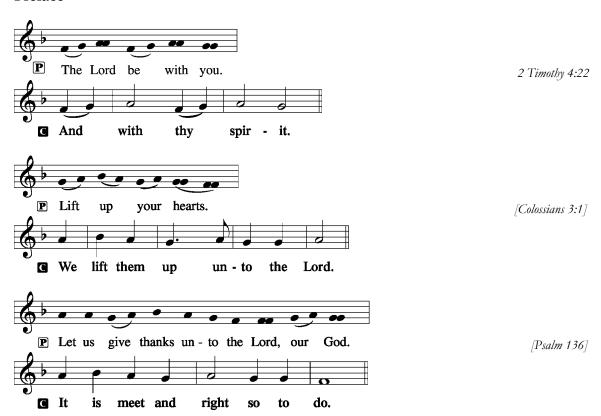


+ Service of the Sacrament +

About Receiving the Lord's Supper at Bethany

As we receive the Lord's Holy Supper according to His institution, we receive the salvation, forgiveness, and life eternal won for us on the cross. Also, we believe that when a person communes at an altar, one confesses unity with the teachings of that church. Therefore, if you are not in fellowship with the teaching of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we ask that you refrain from communion until you have had opportunity to speak with one of the pastors about Christ's bodily presence and the forgiveness of sins given in this meal. However, all are welcome to receive a blessing, for the forgiveness of Jesus is still yours. Please indicate this as your intention by crossing your arms over your chest when the pastor comes by.

Preface



P It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



■ Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

C 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.



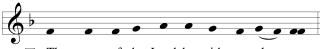
The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My +body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My Holood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



Agnus Dei John 1:29



Sit

A Prayer for Right Reception of the Lord's Supper

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

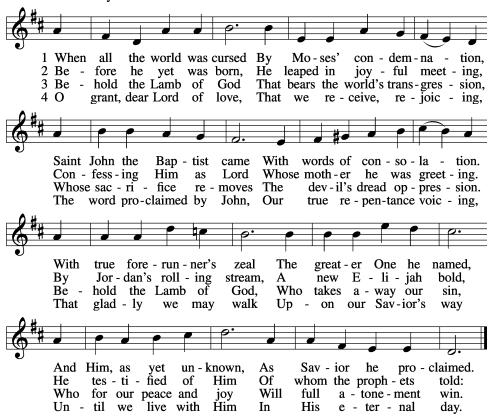
Anthem during Distribution: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People", setting by P. Bunjes

Comfort, comfort ye My people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows' load. Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him and the hills bow down to greet Him.

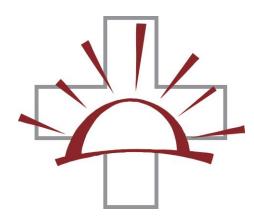


Distribution Hymn: When All the World Was Cursed



Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001376 Tune: Public domain

Stand



Thanksgiving after Receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Dismissal

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

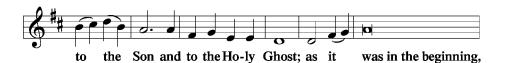








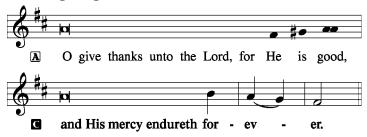






Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

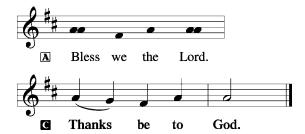
Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

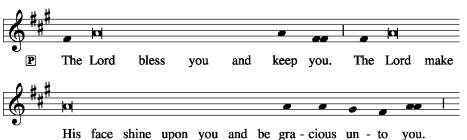




[Psalm 103:1]

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26





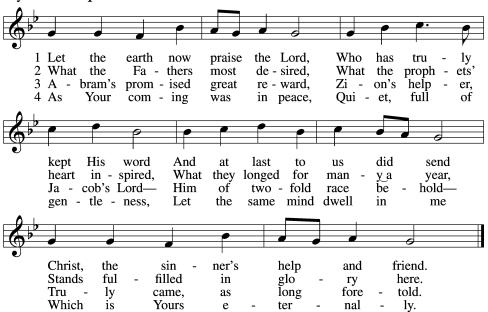
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and 4 give you peace.





LSB 352

Hymn to Depart: Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again
 As the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see Your face,
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND ("Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"), J. Biery



A Prayer after Worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Those Serving You Today

8:30

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev. Stephen Schumacher

Assisting Pastors: Rev. Seth Clemmer, Rev. Emmett Bartens

Organist: Tom Mueller Musical Ensemble: Proclaim Live Stream Tech: James Blasius

Acolytes: Hannah Wilson, Gus Schafer

Sacristans: David Brouch, Rich Fick, Marty Franken, Doug Splitt **Ushers:** Paul Reimer, Rich Tatara, JR Wilson, volunteer needed

Communion Care: Cheryl Airhart

11:00

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev. Stephen Schumacher

Assisting Pastors: Rev. Seth Clemmer, Rev. Emmett Bartens

Organist: Tom Mueller

Musical Ensemble: Proclaim

Acolytes: Joseph Aurilio, Lily Keller

Sacristans: Bill Quinn, Dominic Salvino, Mike Walsh, volunteer needed

Ushers: AJ Aurilio, Drew Aurilio, Bill Cade, Chuck Kuehl

Communion Care: Pam Splitt

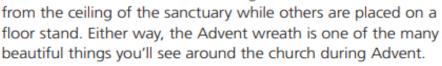
The flowers adorning our Lord's altar today are placed to the glory of our Triune God by Jeffrey and Mercy Gustis in honor of their 10th anniversary.



KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent. Some Advent wreaths hang



CHRISTMAS

How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



Prayers

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- Dave Dumford, hospice
- Austin Eisemon, recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Aiden Goldbeck, infant heart and neurological issues
- Betsy Goldbeck, recovering
- Shirley Grudzien, for healing and strength
- Kathy Olsted, cancer
- MaryLou Adams, mother to Garrit Curfs, recovering from a stroke
- Linda Felton, friend to the Corderos, cancer and declining health
- Amy Gibson, sister to Judy Teske, undergoing tests
- Dan Kozlowski, friend to the Splitts, recovery from open heart surgery
- Matt Kreft, brother to Andrew Kreft, colon cancer healing
- Daniel Krock, grandson to Rick and Jackie Krock, recovering from surgery for kidney issues
- Mark Stortz, friend to the Splitts, recovery from heart & lung surgery
- Martin Wright, grandson to the Lindenmeyers, depression
- The family to Kathy Olsted as they support their wife and mother
- The family to Marcia Krenek, mother to Quinn Krenek, who was called to glory on November 30
- The family to Harold (Hal) Downs, father to Harold Downs II, who was called to glory on December 1

Those who serve in the Armed Forces and their families:

Quinn Parlier, Jacob Wilson, Andrew Bear (nephew to Beth Hawley), Matthew and Michael Hinze (sons to Don Hinze), Peter Johnson (son to Dennis and Ina Johnson), Savanna Lugay (daughter to Joe and Bethany Lugay), Conor L. McGavern (nephew to Becky McBroom), Aaron Mock (nephew to Debbie Kokaska), Kyle G. Schmidt (nephew to Becky McBroom), Ryan Skarin (grandson to Muriel Skarin), Scott Slown (husband to Jennifer Slown), Nicholas Camm-Williams (friend to Nada Salvino)

Those who are shut in or in need of ongoing care:

John Coniglio, Roger and Charlene Fiene, Richard and Marilyn Groth, Bruce Janken, Alberta Kobialka, Donna Rentschler, Solomon and Thamary Robert, Muriel Skarin, Nancy Skibinski, Chuck and Monika Werner, David and Ann Zielke

Mothers with child:

Emily French, Nicole Kaim, Susan Keller, Sarah Lieb, Olivia Bolger (sister to Bethany Lugay), Amanda Bowman (daughter-in-law to Dwight and Pat Bowman), Kelli Lynch (niece to Sue Sreniawski)

Those celebrating wedding anniversaries this month: Jeffrey and Mercy Gustis



This Week at Bethany

- December 12, 1:00pm Bible Reading Group
- December 12, 3:40pm Schola Cantorum Rehearsal
- December 12, 7:00pm Board of Finance
- December 13, 9:00am Women's LifeLight
- December 13, 11:00am Midweek Divine Service
- December 13, 6:30pm Advent Evening Prayer
- December 13, 7:15pm Praises Ring! Rehearsal
- December 13, 7:30pm Theology on Tap
- December 14, 11:30am OWLS
- December 14, 7:00pm Evening LifeLight
- December 14, 7:00pm Proclaim Rehearsal
- December 14, 8:15pm Bethany Brass Rehearsal
- December 15, 12:00pm Knitters and Crafts Group
- December 16, 8:00am Men's Bible Breakfast

Looking Further Ahead

- December 17, 8:30am Divine Service
- December 17, 10:00am Bible Study, Sunday School, and Confirmation Class
- December 17, 11:00am Sunday School Christmas Service
- December 19, 7:00pm Proclaim Rehearsal
- December 19, 8:15pm Bethany Brass Rehearsal
- December 20, 6:30pm Advent Evening Prayer
- December 21, 7:00pm Day School Christmas Program
- December 23, 9:30am Bethany Brass Rehearsal

For information on activities and updates at Bethany, please subscribe to the "Week at a Glance" by emailing office@bethanylcs.org. If you prefer, some paper copies are available at the Welcome Center.



www.bethanylcs.org
630-355-2198
Pastor Seth Clemmer
Pastor Stephen Schumacher
Pastor Emmett Bartens
email: office@bethanylcs.org