

# Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



*First Sunday of Advent*

November 27, 2022

10:30 a.m.

BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

<http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins/>

# Thank you for worshipping with us today, in an effort to keep everyone safe:

## 1. Masks are Optional

2. The offering plate will be at the door of the sanctuary.

3. Worshippers are to take bulletins home with them or deposit in recycle bin near the narthex doors.

4. Communion will be by intinction. Dipping the wafer into the wine filled chalice. Grape juice and Covid cups will be available for those who request them.

5. Use of Hand sanitizer is required when entering and leaving the sanctuary.

6. Contact Tracing -

A digital image of the congregants will be taken during the service to act as a reference should an individual become COVID positive within 5 days of church service.

## *Prayer List*



Dan Cruz, Ann Marie, Pat & Pete  
Nelson, Jeff & Sue O., Austin  
Imhoff, Forest, Kyle, Eugene, Brian , Kevin Dahlen,

**TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Pastor: Pastor Chad Kline

Communion Assistant: OPEN

Lector: Brad Larsen

Acolyte: Dominic Shawhan

Coffee Hour: OPEN

Altar Flowers: Webster

Building Host: John Barnes

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24 -3 pm Danish
Worship Leader	Cathi & Cait Webster	Pastor Kara Baylor	Pastor Kara Baylor	Pastor Chad Kline
Communion Assistant				No Communion
Lector	Anne Woodward		Ryan Hagerman	Various Readers
Acolyte	Eli Imhoff	Brooke McIntosh	Aaron Kechter	Ryan Hagerman
Coffee Hour		Altar Guild	Ryan Hagerman	
Altar Flowers	Anne Woodward		Ryan Hagerman	Poinsettias
Building Host	Ed Young	Kelly Imhoff	Brad Larsen	Cathi Webster

**Order of Worship  
for  
Sunday, November 27, 2022**

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS**

**GATHERING**

*(Please rise )*

**PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN -**

“Awake My Soul and With the Sun” #269  
*Lutheran Book of Worship –Green Hymnal*

## **ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**

### **Keep awake! Be Ready!**

(Based on Matthew 24:36-44)

P: The Son of Man is coming, but about that day and hour no one knows,

**C: Neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.**

P: Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

**C: Therefore be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. We light the first candle of Advent to remind us to keep awake and be ready.**

(The acolyte lights the first candle on the Advent wreath)

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever.**

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.  
Let us confront our sins,  
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of new beginnings,

**C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire**

**and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,**

**and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

P: People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **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: Let us pray,

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## WORD

**OUR FIRST LESSON** is from the book of Isaiah, chapter 2, verses 1 through 5.

*The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**



## PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY - PSALM 122

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city  
that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.**

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred and companions,  
I pray for your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek to do you good."

**OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of Romans**  
chapter 13, verses 11 through 14.

*Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.*

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

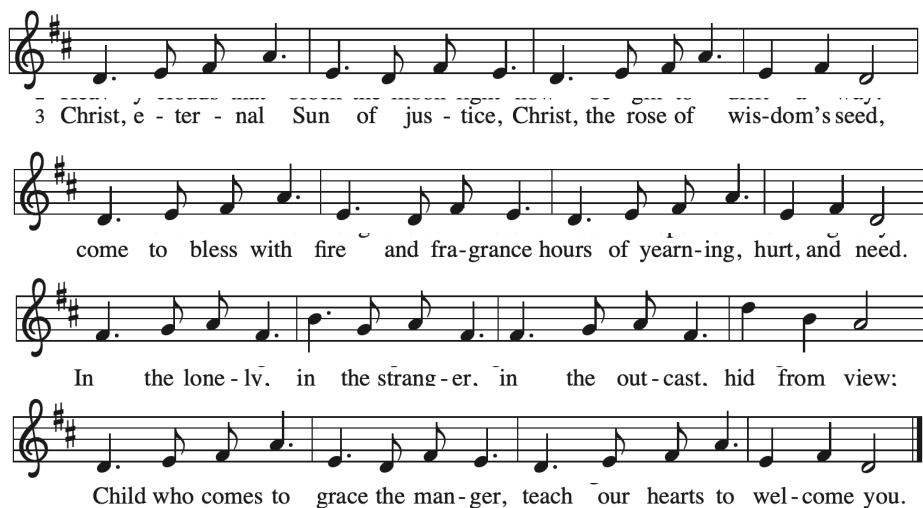
L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*(Please rise)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ACS# 901



3 Christ, é - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,  
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.  
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view:  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 24th chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL:** Matthew 24:36-44

*Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.*

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

*(Please rise)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** - “My Lord What A Morning” #627

*With One Voice—Blue Hymnal*

**UNISON ADVENT RESPONSE**

**C: God of hope, who brought love into this world,  
be the love that dwells between us.  
God of hope, who brought peace into this world,  
be the peace that dwells between us.  
God of hope, who brought joy into this world,  
be the joy that dwells between us.  
God of hope, the rock we stand upon,  
be the center, the focus of our lives  
always, and particularly this Advent time.**

# PRAYER SONG

(ELW #232)

All

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the  
lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

## PRAYERS

P: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

P: God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care *especially* Dan , Ann Marie, Pat & Pete , Jeff & Sue O., Austin, Forest, Kyle, Eugene, Brian, Kevin and those we name in our hearts. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER SONG (repeated)

(ELW #232)

All

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

*Because of Covid the offering is collected at the center door before worship and will be brought down the center aisle during the repeated prayer song.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

and make us messengers of your mercy and love

for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen**



## INTRODUCTION TO THE MEAL

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy one,  
the beginning and the end, the giver of life;  
Blessed are you  
for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you  
in the darkness and the light.  
Blessed are you  
for your promise to your people  
Blessed are you  
in the prophets hopes and dreams,  
Blessed are you  
for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you  
for your son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

P: Let us join together in the prayer that our Lord taught us to  
pray:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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: Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

*(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 -

“O Lord Of Light, Who Made the Stars”

#323

*Lutheran Book of Worship –Green Hymnal*

*(Please rise)*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**C: Amen**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,  
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.  
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be  
fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.  
Guide us toward your promised future,  
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**C: AMEN!**

SENDING HYMN -

(ELW #657)

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness



1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your  
 2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your  
 3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us  
 4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the  
 5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the



might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,  
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim  
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share  
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death  
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:



show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958  
 Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566  
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## 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. Christ is near.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY ARE TO THE GLORY  
OF GOD AND IN MEMORY MY GRANDDAUGHTER  
GRACE BY CATHI

# Announcements



**The Flowers Beneath the Cross** are given to the Glory of God and in Memory of my husband Byrl on our 75th Wedding Anniversary by his loving wife, Bettie Liston.

**CHRIST IN OUR  
HOME  
DEVOTIONALS**

(for January –March )

are available on  
the table just  
inside the  
sanctuary doors.

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS  
NEEDED**

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

Sign up sheet is in the  
hearth room on the coffee  
table.



## Christmas Gift Giving Tree

It's that time of year again when we enjoy family gatherings, plenty of food and maybe

the exchange of gifts. Members of Bethania have been so gracious and generous in the past with helping mothers and their children at Bethany Apartments enjoy a blessed Christmas. So please consider taking an ornament from the tree beginning TODAY. Purchase a gift, wrap it, place the ornament on the package and return it to Bethania by December 18th. Thank you so much!

Jacci Young  
262-497-4284

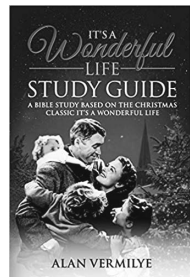
### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

It's not TOO LATE to join us at Bible Study

Wednesday, November 30 at 4:30 p.m.

A 5 week movie bible study using the Christmas favorite, "It's a Wonderful Life". Join in the discussion, learn the scripture references, and view the movie summary. See Cathi for more information. If you need a ride let us know.

Paperback book \$12.99 / Kindle for \$5.99





# *Blue Christmas*

*Honor your  
loss  
...embrace  
God's hope*

*For those of us experiencing loneliness, sadness and loss, the Christmas season can be difficult—we can feel singled out by the programmed happiness of “the most wonderful time of the year.” But we are not alone. Many people experience at least some sadness and loss in this season. All of us have experienced loss. Please join us in a simple worship of song, readings and a reflection of God's hope for us and presence with us in feeling what we feel. All are welcome!*

*A worship service of remembrance and hope*

*Sunday, December 4, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.*

*Bethania Lutheran Church + 4120 Wright Ave. + Racine WI*

# BETHANIA HOSTS COMMUNITY MEAL ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

Please see Jeff or Shelly Alderson to  
see how you can help!



## COOPERATIVE CONFIRMATION CLASS



**December 18, 12:30 - 2:30**

At Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2417 Drexel Avenue

### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

*Saturday, December 24, 2022*

3:00 p.m. - Danish Service with Candlelight  
Alt på dansk undtagen prædikenen

7:00 p.m. - Candle light Service

At: Bethania Lutheran Church  
4120 Wright Avenue  
Racine, WI 53405

Live Stream: [http:// www.facebook.com/BethaniaLutheran](http://www.facebook.com/BethaniaLutheran)

## Help Us Decorate Our Church For Christmas...

With Red Poinsettias in Gold foil for \$12.00 each. We will decorate the church for Christmas Eve with the poinsettias that are ordered and then you may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service or leave it for a shut in. **ORDERS ARE DUE TODAY.** Please make checks payable to **Bethania Lutheran Church**. Any questions contact Cathi Webster.

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias x \$12.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory

of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my plant on Christmas Eve.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will leave my plant for a shut in.



Sunday, November 27, 2022 - 1st Advent

**9:30 a.m. – COFFEE HOUR**

**10:30 a.m. -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live**

Monday, November 28, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 242 - F.H.

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Thursday, December 1, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Friday, December 2, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Sunday, December 4, 2022 - Blue Christmas/2 Advent

**9:30 a.m. – COFFEE HOUR**

**10:30 a.m. -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live**