

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING *Isaiah 55:1-3*

ANTHEM "Mary's Song" Lloyd Larson

SECOND READING *John 6:22-35*

SERMON "Narnia: Food to Satisfy"

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE
Hymn #48: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign the friendship pad (the red folder) and pass along to others in your row, greeting others by name after worship.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY "Christmas Is Coming" Joel Raney

* DOXOLOGY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: God of Grace, in the midst of a season so focused on shopping and finding the right gift, we give our gifts to you now. We remember that all our giving has its foundation in the amazing gift you gave to us: putting on flesh and coming in the form of a child, Emmanuel, God with us! May what we give today and in the days to come be bathed in the knowledge that yours is the most perfect gift and the one we need the most. Amen.

* CLOSING SONG
Insert: "While We Are Waiting, Come"

* CHARGE

* BLESSING

* CHORAL RESPONSE

* POSTLUDE "Now Come, Saviour of the Gentiles" Dietrich Buxtehude

WORSHIP NOTES

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS, as well as audio listening devices, are available from the Worship Welcome Team.

MONTHLY CONGREGATIONAL LETTERS: On communion Sundays, five letters will be placed in the Narthex and then taken to Fellowship in Galbraith Hall. **Please add a quick note to each letter ... these letters provide an important link to those members unable to join us during worship each week.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Will be observed on Sunday, Jan. 6th, Team 1 – Barbara Jay.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

LITURGISTS: Cathy Misko; Dec. 23rd Cathy Misko

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: Families E - H; Dec. 23rd No Fellowship due to the holiday.

CHILD CARE: The Kiesling Family; Dec. 23rd Jill Bower & Wendy Roithner

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 3: Pat Kaczmarek, Ken Niemeier, Ted Keenan, Jean Smith*, Ruth Stotesbery*; Dec. 23rd Team 4: Cindy Fair, Mary Pursglove, Brooke Cashman, Dottie Frazier*, Nancy Carr* (*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Pam Decker; Dec. 23rd Carol MacDonald

GRAPHICS TEAM: Robin Macherey; Dec. 23rd Larry Jay

SOUND BOARD: Frank Jackson; Dec. 23rd Steve Kloc

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

In Loving Memory of Amy Booth, given by her mother Marilou Booth.
In Loving Memory of Mr. & Mrs. John H. Conley, given by their daughter Marilou Booth.
In Loving Memory of Richard J. Gamble, given by Suzanne Gamble.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rob Backstrom, Hartley Baird, Hank Barr, Betty Bauer, Gary Bittner, Marilou Booth, Art Brandenburg, Ginny Burford, Michele Cobb, Sueann DeFurio, Bob Dare, Linda Dermotta, Cliff Fair, Jean Fishel, Ginny Flynn, Bettyjean Gamble, Linda Hackett, Dick Jones, Dick Kraft, Pat Kraft, Whitten Little, Emily Parise, Leanne Parise, Donna Puglisi, Betty Ramsey, Dave Rawlings, Ann Reid, Sue Schoenberger, Joan Sherbak, Sally Sinatra, Anne Unger, Sheila and Rich Vandevander, Kristi Wade, Edith Wallace, Russell York, Sam Zimmerman



EARRING LOST: Please contact Kathy Young or Mabel Dare if you have found a drop earring with a red ruby. Thank you!

Congregation Life Weekly Newsletter December 16, 2018

MEMBERSHIP CLASS: Have you been a part of our worship and fellowship for a while and would like to take the next step to learn about membership or are you new to our church and would like to know more about our history, beliefs and ministries? You are invited to join Pastor Cathie and lay leaders of the congregation after worship on January 20th to learn more about Bethel Presbyterian and how you can be more involved in our life together or join as a member. We will meet for about an hour following worship on January 20th. If you need child care during these times, let the church office know at least one week in advance and we'll make sure we are ready for your children.

OPERATION SOLDIERS ANGELS COMPLETE! The donated supplies have been packed and shipped ... all to wish a Merry Christmas to 100 military personnel and veterans. The stockings are on the way to Philadelphia, PA. Thank you to everyone who picked up supplies, helped stuff stockings and/or helped with the shipping of our Soldiers Angels stockings. The Mission & Outreach Committee is pleased to have completed this important mission!

Advent Bible Study

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm

Join Pastor Cathie and Jessica as we explore the "songs" of the Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke



12/5 Mary's Song (Luke 1:46-55)

12/12 Zechariah's Prophecy (Luke 1:67-79)

12/19 The Angels' Proclamation (Luke 2:8-14)

SOUTH HILLS INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOOD PANTRIES: Since the holiday season is upon us, SHIM would like to have a shelf at the Food Pantry dedicated to baking items. They are requesting donations of flour, sugar, vanilla, spices or any other baking product you would use to make your favorite holiday treat. SHIM would appreciate any nonperishable food item you choose to donate.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP IN CREATING AN EXTRAVAGANT CHRISTMAS PALOOZA! Bethel's First Annual Christmas Palooza was a great success, with 22 children and their families participating in the crafts, cookie decoration, activities, singing and reading of Christmas stories. We had so much fun! We want to thank everyone who contributed their time and talents. We also want to give special recognition to Marilyn DeHuff, who provided holiday books for each child to take home with them.

Upcoming Events!

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Dec. 16 th | Youth Group Christmas Party |
| Dec. 17 th | Cancer Encouragement |
| Dec. 19 th | Staff Luncheon |
| Dec. 24 th | Christmas Eve Services |
| Jan. 12 th | Men's & Women's Breakfasts |
| Jan. 18 th - 20 th | Youth Group Winter Retreat |
| Jan. 19 th | Foster Love Project |
| Jan. 21 st | Cancer Encouragement |



All 2018 pledges must be received or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2018 to be counted for the 2018 calendar year.

New Church T-Shirts!!



Help support our youth who will be attending the Reach Mission Trip this summer by purchasing one of these great new Bethel Presbyterian Church t-shirts for yourself or for a gift!

T-shirts come in adult sizes S-XXL

\$15.00

See Pastor Cathie or Kasey to purchase a shirt.

Thank you for your support!



Did you miss a sermon?
Past sermons are now available to listen to on our website!!

Recordings include music, prayers and other parts of the worship service, too!

www.bethelpresby.org/sermons

CANCER ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Wherever you are in your cancer journey, I welcome you to join me for an hour of sharing and supporting each other. Cancer doesn't define us - it causes changes, but it doesn't change who we are. God is always with us!

Our meetings are scheduled for every third Monday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., in the McMillan Room.

Sueann DeFurio



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

2999 Bethel Church Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102
412/835-0405 Church Office 412/835-1037 Fax
Website: www.bethelpresby.org
Email: bethelpres@verizon.net

Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com

Director of Discipleship: Jessica Kelecava, 412/835-0405 or jessica.discipleship.bethelpc@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministries: Kasey Wilfong, 412/835-0405

Director of Music and Worship: Jason Wilcox, 412/651-4638

Organist: Cody Soska, 412/877-9139

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Young, 412/835-0405

Financial Secretary: Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405

Custodian (Day): Bob Murphy, 412/835-0405

Custodian (Evening): Rob Roche, 412/835-0405

Sunday Child Care: Jill Bower, 412/835-0405

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

Sunday, December 16 (Daily Readings: Psalm 24, 150, Isa. 13:1-13, Heb. 12:18-29, John 3:22-30)

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Advent 3
Christmas Joy Sunday
Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship: Families E - H
- 11:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group Christmas Party
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Leaders Meeting

Monday, December 17 (Daily Readings: Psalm 122, 145, Isa. 8:16-9:1, 2 Peter 1:1-11, Luke 22:39-53)

- 11:15 a.m. Child Care - Stretch and Grow
- 1:00 p.m. Church Staff Meeting
- 5:45 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 215 Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Cancer Encouragement Group
- 7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Tuesday, December 18 (Daily Readings: Psalm 33, 146, Isa. 11:1-9, Eph. 6:10-20, John 3:16-21)

- 10:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, December 19 (Daily Readings: Psalm 50, 147:1-11, Isa. 11:10-16, Rev. 20:1-10, John 5:30-47)

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Staff Christmas Luncheon
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Advent Bible Study

Thursday, December 20 (Daily Readings: Psalm 18:1-20, 147:12-20, Isa. 28:9-22, Rev. 20:11-21:8, Luke 1:5-25)

- 5:00 p.m. Kinder Karate
- 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:45 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting
- 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

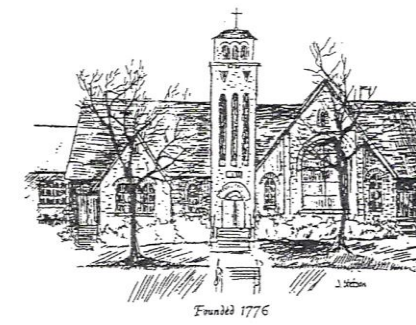
Friday, December 21 (Daily Readings: Psalm 102, 148, Isa. 29:9-24, Rev. 21:9-21, Luke 1:26-38)

- Preschool Closed
- 9:00 a.m. TEIS Playgroup

Saturday, December 22 (Daily Readings: Psalm 90, 149, Isa. 31:1-9, Rev. 21:22-22:5, Luke 1:39-48a {48b-56})

Sunday, December 23 (Daily Readings: Psalm 24, 150, Isa. 33:17-22, Rev. 22:6-11, 18-20, Luke 1:57-66)

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Advent 4
Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)



Bethel Presbyterian Church
Worship for the Lord's Day
Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018
10:30 A.M.

"Changed by Christ So We Can Change the World"

** Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

PRELUDE "An Advent Meditation"

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*** SONG OF EXPECTATION**
Hymn #13: "Prepare the Way"

*** CALL TO HUMILITY**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All: God, we are ready for joy. We long to be filled with your joyful good news. Yet even as we dream of the days when the hungry will be filled and the oppressed will be freed, we worry about what we might have to give up so that all your people can have enough. Give us courage to set aside our privilege. Give us strength to help bring about a world where everyone can sing songs of joy.

*** ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*** SONG OF GRACE**
Hymn #3: "Comfort, Comfort You My People" (First Verse Only)

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

(When the music begins to play, you may return to your seat.)

SONG "Like A Child" (First Verse)

As we sing, children are invited to come forward for Time with the Children.

Lyrics

Like a child love would send to reveal and to mend,
like a child and a friend, Jesus comes.
Like a child we may find claiming heart, soul and mind,
like a child strong and kind, Jesus comes.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG "Like A Child" (Second Verse)

As we sing, children will return to their families.

Lyrics

Like a child born to pray and to show us the way,
like a child here to stay, Jesus comes.
Like a child we receive all that love can conceive,
like a child we believe, Jesus comes.