

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

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY • JANUARY 17, 2021



Welcome to our online worship gathering. As we gather as the people of God in virtual ways, you are invited to use this bulletin as a devotional aid. Continue to check your email, the Bethel website, and the Bethel Facebook page for more ways to connect and encourage one another.

[www.bethelroseville.org](http://www.bethelroseville.org) <https://www.facebook.com/BethelRosevilleCA/>

For any pastoral care needs, contact Pastor Ron (530)417-4951 or [ronzielske@gmail.com](mailto:ronzielske@gmail.com)

## Thoughts from Pastor Ron

### BAPTISM

Remember to celebrate your baptism birthdays. Remember your baptism each morning when you use water. Luther said that we daily drown the old self (the self that wanders away from God) and daily rise to a new life in Christ. Our identity first and foremost is as a child of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, the Christ.

### HOUSE BLESSING

One of the ancient customs on Epiphany is to bless the house. I like to do that, but with the pandemic I cannot. You'll find two options to use on your own later in this bulletin. One is a general blessing for the entire house and the other is a blessing for each room in the house.

### Thank You to all who help lead worship each week

**Today's readers:** Patrick Gale, Terri Larson, Barb Morris, and Pastor Allen Dunn.

A special thanks to Audrey Gale for this week's Kids Message.

**Next Week:** Linda Dunn, Jeri Wartena, Nancy Garman, and Bruce Seiler

**Thanks again for all your help!**

## Adult Forum: the Book of James

Join Pastor Ron after "coffee hour" for a study of the New Testament book of James. A brief letter describing practical discipleship and insights into daily Christian living. No Bible experience necessary – use this [link](#) to preview the Book of James. Today we'll look at the second half of chapter one.

## In the Coming Week . . .

A great way to prepare for weekly worship is to spend some time reading the upcoming Sunday's scripture lessons. Here are the readings for January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project

Bethel is celebrating a milestone anniversary in February! While we won't be having the big party we anticipated any time soon, Bishop Mark Holmerud will be joining us on February 21<sup>st</sup> to celebrate with us. We will share memories and stories during a virtual party, after worship.

Please [email Lisa Herlocker](#) your favorite photos and written memories of your time at Bethel by February 15<sup>th</sup> to be shared on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>



To meet our **2021** Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs **\$6986\***

**Giving in January**

1/3	=	\$355.00
1/10	=	\$5478.69
1/17	=	\$
1/24	=	\$
1/31	=	\$

Total for month = **\$5833.69**

**TOTAL for December = \$6535.81**

*\*Keep in mind, this total may be adjusted with the final compensation package offered a new pastor*

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



**Online Giving Option**

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, [bethelroseville.org](http://bethelroseville.org)

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

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE TO OTHERS**

ELCA Good Gifts helps globally

<http://goodgifts.elca.org/>

Lutheran Social Services helps locally

<https://www.lssnorcal.org/>

*Your generosity matters and makes a real difference!*

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP**

Join your Bethel friends for a relaxed time to chat and stay connected each Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:00pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 832 4196 6653

Passcode: 759604



- January 3 – Ryan Mack
- January 4 – Allen Dunn
- January 7 – Ronin Villanueva
- January 9 – Nancy Garman
- January 11 – Morgan Pfennig
- January 20 – Debra Linn
- January 21 – Alison Villanueva
- January 27 – Ryan McBain
- January 29 – Brianna (Mendonso) Bradbury

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

**Inclusivity Discussion Group**

Let's explore what it means to live out Bethel's Welcome Statement. What do we really mean when we say, "All are welcome?" Using a curriculum written by David Scherer & Joe Davis – and adapted by Lisa Herlocker for Bethel – we'll explore issues of inclusivity through a faith lens.

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

Be sure to let Lisa know if you're interested so you receive emails regarding readings and the Zoom link.



Be sure to check out our online presence occasionally. We are on both [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). There you'll find links to Sunday morning worship and articles of interest. Sometimes cute pictures of "our" Little Lutherans both past and present show up too.

Our [website](#) is the place to go if you want access to weekly bulletins and announcements. Just click over to the [News](#) page and search by date.

## **BLESSING YOUR HOME** *(option 1)*

Spiritual Practice by William John Fitzgerald

God bless this house.  
Make it  
a safe place,  
a place of warmth,  
a place of ease,  
a place of comfort,  
a place of rest,  
a place of pleasing colors,  
a place of stability,  
a place of memories,  
a place of dreaming,  
a place to talk,  
a place of table hospitality,  
a place of acceptance,  
a place of welcome,  
a place of laughter,  
a place of healing,  
a place of beauty,  
a place of romance and lovemaking,  
a place of pleasing aromas,  
a place of strength and security,  
a place of unconditional love,  
a place where we can most truly be ourselves,  
a place of refuge from hyperactivity.  
In such a holy space, angels hover near.

## **BLESSING FOR A HOME AT EPIPHANY** *(option 2)*

Matthew writes that when the magi saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. "On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother" (Matt. 2:10-11). In the home, Christ is met in family and friends, in visitors and strangers.

In the home, faith is shared, nurtured, and put into action. In the home, Christ is welcome.

Twelfth Night (January 5), Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6), or another day during the time after Epiphany offers an occasion for gathering with friends and family members for a blessing for the home. Someone may lead the greeting and blessing, while another person may read the scripture passage. Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door; for example, 20 + CMB + 21. The numbers change with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christe mansionem benedicat*, which means "Christ, bless this house," or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).

## GREETING

May peace be to this house and to all who enter here.  
By wisdom a house is built  
and through understanding it is established;  
through knowledge its rooms are filled  
with rare and beautiful treasures. (Proverbs 24:3-4)

## READING

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this household, let us listen to the words of scripture.  
In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.  
All things came into being through him,  
and without him not one thing came into being,  
and the life was the light of all people.  
The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory,  
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.  
From his fullness we have all received,  
grace upon grace. (John 1:1-4, 14, 16)

## INSCRIPTION

*This inscription may be made with chalk above the entrance:*

20 † C M B † 21

*Write the appropriate character (left) while speaking the text (right).*

The magi of old, known as  
C Caspar,  
M Melchior, and  
B Balthasar,  
followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us  
20 two thousand  
21 and twenty years ago.  
† Christ, bless this house,  
† and remain with us throughout the new year.

## PRAYER OF BLESSING

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star.  
We pray that you bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence.  
May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light,  
and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Then everyone may walk from room to room, blessing the house with incense or by sprinkling with water, perhaps using a branch from the Christmas tree.*