

I will make you  
fish for people

MATTHEW 4:19



**Sunday, January 22, 2023**  
**Third Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

**PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES  
RINGING OF BELL  
WELCOME**

*The communion of saints stands.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**HYMN God We Gather as Your People (All Creation Sings 1038) Refrain is on next page.**



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -  
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be  
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and  
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.  
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,  
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.  
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we  
that they nev - er have a rea - son to  
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your  
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.  
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.  
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.  
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

*Refrain*



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, fling the church doors o-pen  
wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.  
For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -  
long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961  
Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman  
Text and music © 2007 Welcome Song Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

### **GREETING** (*ELW* p.184)

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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The communion of saints is seated.*

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4**

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 27:1, 4-9**

*Psalm 27 is a trust psalm.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;**

**to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup>**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup>**My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.”  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God’s salvation.*

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The communion of saints stands.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:12-23**

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God’s reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**



<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

*The communion of saints is seated.*

**SERMON**

*The communion of saints stands.*

**HYMN *In Christ There is No East or West* (ELW 650)**



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther  
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing  
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo  
nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly  
treasure nor weapons for conquest, just these my  
love for the rest of the weary— a love that's  
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.  
ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
fish nets and will for work - ing.  
will - ing to go on lov - ing.  
Friend, you have come to call me.

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,  
Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi  
you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

## 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with, "Hear our prayer."*

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*The communion of saints is seated.*

## OFFERING

*We are grateful for your gifts and they are needed to continue the work of the church. Options on ways to give are found on our website ([www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)). Thank you!*

*Offerings received are brought forward and placed on the altar as the communion of saints stands and sing the hymn below is sung.*

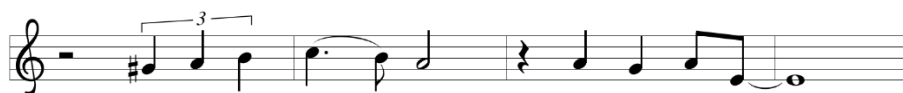
## OFFERTORY HYMN *Change My Heart, O God (ELW 801)*



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

## HYMN *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935  
Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

## SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	January 29
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Patsy Ernst	Jill Barnhart
Minister of Technology	Paula Casper	Cole Crosthwaite Tate Frant
Worship (Altar Care)	Paula Casper	Paula Casper



Fourth Sunday Community Meal  
Tonight from 5:00 to 6:00 PM  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Please join us for a wonderful meal and Great fellowship!



You are Loved!!!

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Many people donate countless hours in various ministries utilizing their unique skills and abilities. Hence, it is important for planning purposes to know who is volunteering for which ministries. Help us plan and manage this generosity by completing the online Time and Talent form, which can be accessed at the following link (<https://tinyurl.com/yd9mxdcx>) or by scanning the QR Code to the left.

- There is a section at the end of this form where you can leave any comments.
- Please submit a new form for each person who would like to volunteer.
- Please let a member of the Stewardship Team (Dave Poppen, Kent Kaufman, Stacy Beyer) know if you have any questions.

## SUPPORT THE MANY MINISTRIES BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



### OFFERING PLATE

Money can be placed in offering plate on Sunday morning or mailed to:  
Bethany Lutheran Church Box 236, West Branch, IA 52358.



### ON-LINE DONATIONS



Scan QR code with your phone or visit our website  
<https://wbbethany.org>. Click on the blue "Give Now" button.



### AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL

Sign up for the "Simply Giving" program for automatic withdrawals from your account. Contact [blcsecretary@lcom.net](mailto:blcsecretary@lcom.net)



### MOBILE APP

Download the new Vanco Mobile App from your smartphone app store. Select Bethany Lutheran Church, West Branch, IA and make your donation.



### IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

Tax-free donation directly from an IRA to Bethany Lutheran Church  
This is a tax-free way to give your required minimum distributions from your IRA to charity.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



Visit our virtual prayer wall



<https://bit.ly/bethanyprays>

Bethany Lutheran Church