



The Nativity of Our Lord
December 25, 2022

Welcome to Bethel! We're glad you're here!

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD • DECEMBER 25, 2022



All Are Welcome!

Your presence is important to us – we are not complete without you. We mean it when we say “all are welcome” – no matter where you are on your faith journey or how you identify.

We firmly believe that there is no age limit in GOD’s house. Young or old, you are an essential part of our worship community.

Families with young children are encouraged to sit near the front of the sanctuary so children can see what is happening. Parents and other near-by adults can help developing readers follow along with the congregation and the printed Order of Worship. Be patient with our children as they learn to participate in the rituals of worship. Celebrate as they learn to help with various aspects of worship leadership. Small gestures can go a long way.

Prayer Requests

Paper is available on the table as you enter the sanctuary for you to write prayer requests on. Return the paper to an usher no later than during the Hymn of the Day. Ushers will get the requests to the day’s reader who will incorporate your individual prayers into the Prayers of Intercession. Those worshipping via Zoom, can type requests into the chat box to be passed along. The reader will read all of the prayer requests for the day during the Prayers of the People. It is our hope that this will help all those in worship hear the prayer requests.

“Noisy Offering!”

Encouraging the participation of our youngest members in worship is important to us. When they help collect the offering each week, they are disappointed or confused when folks don’t drop something in the basket.

The Worship & Music Team is asking that you drop a little spare change into the basket when it comes your way. This spare change will be kept in the safe and counted after a few months. When the total amount has grown enough, this “noisy offering” will be donated to a local charity to be decided on soon. Your suggestions are welcome.

Join Us for Sunday School

Options for ALL AGES
Will return January 8th

Some Practical Visitor Info

If you need a restroom, all of our options are single-stall and non-gendered. In the sanctuary building, you will find the restroom through the side door to your left (near the piano) if you are facing the altar. You can also access it by going outside through the main entrance and re-entering the sanctuary building near the offices by using the door located under the bell tower on the left-hand side of the building. The restroom will be to your left.

If you need an accessible restroom or a baby changing table, you can find that in our back building. Go through the iron gate at the rear of our patio on the left of the sanctuary. As you enter that back building the restroom is immediately to your left.

*As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God."
O come, let us adore!*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation invited to stand as they are able and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

Amen

Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able for the Gathering Song.

GATHERING SONG *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (ELW 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*

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (ELW 270)

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

² Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

³ Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)

Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:6-12 (Herlocker Family)

The prophet invites the people to give God no rest until God reestablishes Jerusalem. In turn, they will receive names full of promise: The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD, A City Not Forsaken.

A reading from Isaiah.

⁶Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;

all day and all night

they shall never be silent.

You who remind the LORD, take no rest,

⁷and give him no rest

until he establishes Jerusalem

and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

⁸The LORD has sworn by his right hand

and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain

to be food for your enemies,

and foreigners shall not drink the wine

for which you have labored;

⁹but those who garner it shall eat it

and praise the LORD,

and those who gather it shall drink it

in my holy courts.

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates,

prepare the way for the people;

build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones,

lift up an ensign over the peoples.

¹¹The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,

“See, your salvation comes;

his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.”

¹²They shall be called, “The Holy People,

The Redeemed of the LORD“;

and you shall be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 97 (Herlocker Family)

- ¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- ²**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**
- ³Fire goes before the LORD,
burning up enemies on every side.
- ⁴**Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.**
- ⁵The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.
- ⁶**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.**
- ⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.
- ⁸**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.**
- ⁹For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
- ¹⁰**You who love the LORD, hate evil!
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**
- ¹¹Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.
- ¹²**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7 (Herlocker Family)

God saves us not because of what we do. Rather, God is a God of mercy and salvation who graciously cleanses us in baptism and renews our lives through the Holy Spirit.

A reading from Titus.

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE & THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

HYMN FOR LIGHTING WREATH *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* ELW 240

Music & Lyrics on next page

- 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.
- 2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.
- 3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.
- 4 Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:8-20 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *Joy to the World* (ELW 267)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings
Flow far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

CREED (ELW p. 104)

On this Christmas Day, let us join with Christians throughout the world in confessing our faith through the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Herlocker Family)

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

The church in every land makes a joyful noise to herald your coming, O God. We give thanks for poets, musicians, and hymn writers who give voice to our praise, and for all who lead the church's worship. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

This day dawns with new hope for all living things, and from ocean depths to mountain peaks the earth rejoices. Inspire in us an urgent zeal to protect the planet and renew its. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Bring heavenly peace to this world and an end to armed conflict. Raise up leaders in every nation who will honor human rights and establish equal justice for all people. Give courage to all who speak out against oppression and advocate for the powerless. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Guard the lives of any in danger, especially those who work to protect others. Lead any who are in desperate circumstances to sanctuary, help, and safety. Grant rest to the weary and soothe those who are troubled. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Bless all who gather to worship on this holy day. Be present at our tables and celebrations, and watch over those who travel. Sustain charities, outreach ministries, and food pantries that give generously to people in need. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

In Christ we have beheld your glory, full of grace and truth. We give thanks for those in every generation who reflect the light of Christ. May their witness shine forth in our time. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

(Prayer requests provided by congregation to be added here by Reader)

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

*We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God
and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, & gifts that God has given us.
Thank you so much for your continued support.*

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the words of the language of your heart.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

*All are welcome to join in our communion celebration.
Please follow the directions of pastor Carolyn and the ushers.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Angels We Have Heard on High* (ELW 289)

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you,
✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (ELW 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*

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*After brief announcements related to the ministry of Bethel,
the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.*

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God and we will.



Finance Update

To meet our 2022 Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs **\$6968**

Giving in December

12/4 = \$1447.00

12/11 = \$2473

12/18 = \$

12/25 = \$

Total for Month = \$3920

TOTAL for November = \$6856

Thanks for your ongoing support of Bethel's Ministries!

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Herlocker Family

Readers: Herlocker Family

Sound: Rick Mendonsa/ Vince Neill

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message:

Musician: Jeff Dodge

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Terri Larson

Readers: various members

Sound: Rick Mendonsa/ Vince Neill

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message: Pr. Allen Dunn

Musician: Jeff Dodge

Consider Online Giving

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, bethelroseville.org

If you prefer to give by traditional check, please mail it into the church office at 1050 Douglas Blvd., Roseville CA 95678 or drop it into the basket during worship.

Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, January 1st

First Sunday of Christmas

Lectionary Readings are below, but in worship we'll be reading others

- Isaiah 63:7-9
- Psalm 148
- Hebrews 2:10-18
- Matthew 2:13-23

Use the QR code below to access e-giving from your phone



Contact Pastor Carolyn

Contact Pr. Carolyn at the info below to double-check her office hours.

She is available Tuesday – Thursday most weeks.

pastor@bethelroseville.org

916-781-3333 (office) or 916-223-2114 (cell)



Follow us on social media for pictures of activities, connections to the synod & the ELCA, and other up-to-date information. Our website includes a digital copy of the bulletin & announcements each week under "News"



Facebook: BethelRosevilleCA
Instagram: @bethelrosevilleca
Web: www.bethelroseville.org



Save the Date!

Our own, Paul Larson, will be ordained into the Ministry of Word & Sacrament on January 22nd at 3:00pm at his new congregation in Salinas.

We haven't worked out details on how to share this big occasion with Paul, but there are rumors of possible car pools or group viewing of the service via Zoom.

Let Lisa Herlocker or Terri Larson know of your interest and let's see how creative we can be 😊



The Congregational Life Team is planning an all-ages New Year's Eve Celebration beginning at 6:00pm!! The event will include games, food, and ringing in the new year in various time zones!

If you would like to attend, please let Terri Larson know today.



- December 1 - Lisa Herlocker
- December 1 - Kary Pfennig
- December 3 - Jason Hetland
- December 5 - Tyler Linn
- December 11 - Emily Boswell
- December 19 - Sawyer Linn Gish
- December 27 - Vincent Villanueva
- December 30 - Katelyn (Swanson) Headington

Blessings to all of our December Birthdays; please let us know if we accidentally left you off this list!



"That last 'Glo-ooo-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooria' about did me in."

A Big Heartfelt Thank You!!

We are so grateful for those who put in extra time and effort to make Advent and Christmas at Bethel special. From those who cooked soup, to those who decorated the sanctuary, or to those who helped lead the many special worship gatherings – thank you so much! Thank you to Pastor Carolyn and Lisa Herlocker for extra worship planning and preparations. Thank you to Audrey, A Wing and a Prayer, and Jeff, who brought us the holiday music we all love. Finally, a big thanks to those who donated to, and distributed, our collection for the St. John's Shelter families and helped brighten the residents' holiday season.

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

Following the example set by Jesus Christ and being mindful of our Lutheran heritage of acceptance through God's grace, we welcome all to God's table. We invite all who are seeking God's love and grace to join us in worship and fellowship. We welcome all because God welcomes all, knowing that God's love is all-inclusive and stronger than any pressure to conform to the labels this world gives us.

We commit to providing a safe and welcoming place for people of any age, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome and love all no matter their socio-economic circumstances, outward appearance, immigration status, political affiliation, or anything that could seemingly divide us. The nature and extent of one's addictions, physical and mental health, or criminal history have no bearing on our commitment to welcome all.

*We affirm today, tomorrow, and for all of our days, that we will intentionally strive to live as people of faith, people of compassion, people of love, and people of grace.
We invite you to come as you are to Meet, Pray, & Love together.*

Today, begins the 12 Days of Christmas or the Christmas Season, a time we celebrate the coming of Jesus into our world as a human being just like us. Jesus, the Incarnate Word, chose to come down to live among us and know our joys and sorrows – to be in a relationship with us. Take a moment to ponder that in this season – the God of the Universe knows what our lives are like! How comforting that the One we worship can walk with us in all of our emotions and experiences!

**No matter where you are on your faith journey, we invite you to explore with us.
Welcome.**

**Worship Gathering at 9:00am each Sunday
Sunday School for All Ages at 10:15am (Sept - May)**



Bethel
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Carolyn Brodt, Pastor
1050 Douglas Blvd • Roseville, CA • 916-781-3333
Pastor@bethelroseville.org



Bethel is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Nisenan people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

