

Order of Worship
4th Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018 10:45 AM

Bethel United Methodist Church seeks to be a church that fulfills the spiritual needs of the community, shows God's love to all and serves God in all it does.

Fanfare

The Chiming Hour While the chimes play, pray.

Lighting of the Candles Welcome God into our midst.

Prayer of Meditation – That others will see God working in my life.

Prelude

Announcements

***Opening Hymn** UMH #234 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (vs 1)

***Greeting**

L.Can you feel something powerful at work in the world?

C.We can catch glimpses here and there.

L.We need to look beyond the hustle and bustle of Christmas to see what's coming.

C.Faithful women giving birth to freedom; a babe who will transform the world. The birth quakes are almost here. We can feel it.

L. Come, let us prepare ourselves in this time of worship, that we may be ready when our world is turned upside down.

Hymn UMH #196 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (vs 1)

Opening Prayer (unison)

In-breaking God, as Christmas draws near, it's hard for us to settle down; it's difficult for us to focus on your word. Come to us this morning and shock us out of our Christmas complacency .Open us to the transforming love of the one for whom we are waiting. Grant us the faithfulness of Mary and Elizabeth, that we may respond with a full-throated Yes!” to all that is coming. We come this morning in expectation, in joy, and in more than a bit of fear, for what all of this will mean for us. But we are here, God. Give us ears to hear and hearts to receive your message of transforming grace. Amen.

Lighting of Advent Candle

FWS 2090 “Candle Song” (vs 4)

Liturgist: From whom do you receive love? To whom do you give love? How do you experience God's love in your life? When have you felt most love? Pause a moment and think about it...Silence...

Liturgist: We will now light the candle of love.

Candle is lit by Bethel Children (Waverly Bradbury)

Liturgist: Let us pray. God of Love, give us confidence in your love for us so that we will freely share your love with others. **Amen.**

Children's Christmas Medley

Children's Message

Joyce Shutt

Hymn FWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

Choir Anthem "Joy in Bethlehem! Medley"; “Children, Go Where I Send Three”; Bethlehem Morning” All arranged by Russell Mauldin.

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. **Amen.**

***Gospel Lesson** Luke 1.39-45 (NT, page 53)

Message

“Come to Jesus – Bring Your Listening Ears”

Pastor Hines

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

UMH #518 O thou, in Whose Presence (vs 1)

Sharing, Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

***Passing the Peace** (Ushers, please come forward as people are seated)

Offering “Star Child” by David Haas (video)

Offertory: “And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother” (1 John 4:21, NIV).

***Doxology** UMH #95

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Hymn** FWS #2036 “Give Thanks”

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

indicates stand if able

JOIN US NEXT WEEK FOR WORSHIP

8:30 am – Praise Service

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:45 am – Traditional Worship

Once the holidays are over, share your leftover holiday treats at Coffee Hour on January 6.

SERVING THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

Greeters: Barb and Ron Moore
Nursery (Birth-2 yr.): Bachrach/Wynn/Vanderwerf
Junior Church: (1st to 5th grade)
Computer Operators: Haring/Desimone/Raab/Spiece/Murray/Bates/Hanlon/Corbett
Tellers: Tina Abel and Joyce Schutt
Ushers: Hal Shutt, Joyce Shutt, Jeff Wynn, Tina Abel
Flowers. Kay & Clair Weikel in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Clair Weikel
Coffee Hour: Congregation. Gluten-free items are available.

Liturgist: Lori Corbett
Pre-School (3-4 yr.): Open

SERVING NEXT WEEK IN WORSHIP

Greeters: Bethel Youth
Nursery (Birth-2 yr.): Bachrach/Wynn/Vanderwerf
Junior Church: (1st to 5th grade)
Computer Operators: Haring/Desimone/Raab/Spiece/Murray/Bates/Hanlon/Corbett
Tellers: Lisa Riley and Trish Richards
Ushers: Katie Murray, Dylan Murray, Ana Lisa Romberg, Tim Keller
Flowers. Kay & Clair Weikel in honor of grandchildren
Coffee Hour: Congregation. Gluten-free items are available.

Liturgist: Karla Romberg
Pre-School (3-4 yr.): Open

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We welcome our guest musicians for both services during the next several weeks:
Sandy Davies today and each Sunday in December; **Lou Dolente**, Christmas Eve 7 pm service, January 6 and 13; **Corinne Griffiths**, January 20 and 27.

Activity packets are available in a basket in the narthex for children to use during church services. Feel free to take your packet home with you.

Who shares a birthday with Jesus? Holly Smith is turning 60 on Christmas Day! Since most folks have plans for the 25th, please join Holly and her family today for cake during Coffee Hour (between services) for celebration of this milestone!

Welcome
To Bethel United
Methodist Church

*“Growing in Christ
together, sharing
God’s love with
everyone”*

Thank you for
worshipping with us
today.

Enlarged copies of this
bulletin are available
from the usher.

Children are welcome to
remain throughout the
service or take advantage
of our nursery or
Junior Church.

December 23, 2018



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent