

**WORSHIP BULLETIN**  
**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 26, 2017**

*Please take this bulletin home with you ... as a reference for this week's calendar of events,  
a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers and other useful information.*

Prelude: *"At the Cross"* – Barry & Van Valey

Gathering Hymn: *"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"* ELW #864

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 95:1-7a Read responsively by whole verse

Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon Pastor Jen Henry

Hymn of the Day: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* ELW #855, vv. 1-3

Children's Message Katie Hare

Offering: *"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"* -- Barry & Van Valey

Sending Hymn: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* ELW #855, vv. 4-5

Postlude: *"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"* -- Barry & Van Valey

**WORSHIP NOTES**

Welcome everyone to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the fellowship pad in your pew. The pads have a space for our record of communion. Please be sure to mark this if you partake in Holy Communion. Thank you for completing this information. Please note, assistive hearing devices and large print bulletins are available if needed – ask an usher.

The liturgical color for Christ the King Sunday is white. White symbolizes purity, holiness, respect and reverence. Christ is the head of the church. The frequent reference is that the church is the bride and Christ the bridegroom. On this Sunday the King who is the groom comes to claim us.

Altar flowers are given by Steve & Rhonda Salts in thanksgiving for improved health.

A special thank you to Jerry Henry and members of Bethany's Handbells for leading worship on this festival Sunday.

Many thanks to our worship volunteers helping with services today:

**8:30:** Greet: Dick & Betty Schmidt; Read: Dianne Wallwey; Acolyte: Corrine Stave, Payton Cooper; Communion servers: Mary Marske, Randy & Sue Riecks; Usher: George Kruger, Kirby Schmidt, Judy Sorenson; Record: John & Holly Fogarty; Project: Matt Kuehler;

**11:00:** Greet: Lloyd & Geraldine Senne; Read: Dianne Wallwey; Communion server: Lloyd Senne; Project: Mary Ann Quail;

*Would you like to help as a worship volunteer? Please consider serving! The December-February worship volunteer sign-up forms are at the Welcome Center. Look them over & sign up to help. If you need to check your calendar first, use this link to sign up from home on-line at: <http://signup.com/login/entry/10064285800109>. Also, a sign-up schedule for our extra Christmas eve and Christmas day services is at: <http://signup.com/login/entry/116989910792304020>.*

### PRAYER CONCERNS

#### Health Concerns:

Jo Beving, Cecelia Burns, Lane Frederick, Mary Grover, Ben Heien, Jamie Huber, Linda Kunzmann, Sandy Manwarren, Bill McCune, Jo Merrill, Isabel Perez; Barbara Wood (*Betty Lee's sister*); Darla Larsen (*Doug Bjorklund's sister*); Evelyn Winterboer (*Denny Winterboer's mother*);

#### Thanksgiving:

Bryan Thu & Jenna Simpson, united in marriage on Wednesday, November 22

#### Other Concerns:

Those affected by natural disasters and violence;

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

**FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL** There are opportunities for fellowship and learning between worship services. Stop by the church parlor (*end of hallway in east wing*) for coffee/lemonade, cookies or donuts & lively conversation. All are welcome! Children ages 3 years – grade 8 are encouraged to attend Sunday School. Classes run from 9:45-10:45am. Preschoolers 3-4 years gather in their room upstairs (Room 9). Kinder-kids – grade 6 gather for fellowship in the dining room on the lower level. Students in grades 7-8 meet in their room in the east wing downstairs.

**PLEASE USE A NAMETAG** We would like all members to have a permanent nametag (kids, too!). If you are in need of a nametag or have misplaced yours we will make one for you. Look for the "Need a Name Tag" sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. Visitors are encouraged to use adhesive nametags, available at the Welcome Center. Alternatively, if you are planning to attend frequently, we would be happy to make a nametag for you.

**BINGO AT ST. LUKE** Women of Bethany will help with BINGO for the residents at St. Luke Home on Friday, December 1. Three to four volunteers are needed. If you are able to help, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Many, many thanks to everyone who donated prizes! BINGO is a great event at St. Luke that the residents truly look forward to and enjoy!

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE** Warner Funeral Home, Spencer Hospital Hospice, Abben Cancer Center and Area Churches invite you to a candlelight "Service of Remembrance". Anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one is welcome to attend. The service will be held at Hope Reformed Church on Monday, November 27 at 6:30pm.

**GOD'S CREATIONS CALENDARS** They are here!! If you ordered one, please pick it up at the church office.

**POINSETTIAS** The seasons of Advent and Christmas are just around the corner. Once again, this year we will decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias. There will be two sizes of plants available – 4" for \$6.50 and 6" for \$10.50. If you would like to share a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one, please look over the order form located at the Welcome Center. We will accept orders for poinsettias through November 30.

**SS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** Preschool-6th Grade students will present a program of music and scripture readings to tell the Christmas Story on Wednesday, December 6 at 7pm. Rehearsals are happening during the Sunday school hours with a "dress rehearsal" on Sunday, December 3. Bethany Youth will host a supper at 6pm in the dining room, serving chicken noodle soup, chili, and pie for a free-will donation. Everyone is welcome for supper and the program!

**'TIS THE SEASON** There are many activities celebrating the birth of our Savior happening in the community. Be sure to check out the bulletin board for posters and details about upcoming events at area churches. The Festival of Lessons and Carols happens on Sunday, December 3, 3pm at Sacred Heart Church. Also, Grace United Methodist Church will be having a walk through a live nativity, at Journey to Bethlehem, happening on Saturday and Sunday, December 9 & 10 from 2-5pm.

**CHRISTMAS AT BETHANY** This biennial celebration of our Scandinavian heritage with traditions old and new is coming up on Saturday, December 9 from 11am-3pm. Our final planning meeting will be on Tuesday, November 28 in the church parlor. All are encouraged to be involved! Sign-up sheets are located in the church parlor. Some specific needs are:

- Salads for the pulled pork luncheon (sign up in the parlor)
- Inexpensive general gift items and gifts geared toward men and children for Santa's workshop (leave items in designated basket at the Welcome Center)
- A few more trees to add to our Christmas tree display in the basement (sign up in parlor)
- Share a Nativity scene for the Nativities display in the Sanctuary

**BLANKETED IN FAITH** Mark your calendars and plan to come to the fleece blanket tying fellowship evening on Thursday, December 14, at 6:00pm. We will get together as a congregational family to cut and tie the fleece into blankets. No experience is necessary, it's very easy to learn, and everyone is welcome! Blankets will be donated to Lutheran Services in Iowa and Iowa Kids Net for kids entering the foster care system. Many thanks to everyone who donated fleece for the "Blanketed in Faith"/November "Loving Spencer" blanket project.

**STEWARDSHIP NOTES** Recently we celebrated Thanksgiving and we have so much to be thankful for! I am thankful for Pastor Jen and her dynamic preaching, Stephen and our incredible music, Katie for her leadership of our youth, Mary Ann for her support and efficiency running the church office, Lois for her care of our building and grounds, Onalee for her caring ministry and for all the volunteers that support Bethany's mission with their time and talents. I am thankful for all those who turned in their pledges for 2018. Unfortunately pledges for 2018 are only 77% of what was pledged for 2017 with 50 fewer pledgers. Through October 31, Bethany's 2017 expenses are \$32,444 more than receipts. If you have not returned your pledge card, I urge you to pray about it and drop it in the mail, the church office, or the offering plate so that we may maintain Bethany's mission. As the Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians, *"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."* 2 Corinthians 9:11-12

Mary Marske,  
Stewardship Committee Chair

### **NOTES OF THANKS**

Many, many thanks to everyone for the food/hygiene items and monetary donations given toward our November Food Drive for Upper Des Moines Outreach food pantry. With the holidays just around the corner, the need is great. Thanks for your support!

Many thanks to those who answered the call to help on behalf of Bethany Lutheran Church with the Spencer Home Delivered Meals program in November: Kirk & Sue Andersen, Steve & Shannon McAllister, Bob & Kathy Nase, Bill Hemme & Mary Rose Rezac. Thank you for sharing your time and serving in this way!

Special thanks to Ellen Sorenson, Judy Sorenson, Rita Storm, Pat Spenst and JoAnne Franke for volunteering to help round-up the residents at St. Luke Home for worship services on Sunday, November 26. Bethany helps with round up on a regular basis as a part of our nursing home ministry partnership with St. Luke Homes. Watch for another opportunity help, coming up in January!

Thank you to the many hands that made light work at our Fall Outdoor Clean Up day! Thanks to: Mark and Sharon Cameron, Bruce Iverson, Doug Marske, Randy Phillips, Bob & Lois Becker much was done in a small amount of time. We appreciate the help with this annual task.

To my dear and beloved people of Bethany, thank you for surprising me with birthday wishes and with the remembrance of my one-year anniversary with you. One of my birthday gifts was also a surprise-- while I attended my own surprise birthday open house in Bethany's parlor, a group of energetic people moved us into our loft space on West Okoboji. Thank you. Thank you. Your smiles, hugs, well wishes, and prayers are deeply valued by this humble wife and pastor. Thank you again. *Pastor Jen*

To my Bethany friends and co-workers:

Thank you for the many ways you helped to make my birthday special. I had an enjoyable day and appreciated all of your kindness! Thank you so much! God bless you! *Mary Ann*

## **CALENDAR**

### Sunday, November 26

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:45 am Sunday School, Fellowship
- 11:00 am Worship

### Monday, November 27

- 1:30 pm Stonecroft Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Candlelight Service of Remembrance at Hope Reformed Church

### Tuesday, November 28

- 2:00 pm Staff Meeting
- 5:00pm Weeknight Music 2 (Gr 5-6)
- 6:00 pm Weeknight Music 1 (Gr K-4)
- 7:00 pm Weeknight Music 3 (Gr 7-8)

### Wednesday, November 29

- 10:00 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 7:00 pm Praise Team
- 7:00 pm Confirmation
- 7:45 pm Bethany Youth Group
- 8:00 pm Uke Group

### Friday, December 1

- 2:30 pm WOB help with BINGO at St. Luke Homes

### Saturday, December 2

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study

### Sunday, December 3

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:45 am Sunday School, Fellowship
- 11:00 am Worship
- 3:00 pm Festival of Lessons and Carols at Sacred Heart