

Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

**Order of Worship
for
Sunday, February 2, 2025**

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

GATHERING

(Please rise)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Soloist singing verse 1 of "The Summons" (ELW #798)

P: L: God is calling each one of us.

C: Lord, help us to hear your call.

P: If you answer the summons, your life will be totally changed.

C: Lord, help us to be ready for that change.

Soloist singing verse 3 of "The Summons"

P: There is so much "blindness" in our world

C: Lord, help us to give sight to those whose sight is impaired.

P: People may not understand and may ridicule us.

C: Lord, give us courage and strength to withstand the ridicule and taunting.

Soloist singing verse 5 of "The Summons"

P: Lord, we come with willing hearts today to learn how to fulfill the promises given to the people.

C: Make us ready, O Lord, to be true disciples offering ministries of hope and compassion. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: Gracious God, we come to you today, seeking your guidance and strength. You have called us to ministries for which we feel inadequate. Help us to understand that it is your love that will support and sustain our efforts. Give us the courage to place our trust in your abiding presence. We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN

" God Of Grace, God Of Glory!" #410
Lutheran Book of Worship –Green Hymnal

SALUTATION

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

(Please be seated)

WORD

OUR FIRST LESSON is from the book of Jeremiah, chapter 1, verses 4 through 10.

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of First Corinthians; chapter 13, verses 1 through 13.

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(WOV #783)

We do not live by bread alone
But by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of god
Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them,

"Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY -

(ELW #644)

Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue



1 Al - though I speak with an - gel's tongue, my faith, my
2 For love is pa - tient, love is kind, and nev - er
3 For now we peer at dark - ened glass; our vi - sions
4 The gifts are man - y, the Bod - y one, and in - to



knowl - edge all sur - pass, but have no love, my gifts are
vain with boast - ing pride; love bears all things, all things en -
end; our tongues all cease. In part we know, in part now
one are all bap - tized. Be - lov - ed, share one heart, one



vain as clang - ing gong or blar - ing brass.
dures. All things must end; love will a - bide.
see: then we will see love face to face.
mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

Text: Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951
Music: O WALY WALY, English traditional
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PRAYER SONG

(WOV #772)

O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.

PRAYERS

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness *especially* Jeff & Sue O., Bonnie, Anita, Grete L., Bettie, Jean D., Brad L., Tom N., Cathi, Jim & Sharon L., Kim D, Melanie W., Ingaborg,, and all those we name in our hearts. Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the young people in our congregations. May their voices be celebrated. Give youth a place of honor and value among us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We remember those who have gone before us. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

PRAYER SONG (repeated)

(WOV #772)

O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

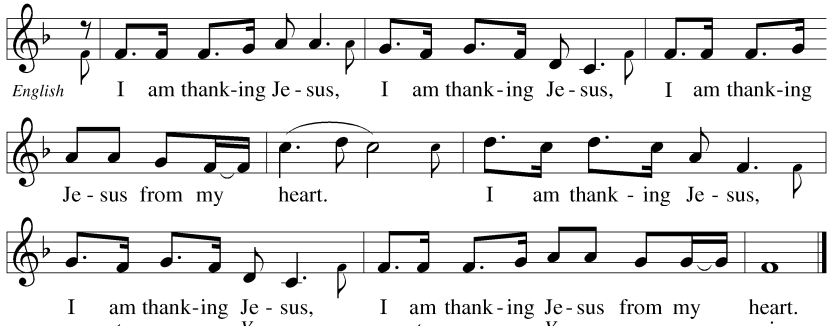
P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: "And also with you."

(Shaking of hands and sharing the peace with others around you.)

OFFERTORY

(TFF#286)



English I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing
Je - sus from my heart. I am thank - ing Je - sus,
I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus from my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION TO THE MEAL

P: Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to God.

P: Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Reaching out to one another let us join our hands and hearts together in the prayer that our Lord taught us to pray:

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

All are welcome

(Please be seated)

SHARING THE MEAL

For in person, come up the center aisle, receive your communion wafer, carefully dip your wafer into the wine. If grape juice/ covid safe is preferred let the assistant know.

For at home using plain bread/crackers and wine/grape juice.

COMMUNION HYMN -

" Where Charity and Love Prevail" # 126

Lutheran Book of Worship –Green Hymnal

(Please rise)

COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

C: AMEN!

SENDING HYMN -

“ Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” # 551

Lutheran Book of Worship –Green Hymnal

RECESSIONAL

A: We follow the cross of Christ into the world.

(Congregation turns as the cross passes them—so they are facing the back of the church)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY ARE TO THE
GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOR OF MY
DAUGHTER KIM DRASEN ON HER
BIRTHDAY, BY HER MOM ANITA NIELSEN



Jeff & Sue O., Bonnie, Anita, Grete L., Bettie, Jean D.,
Brad L. , Tom N., Cathi, Jim & Sharon L., Kim D,
Melanie W., Ingaborg,,

TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Anne Woodward

Communion Assistants: Kelly Imhoff & Jerod Alderson

Building Host, Offering Presenter: Kelly Imhoff

Coffee Hour: Open Altar Flowers: Open

Live Stream Tech: A Volunteer

Musician: William Mueller

WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT WEEK (Sunday 2/9):

Worship Leader: Pastor Brad Brown

Lector: Anita Nielsen

Communion Assistants: Brad Larsen & Jeff Alderson

Building Host, Offering Presenter: Brad Larsen

Coffee Hour: Altar Guild Altar Flowers: Open

Live Stream Tech: A Volunteer

Musician: William Mueller

Come Celebrate "Fat Sunday" with Ableskivers

Sunday, March 2, 2025

10:30 a.m. (following worship)

Hearth room

Bring your favorite jam/jelly to share.



OFFICE HELP NEEDED FOR 1—2 Weeks

Cathi will be having surgery on February 25 and we will need someone to check the messages (can be done from home) and print the bulletins. The bulletins are already made up but they may need some last minute adjustments before printing. Cathi is in the office Saturday mornings about 10:00 a.m. to print the bulletin so she can show you what to do.

If you can help please see Pastor Paul, Jeff or call/email the church office.



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain **please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558, the church office 262-632-7267 or by email: bethaniaprayer-chain@wi.twcbc.com**

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats may be store bought or homemade.

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pastors office.

Cans FOR K-9's



We are still collecting aluminum cans to help support the Racine County K-9 program.

EMPTIES FOR CASH

"one persons junk is another persons treasure"

- ★Bring in your empty inkjet cartridges—black or color.
- ★Do not put any tape on the cartridge.
- ★Place your empty cartridge in a zip type plastic bag. (ex: ziplock)

Bethania will receive \$2 per cartridge.

NO Toners please.

The Calendar....

Sunday, February 2, 2025—Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

9:30a.m. . -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30a.m. – Coffee Hour

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

7:00 p.m. —Council meeting, hearth room

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

10:00am to 2:00p.m. —Thread By Thread OPEN

Friday, February 7, 2025

8:00am to 3:00p.m. —RUSD Fell. Hall

Sunday, February 9, 2025—Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

9:30a.m. . -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30a.m. – Coffee Hour

Note: The church office is closed for health reasons unless otherwise noted.