

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING *John 1:1-14*

ANTHEM "Kyrie" Cathy Moglebust
Bell Choir

SECOND READING *Isaiah 2:1-5*

SERMON "Narnia: A Light to Guide"

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

* SONG OF RESPONSE
Hymn #11: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"

ORDER OF FAREWELL AND PRAYER OF BLESSING

Pastor: The church is a family. United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are all brothers and sisters. And, for a time, Bethel Presbyterian Church is our home. Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time as members are born, as they die, as members are adopted into our family and as they leave our congregation for a new home in a different place. Since 1950, Elma has lived with us. We have shared with each other good times and bad, we have shared each other's joys and sorrows, we have lightened each other's heavy loads. Together we have laughed and cried, together we have worshiped and praised God, together we have lived.

All: **We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase in your life. We will miss your love and support, yet we know you will add much to the lives of those who will be your new church family, as you have added much to our lives. We will pray for you and for the whole family of God.**

Pastor: Let us pray: O God, you are the strength and the protector of your people. We humbly place Elma into your hands as she prepares to move to her new home. Keep and preserve her, O Lord, in all health and safety, both of body and soul. All this we pray in the name of your Son who taught us when praying to say,

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.**

* SONG OF BLESSING
Hymn #438: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY "An Advent Acclamation" Stacey Nordmeyer
Bell and Chancel Choirs, Percussion: Courtney Kiesling

* DOXOLOGY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist: Please join me as we dedicate these offerings to God's use and purposes.

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 "Picardy" (Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence)

WORSHIP NOTES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the Valentine family on the loss of Harvey Valentine. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

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: Barbara Jay; Dec. 16th Cathy Misko

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: Families C & D; Dec. 16th Families E - H

CHILD CARE: Rob McKinley & Jessica Kelecava; Dec. 16th The Kiesling Family

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 2: Heather & Jim Hunter, Lora Spence, Mary Helen Burroughs*, Kathy Crump*; Dec. 16th - Team 3: Pat Kaczmarek, Ken Niemeier, Ted Keenan, Jean Smith*, Ruth Stotesbery* (*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Greg Smith; Dec. 16th Pam Decker

GRAPHICS TEAM: Larry Jay; Dec. 16th Robin Macherey

SOUND BOARD: Gail Anderson; Dec. 16th Frank Jackson

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

In Loving Memory of Janet A. Hultz, given by Tom Hultz.

In Loving Memory of Hugh Criss, husband, and son Eric, given by Phyllis Criss.

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



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

Congregation Life Weekly Newsletter December 9, 2018

ELMA BLACK IS MOVING: We feel such sorrow in Elma's leaving, yet we rejoice with her in anticipation of this new phase of her life. We will miss her love and support (and her apple pies), yet we know she will be able to spend more time with her family. Elma, you have added so much happiness to our lives! (Elma's new address is 459 Sand Hill Road, Apartment 636, Hershey, PA 17033.)

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)



THANK YOU!! A special thank you to members of the congregation who so generously donated gift cards for Holiday-A-Fair!

Lana Kling

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.



COAT DRIVE: South Hills Interfaith Movement is hosting an ongoing Coat Drive. Gently-used winter coats for men, women and children (all sizes) would be greatly appreciated! Please place your donations in the Marshall Road entrance.

Thank you,
Debbie May, PW Mission Coordinator

CHRISTMAS EVE
at Bethel Presbyterian Church

4:00 pm Service for Children and Their Families
Favorite carols, the story of Baby Jesus,
and a special child friendly "candlelight" moment

9:00 pm Traditional Candlelight Service
With choir, organ and bell choir

2999 Bethel Church Rd. Bethel Park
www.bethelpresby.org

TODAY IS SPARE CHANGE COLLECTION SUNDAY. Please place your spare change in the containers during Fellowship Hour so SHIM can continue to meet the needs of all its clients. Please donate generously; this will be our last contribution for 2018.

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!



Upcoming Events!

Dec. 9 th	Christmas Palooza
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



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

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 9 (Daily Readings: Psalm 24, 150, Isa. 5:1-7, 2 Peter 3:11-18, Luke 7:28-35)

9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Small Groups
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class
10:30 a.m.	Worship, Advent 2 Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith (child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)
11:30 a.m.	Fellowship: Families C & D
3:00 p.m.	Christmas Palooza
6:15 p.m.	Confirmation Class
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Concert at Bethel Retirement Residence

Monday, December 10 (Daily Readings: Psalm 122, 145, Isa. 5:8-17, 1 Thess. 5:1-11, Luke 21:20-28)

1:00 p.m.	Church Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m.	Mary & Martha Circle
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 215 Meeting
7:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 11 (Daily Readings: Psalm 33, 146, Isa. 5:18-25, 1 Thess. 5:12-28, Luke 21:29-38)

10:00 a.m.	Quilters Meeting
10:45 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
7:00 p.m.	Coin Club
7:00 p.m.	Membership Committee Meeting
7:30 p.m.	PW Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 12 (Daily Readings: Psalm 50, 147:1-11, Isa. 6:1-13, 2 Thess. 1:1-12, John 7:53-8:11)

10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
10:45 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
2:15 p.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
7:00 p.m.	Macdonald Pipe Band Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
7:30 p.m.	Advent Bible Study

Thursday, December 13 (Daily Readings: Psalm 18:1-20, 147:12-20, Isa. 7:1-9, 2 Thess. 2:1-12, Luke 22:1-13)

10:45 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
12:00 p.m.	American Sewing Group Christmas Party
2:15 p.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
5:00 p.m.	Kinder Karate
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:45 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 14 (Daily Readings: Psalm 102, 148, Isa. 7:10-25, 2 Thess. 2:13-3:5, Luke 22:14-30)

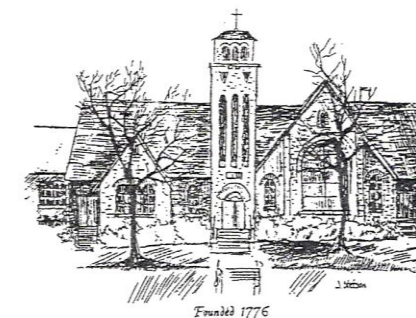
1:00 p.m.	Preschool, Miss Verna Visit on Christmas Cultures
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Saturday, December 15 (Daily Readings: Psalm 90, 149, Isa. 8:1-15, 2 Thess. 3:6-18, Luke 22:31-38)

5:00 p.m.	Not Forgotten Home & Community Services Dance
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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
5:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class
6:30 p.m.	Youth Group Christmas Party
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Leaders Meeting



Bethel Presbyterian Church
Worship for the Lord's Day
Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 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 "The King Shall Come" Arr. Cathy Moglebust
Bell Choir, Percussion: Courtney Kiesling

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*** SONG OF EXPECTATION**
Hymn #9: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*** CALL TO HUMILITY**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All: God, we are ready for peace. We long to receive the Prince of Peace in our world. Yet as we fill our lives with holiday projects, family activities and everyday tasks, we find it hard to make the time to welcome the light of peace. We need your help, O God. Guide us along the path toward healing and grace. Kindle the flame of your peace within us, so that each day, each moment, we can shine the light of your love. Amen.

*** 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.