

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany February 4, 2024

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

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY • FEBRUARY 4, 2024



# All Are Welcome!

We mean it when we say "all are welcome" – no matter where you are on your faith journey or how you identify. Your presence is important to us – we are not complete without you. Our Worship & Music team is continually listening and adapting our worship practices to reflect our desire to welcome ALL of GOD's children.

#### Hospitality Details

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. If a young child gets antsy during long periods of inaction like the sermon, they are welcome to quietly play in front of the sound table near the door.

Those participating in worship who find standing for long periods of time difficult are encouraged to take care of themselves and adapt the "Lutheran Aerobics" of frequent standing and sitting to meet their needs. Traditions of standing at certain times during the liturgy are not meant to cause pain or discomfort. Please sit or stand in ways that make your time with us comfortable.

If you need a restroom, you have options:

In the main building, one is located through the side door near the piano. It can also be accessed by going outside through the main door and re-entering the building using the door located under the bell tower. The restroom will be to your left.

A larger, wheelchair accessible restroom with a baby changing table, is located in our back building. Go through the iron gate to the left of the sanctuary. As you enter the back building the restroom is immediately to your left. Feel free to ask the usher for directions as well.

### Blessed to be a Blessing

Last week you received a letter from the Finance and Administration Ministry Team, which will include your 2023 Giving Statement, a letter updating you on our congregation budget, and a 2024 pledge card. (If you weren't with us in person, we've mailed it to you)

Be sure to read the materials prayerfully and consider how you can share your blessings with Bethel as we continue our ministries within and outside of our walls.

Please keep in mind that a pledge is a goal for you and a planning guide for our finance team. It is not an obligation. We don't want anyone to feel pressured to give beyond their means.

You're asked to return pledge cards to the church office no later than February 25<sup>th</sup> when we will have an offering of them during worship.



Next Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> is our Little Lutherans chance to participate in a nation-wide movement to tackle hunger. The Souper Bowl of Caring was created to raise money for local hunger causes on a day when a lot of parties take place. The goal is for folks to donate at least \$1, but even better the price of a meal, before leaving church to watch the Big Game. So be sure to do your part and drop your donations in the soup pots next week!

#### Prayer Requests

Yellow paper is available as you enter for you to write prayer requests on. Return the paper to an usher no later than during the Hymn of the Day. The reader will include it during the Prayers of the People.

It is our hope that this will help all those worshipping in the sanctuary and on online to hear the prayers.

#### Introduction to the day

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

### GATHERING

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

**OPENING SONG/PRELUDE** 

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

Everlasting God ©Lincoln Brewster

#### WELCOME

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the baptismal font.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved. Amen.

GATHERING SONG Arise, Your Light Has Come! (WOV 652)



#### GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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.** 

**KYRIE** 

Kyrie

©Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page



Kyrie



**HYMN OF PRAISE** 



Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page

This Is the Feast

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This is the feast of vic-tor-y \$\*\* (\_\_\_\_\_ d = [ r = r = d = 1 = 1 Al - le - lu -ia, Al - le -lu - ia Sing with all\_\_\_\_ God's ły – - ple peo ho ALT Y CLEAR Join the of hy - mn v - 1 6 all cre tion а Bless - ing, hon or, -21 × 1 - ght mi ry, qlo 61. and the to God Be 64 for ev - er Lamb men! А men! 637 This is the feast of vic-tor-y Feast of vic-tory for our God. For the Lamb who once was slain Has be - gun his reign forev - er. men! Α

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.



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

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31 (Lisa Kaufman-Chan)

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

#### A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? <sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (Lisa Kaufman-Chan)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem and gathers the exiles of Israel.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

#### <sup>8</sup>who covers the heavens with clouds

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains. <sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, <sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. <sup>20c</sup>Hallelujah!

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

#### A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit to welcome the Gospel

#### GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

# The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

# The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

#### **SERMON** (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the Hymn of the Day.



#### HYMN OF THE DAY As with Gladness Men of Old (ELW 302)

#### CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world in this Season of Epiphany and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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.

Please be seated

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Lisa Kaufman-Chan)

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Today we especially remember our siblings in Palestine, Sudan, Ethiopia, Ukraine, and those seeking asylum on our own southern border. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need especially those in our community who are unhoused. God of grace,

#### receive our prayer.

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

#### receive our prayer.

Additional prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

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



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

ta-ble

Lord

come.

# **OFFERING**

MEAL

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.

As offerings are brought to altar, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.** 

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.By your powerful word you created all things.Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance 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 language of our hearts. 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

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

All are welcome to join in our communion celebration. Please have a seat and follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the usher.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.** 

### SENDING

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

Please rise in body and/or spirit for the Blessing.

#### BLESSING

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

SENDING SONG

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (WOV 673)

Words and music on following page



Please be seated.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

#### DISMISSAL

You are God's beloved. Go in peace. Thanks be to God and we will.



To meet our **2024** Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs \$9995

#### Giving in January

1/7	=	\$2534.04
1/14	=	\$1075.04
1/21	=	\$1509.00
1/28	=	\$1175.04
Total for Month	=	\$6293.12

#### TOTAL for December = \$8639

#### Thanks for your ongoing support of Bethel's Ministries!



1050 Douglas Blvd., Roseville CA 95678 or drop it into the basket during worship.

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



### Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration of Our Lord

- 2 Kings 2:1-12
- Psalm 50:1-6
- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
- Mark 9:2-9

# Today's Worship Teams

Usher: John & Olivia D'Antonio Reader: Lisa and/or Andrew Chan Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Pr. Carolyn Brodt Musician: A Wing and a Prayer

#### Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Mavis Hotchkiss Reader: Pr. Allen Dunn Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Pr. Allen Dunn Musician: Audrey Gale



(following worship)

Our two "Lisas" will have the kids in Lentz Hall for Bible Stories and crafts.

Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults in her office AND via Zoom. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gehard Lohfink.

The Zoom link will be open at 10:25, and the conversation will begin at 10:30. This give Pastor Carolyn a chance to greet folks over coffee before heading to lead Sunday School.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89637655924?pwd=eTJ6OVIEM VZDcG530G1KdW5hV2E1dz09

> Meeting ID: 896 3765 5924 Passcode: 295449

#### Contact Pastor Carolyn

Contact Pr. Carolyn first to double-check her office hours. She is available Tuesday – Thursday most weeks.

pastor@bethelroseville.org 916-781-3333 (office) or 916-223-2114



#### **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Attend camp this summer! A variety of options for all ages! Financial flexibility and assistance available.

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well." Psalm 139:14 (NRSV)

The Summer 2024 theme is: Created to Be!

Each day campers explore more deeply the authentic selves God has created them to be. They will learn what it means to be siblings in Christ—humans who are brave enough to encourage and stand up for each other, sharing burdens as well as joys. Daily themes include: Created to be Free, Created to be Authentic, Created to be Brave, Created to be Disciples, Created to be Disrupted.

Parents, chat about options and send Bethel kids all in the same week. OR Family Camp!?!

#### Questions? Talk with Lisa Herlocker or check out <u>www.mtcross.org</u>



February 5 - Rikelle Mendonsa

- February 18 Barb Morris
- February 22 Jack Bradbury
- February 27 Emily Roxworthy
- February 29 Diane Swanson

Blessings to all of our February Birthdays, please let us know if we accidently left you off this list!



Connecting faith & finances for good.™

If you are a Thrivent Member you may be eligible to make a donation of your Choice Dollars – and we hope that you choose Bethel as your favorite nonprofit © Direct your dollars by March 31 or miss out on this easy opportunity to help out the congregation. Check your online portal to learn more.

#### COMING IN FEBRUARY

February 9<sup>th</sup> – Game Night Join the fun at 6:30pm

#### February 11<sup>th</sup> – Souper Bowl of Caring

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday Worship @ 5:30pm (note new time)

February 17<sup>th</sup> – Bethel Anniversary Happy #78<sup>th</sup> ☺

#### Lenten Mid-Week Worship & Soup

Beginning Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Worship @5:30 Soup Supper @6:15ish (note new time)

## Called to Work for Justice

Through Baptism, we are called to be agents of peace and justice in this world. The work of the ELCA in our time includes that of being a Publicly Engaged Church.

In California, this is done through involvement with the **Lutheran Office of Public Policy** (LOPP-CA) which hosts live advocacy briefings on Wednesdays at noon. During the half-hour Zoom meeting, listeners get an update on state and federal legislative priorities and direct a quick advocacy activity. Follow this link: https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/advocacy-in-

<u>quarantine-2</u> to check out *Advocacy, Info, and Questions*.



#### Are you on Social Media? Have you "liked" and "followed" Bethel on Facebook and Instagram?

This is the best way to get reminders of upcoming events and to see photos of recent activities. Just search for Bethel Roseville CA on either platform to connect with us.

We also have a website – <u>www.bethelroseville.org</u> – this is the best place to find archived bulletins (posted under the "news" tab) and basic information about Bethel and how we are organized as a congregation.

# 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.

This is the time of the church known as the season of Epiphany. It begins with the Magi's adoration of the Christ Child and includes Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River and ends with his mountain top Transfiguration. Epiphany celebrates Christ being made known, or made "manifest," to all nations. It is a season bathed in the light of God's grace and love.

It is our hope that this Worship Gathering will bring God's light to your life. We welcome you to gather in the presence of the God made flesh who reaches across time and space and comes to dwell among us.

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



#### 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.

