

4th Sunday after Epiphany January 28, 2024

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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY • JANUARY 28, 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.

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.



Sunday School for All Ages

(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 VZDcG53OG1KdW5hV2E1dz09

> 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) **Introduction to the day:** In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

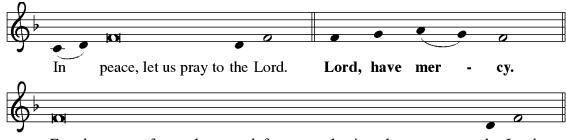
Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth. wind sweeping over the waters. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We 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 Rise, Shine, You People! (ELW 665)
1Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered2See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;3Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,4Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.
our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the
us, by death and sin sur-round-ed, wom-en, who by guilt are driv - en, world go out and tell the sto - ry Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

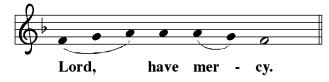
GREETING (ELW p. 138)

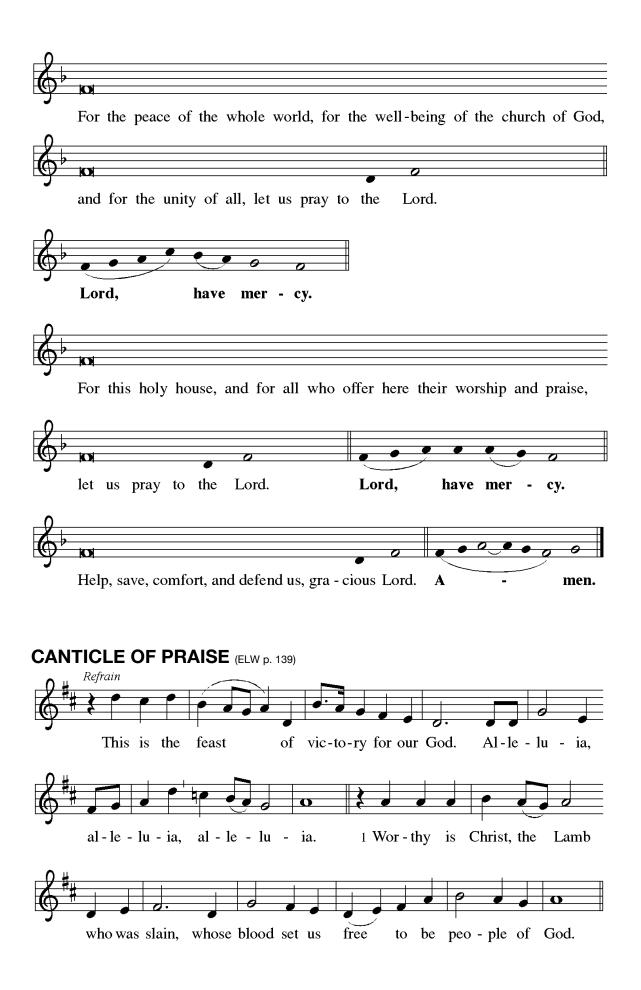
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 138)

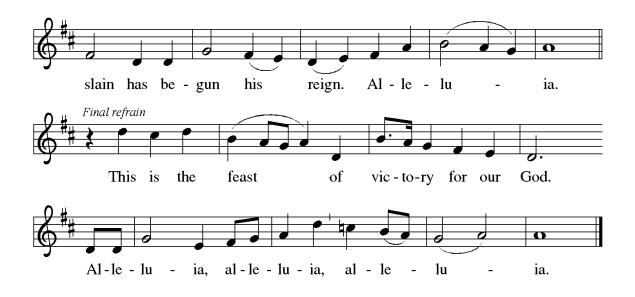


For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.









PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (Patrick Gale)

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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

PSALM: Psalm 111 (Patrick Gale)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works

in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

[®]They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;

holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (Patrick Gale)

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

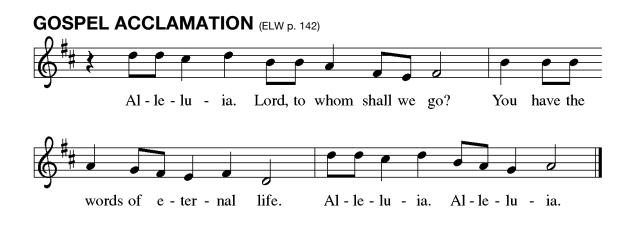
⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ""Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. "But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? "So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

KIDS' MESSAGE

(Lisa Herlocker)



GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

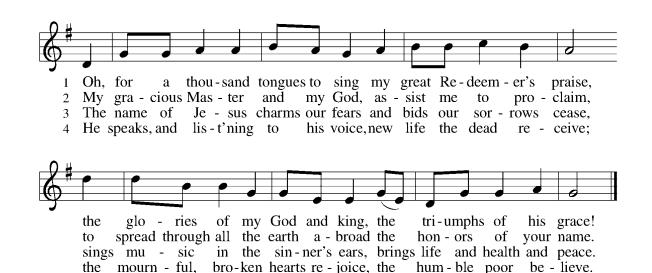
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (ELW 886)

Music and lyrics on following page



- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race! Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

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 (Patrick Gale)

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

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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

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)

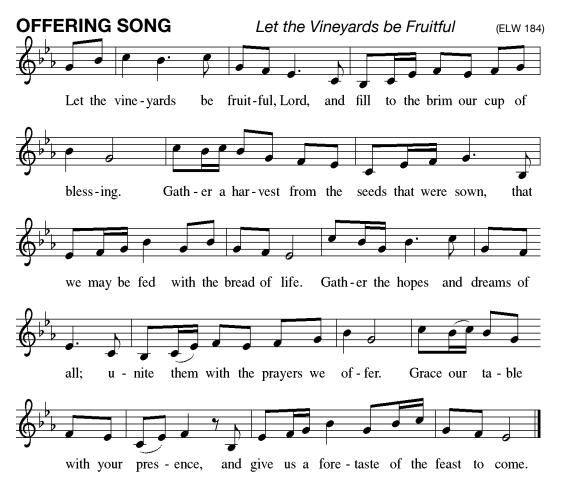
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.



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

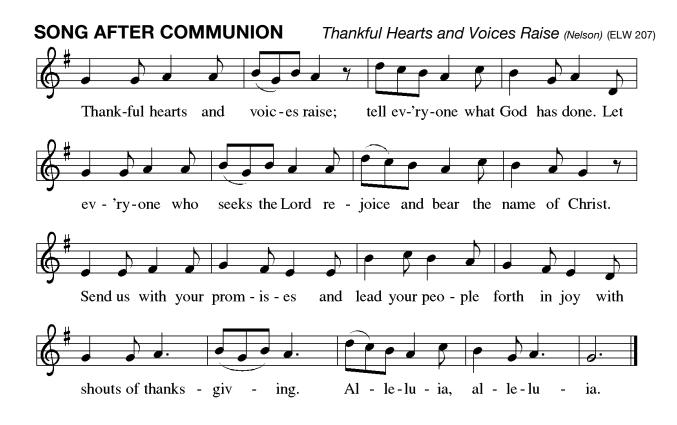
LORD'S PRAYER

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

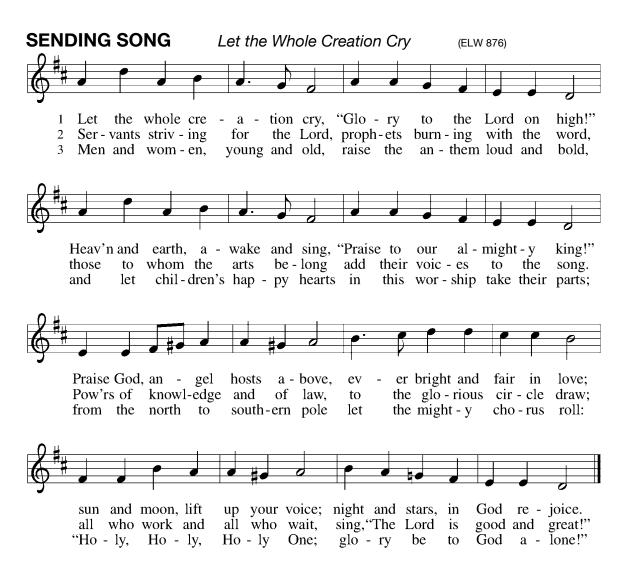
Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

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.



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	=	\$

Total for Month = \$5118.08 TOTAL for December = \$8639

Thanks for your ongoing support of Bethel's Ministries!



please mail it into the church office at 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 4th 5th Sunday after Epiphany

- Isaiah 40:21-31
- Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
- 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
- Mark 1:29-39

Today's Worship Teams

Usher: OPEN Reader: Patrick Gale Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Lisa Herlocker Musician: Audrey Gale

Next Week's Worship Team

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



January 4 – Allen Dunn January 7 – Ronin Villanueva January 9 – Nancy Garman January 11 – Morgan Pfennig January 21 – Alison Villanueva January 27 – Ryan McBain January 29 – Brianna Bradbury

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

Blessed to be a Blessing

Today you will receive 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 aren't with us in person, we'll mail 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 25th when we will have an offering of them during worship.



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,

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

Created to be Disrupted.

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



LAST CALL FOR EDITS

Please take a moment to look over the Bethel contact list in the back of the sanctuary. Note any changes or additions if needed. *Pay particular notice to phone numbers.* If all is correct, just initial by your name. NOTE: this isn't the final format for the directory, just the basic database. An updated directory should be available in early February.

COMING IN FEBRUARY

February 9th – Game Night Join the fun at 6:30pm

February 11th – Souper Bowl of Caring

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

February 17th – Bethel Anniversary Happy #78th ☺

Lenten Mid-Week Worship & Soup

Beginning Wednesday, February 21st 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 call, listeners get an update on state and federal legislative priorities and direct a quick advocacy activity. The link to join can be found <u>here.</u>



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.

