

# BETHEL NOTES

## Sunday, December 5th

### Second Sunday of Advent

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

Join us Sundays  
9:30 AM  
in-person or  
online at  
[bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org)

### Readings

#### First Readings

Malachi 3:1-4

#### Psalms

Luke 1:68-79

#### Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

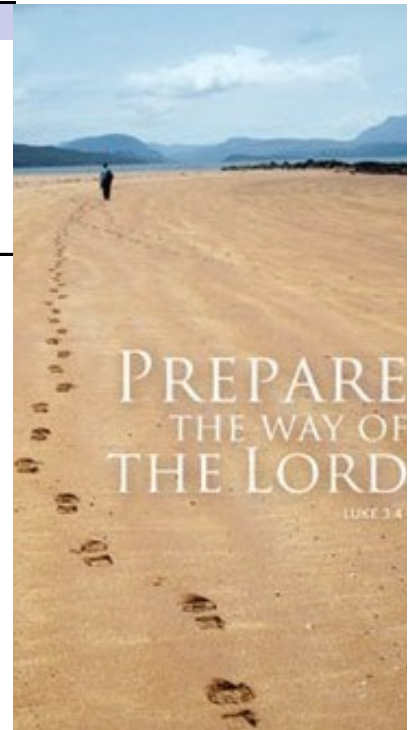
#### Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

Join Pastor Jessie after worship to learn about Advent Wreaths and make one of your own!

### SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Accompanists	Connie Titcomb, piano; Pastor Steve Nelson, guitar
Lay Assistants	Kendall Ryan and Sue Hesse
Readers	Jack Pinski, Ethan Kupfner, Teshar Johnson, Addi Carlson, Hailey Marr, Taylah Jaques, Austin Kupfner, Mac Carlson, Emmerson Hamma, Tyler Grosenick, Kari Ryan and Kian Ryan
Acolytes	Emma Shimerdla and Jeremiah Mueller
Ushers	Isabelle Grosenick and Oliva Violett
Tech	Adam Elkin
Children's Church	Julia Elkin and Ava Fossen
Counters	Stephanie Cummings and Laurie Turner



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### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 4:30 PM CLOSED FRIDAY

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: [www.bethelmt.org](http://www.bethelmt.org)

EMAIL: [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)



- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Mary Hill** as
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Gordon Lord** as he prepares for a second surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of comfort and support for **Anna Johns and her family** as they mourn the sudden death of her son, Chris.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Heather Beck**, *daughter of Kathy Johnson*, who is undergoing medical testing.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he recovers from surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of healing as well as thanksgiving for **Kim**, *daughter of Dick and Mary Seim*, who continues to recover and regain her strength.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she undergoes medial testing.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Cody Buus**, *Cindy Considine's nephew*, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- ✚ Prayers of strength and healing for **Arlene Sexe** and she continues to undergo treatment for cancer.
- ✚ Prayers of strength & leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America
- ✚ Prayers of thanks and continued healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✚ Prayers of continued healing for **Katie Madsen**, *niece of Doug Sexe and granddaughter of Arlene Sexe*, as she continues cancer treatment and is responding well.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Steve Young**, *brother of Sue Hesse*, as he continues to manage back issues.
- ✚ Prayers of support and healing for **James Trunkle**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as he manages health issues.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Bob and Marj Vander Aarde** they continue treatments for Bob.
- ✚ Prayers of support and strength for **Trudy and Earl Terwilliger** as they manage Trudy's health.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Leonard Murphy** as he recovers from complications of knee surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of comfort, support and healing for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to manage after medical procedures.
- ✚ Prayers of strength and recovery for **LaRae Veitch** as she rehabs after knee surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Tony Marcson**, *brother-in-law of Jessica Crist*, who is undergoing treatment for lung cancer.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he recovers from a recent surgery.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is managing kidney disease.
- ✚ Prayers of support for **Glenn Vannatta** as he continues with medical testing.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **Mathias Pepos** who is recovering from injuries from a car accident.
- ✚ Prayers of healing for **John Korpela** as he continues to recover at home from a recent hospitalization.
- ✚ Prayers of strength and healing for **Lisa Leland**, *niece of Sandy Bechard*, as she begins treatment for breast cancer.

**NRIT Digital Class:  
Leading Holy Conversations amid Polarization:  
Equipping Followers of Christ to Communicate in Faith-filled  
Ways**



*Purchase this class and download to use at any time and to watch in any time increment. This is an excellent class for individual continuing education for leaders and would also make for a quality adult education as well.*

We live in a time when it is nearly impossible to communicate with one another with any depth. Our conversations, whether in person or on social media, can descend into angry retorts, judgmental suspicion, reactive demonization,

and hateful dehumanizing until there seems nothing left to do but retreat into same-thinking groups or go to battle with the so-called "enemy."

How do we as followers of Christ and leaders in Christ's Church respond to such challenges that intrude into our congregations and ministries? Do we say nothing and try keep everyone happy? Do we engage in the same divisive rhetoric? Do we leave the church altogether? Or do we seek different approaches designed to lower the anxiety level, build up community, and equip us to love one another into faith-filled communication? This workshop will offer various tools, guidance, and methods so that you can better lead healthy and effective conversations in your communities.



[CLICK HERE TO  
ACCESS THE  
LINK FOR THIS  
ONLINE EDU-  
CATION.](#)



**Christmas Zoom Party!  
Saturday, December 11th  
6:30 PM**

It's time for the Annual Hope Circle Ornament Exchange and Christmas Party. We will once again be meeting via Zoom so get your name on the list for the exchange, mix up a beverage of your choice and join in! Spouses and friends are welcome to join in with the festivities. Here's what you need to know...

Email Terry Korpela at [terry.korpela@gmail.com](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com) to get your name on the ornament exchange list by Sunday, December 5th. She will draw names and let you know who you are exchanging with. Ornaments can be anything from very fancy to silly, store bought or handmade. If you like, with your ornament for your person you can include a treat of cookies, candy, snacks, etc. if you wish, but not expected.

Terry will send out the link to all who are participating. Then on Saturday, December 11th at 6:30 pm, connect through the device of your choice and share in the fun.

If you have questions or want to get on the list email Terry today! Merry Christmas!

**Covid Guidelines for  
Worship**

- ◇ Masks are **strongly recommended**, but not required.
  - ◇ Continue physical distancing.
  - ◇ Coffee Hour on hold
- If you have a fever or are feeling unwell, please take care of yourself and join us online for worship.

## Giving Tree Project

### HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET PROJECT

This year we are excited to help support a local organization for our giving project. We are partnering with **HELPING HANDS** to help them fill 100 Christmas Food Baskets! Helping Hands is a food pantry that is 100% supported through community donations and staffed by volunteers from throughout Great Falls. **Helping Hands** provides much needed food for up to 1000 people in need, each month. In addition to food, **Helping Hands** accepts donations of gently used clothes, toys, diapers, toiletries, and other basic necessities that go directly to our neighbors in need.

Through our Giving Tree Project, we will help supply all the items needed to fill a basket with all the fixings needed for a yummy Turkey/Ham dinner for 100 families! We will be asking for monetary donations, along with items that you can purchase and put under our Giving Tree here at Bethel. We will also need all available hands to help fill the baskets with all the goodies and to help hand them out to the recipients. Dates for assembly and distribution will be determined soon.

**Our Giving Tree wishes consist of:**

**\$45 meal for 4 people,  
\$25 Turkey or Ham  
\$25 Gift Card to Vans IGA (downtown)  
\$15 side dishes (green beans, stove top stuffing, potatoes, dinner rolls, gravy)  
\$10 Dessert, fruit, candy for stocking  
\$5 Christmas Stockings**

**Please feel free to pick** and ornament off of the tree and add your monetary donation to it. You can also purchase the following items and place them under the Giving Tree to be used to fill our baskets: Green Beans, Canned Corn, Stove Top Stuffing, fresh potatoes or packet of instant potatoes, Gravy packets or Jars of Gravy, packaged dinner rolls, Holiday cookies or desserts, Christmas Stocking, bags of wrapped candy (for stocking), Gift Card to Vans IGA, downtown (please place these in the Sunday offering or deliver to the office).

For any questions, please contact Patty Braget 868-7641 or [pdbraget@hotmail.com](mailto:pdbraget@hotmail.com) or Tami in the office. Thank you in advance to Bethel members for your giving hearts!



As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference.

ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love.

Choose from lots of great global gifts like \$10.00 for chicks, \$20.00 for honeybees, \$30.00 for a pick, \$50.00 for a goat or help with \$10.00 to buy school supplies, \$12.00 for bibles, \$30.00 for water filter, and so much more! Check out the ornaments on the giving tree to see all the options to send help this Christmas. Make sure you note on your check or online donation where you want your dollars to be spent. If you have no preference, note Good Gift General and your money will go where it most needed.



## CALLING ALL BAKERS & GOODIE MAKERS!

Planning has begun for our 2022 Vacation Bible School July 18th through 22nd.

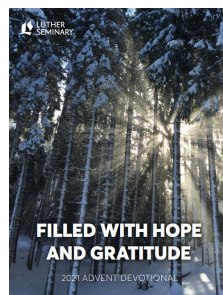
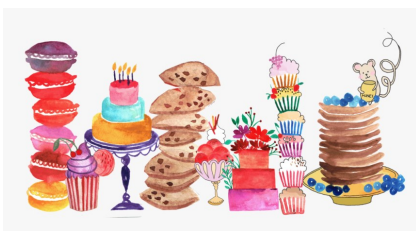
As a fundraiser for this week long day camp, we are going to have a bake sale December 19th after worship and our Logos Christmas Program.

If you like to bake, make candy, or make a craft that you would like to donate for sale, we would love your help! You can drop your donation off on Saturday, December 18th between 10:00 am to Noon or the morning of December 19th.

Please let Tami Grosenick know if you would like to donate, 406-788-9587 or email [bethelmc.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelmc.church@gmail.com) or call the Bethel Office 406-761-1543.

We will also need people to buy these goodies so if you are not a baker, but love to eat baked goods, don't miss our bake sale!

We will be holding our regular Dessert Auction on Palm Sunday 2022!



## Free Advent Devotional from Luther's Seminary.

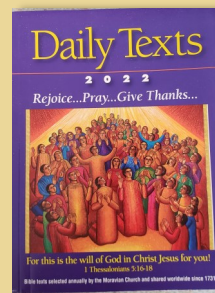
Pick up your copy of this free devotional in the Narthex at Bethel. You can also go to our website for a free download on our homepage [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org).

Please let the office know if you would like to a copy mailed to you and if you would like regular print or large print.

Email [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) or call 406-761-1543

### 2022 Daily Texts Are In

Pick up your copy in the Narthex at Bethel. First Copy free. For additional copies we ask for a donation of \$8.50 to cover the cost of the text. You can drop a donation in the offering tray on Sundays, mail in a check, or donate online at [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org). Please note: Daily Text in the memo. These texts make great gifts!

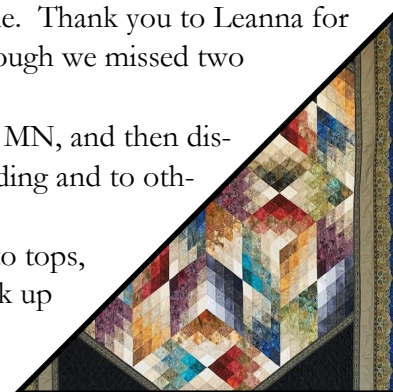


## MONDAY NIGHT QUILTERS TO MEET

1<sup>st</sup> Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, December 6, 2021, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran, 3125 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. So. Again, we will tie the quilts before the last step of binding them is done. Thank you to Leanna for binding the quilts made in November. We made 36 quilts this past year even though we missed two months.

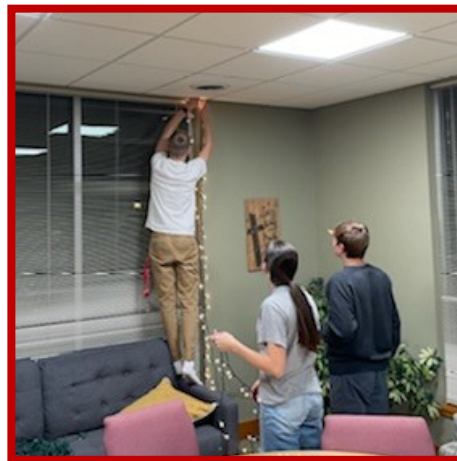
The quilts will be taken to a Lutheran World Relief warehouse in South St. Paul, MN, and then distributed to impoverished families, street children, communities devastated by flooding and to other requests around the world.

If you'd like to help from home, there are many square kits ready to be sewn into tops, and also fabric to be cut into squares. If you have questions, or would like to pick up some square kits to make tops or fabric to cut into squares, call 799-0100.



# We Need A Little Christmas!

A huge thank you to all who helped on Sunday and HS Logos for decorating the Church. All your hard work made everything look beautiful!



## What's Happening at FLBC

### Holy Land Pilgrimage

June 20-29, 2022

There are still spots available for this long awaited journey to the Holy Land! Join FLBC staff and guide, Elias Nawawieh as we experience the Holy Land in a whole new way. Visit <https://www.eliastours.com/tours/flathead-lutheran-bible-camp-holy-land-trip> to learn more!

### Upcoming Retreats/Important Dates

- Summer 2022 Staff Application IS Open!
- December 3-5, 2021 Advent Retreat –see above
- December 15, 2021 Registration for Youth Camps open
- January 14-16, 2022 Jr. and Sr. High Ski & Snowboard Retreat

For more information on these events go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net) or call the office at 406-752-6602

# Just for YOUTH

Send

W	C	H	U	R	C	H	C
D	B	A	Z	E	J	C	O
G	I	F	T	S	Y	A	O
O	B	X	V	B	M	R	K
C	L	P	R	A	Y	D	I
Q	E	T	H	J	N	S	E
G	C	A	N	D	L	E	S

## Getting ready for Christmas

Some ways we can get ready for Jesus are hidden in the puzzle. Look for the underlined words. Circle the words you find.

Come to church.

Pray together.

Send Christmas cards.

Read the Bible.

Light Advent candles.

Make gifts.

Bake cookies.



## This week

Say prayers with your family around your Advent wreath.



## Gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the second Sunday in Advent. How many candles are burning on the Advent wreath today?

Color and light two candles.



Listen to the words of the songs you sing in worship. What do you hear again and again?

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Thank you to all who participated with our Silent Art Auction for ELCA Youth Gathering. We raised an amazing \$720.00 for our youth to travel. You are all so very amazing!



## **Calendar of Events**

### **Tuesday 12/7**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

### **Wednesday 12/8**

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos 5:30 pm; HS Logos 6:30 pm

### **Thursday 12/9**

- Church Council Exec Board Zoom meeting 5:30 pm

### **Friday 12/10**

- Bethel office is closed.
- HS Logos Lock-In 7:00 pm to Saturday 9:00 am

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday 12/12**

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Education with Pastor Jessie, Advent Wreaths immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday 12/14**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Church Council meeting on Zoom 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday 12/15**

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Christmas Party 5:30 pm; HS Logos Service Project 6:30 pm

### **Friday 12/17**

- Bethel office is closed.

### **Saturday 12/18**

- Close Knit meets in the Fellowship Hall 9:00 am
- Christmas Program rehearsal 10:00 am to Noon.

## **Online Ministries**

### **Electric City Bible Study**

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

### **Men's Breakfast**

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of each week's lectionary texts as we meet both in person and via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting or for more information.

### **Hope Circle**

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting and Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

### **Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie**

Wednesdays, 10:00 am via Zoom, Pastor Jessie will be leading discussion on the text readings for the upcoming Sunday. Dig deeper in the interpretation of the readings and discuss ways they give us guidance in our daily lives. If you would like to join this meeting, email bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

### **Pastor Jessie Obrecht**

#### **Contact information**

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Phone: 406-761-1543 ext. 202