

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today 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.**

SONGS DURING COMMUNION:

"Bread of Life from Heaven" (<i>refrain only</i>)	ELW, #474
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"	ELW, #276
"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord"	ELW, #286
"Away in a Manger"	ELW, #277

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Let All Together Praise Our God" (*vs. 1-3*) ELW, #287

CORPORATE PRAYER:

"Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church."

GO IN PEACE

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Worship Team for today:

Presider: Pastor Barb Lemke

Pianist: Cindy Josephson **Hymnists:** Grace Flows Down

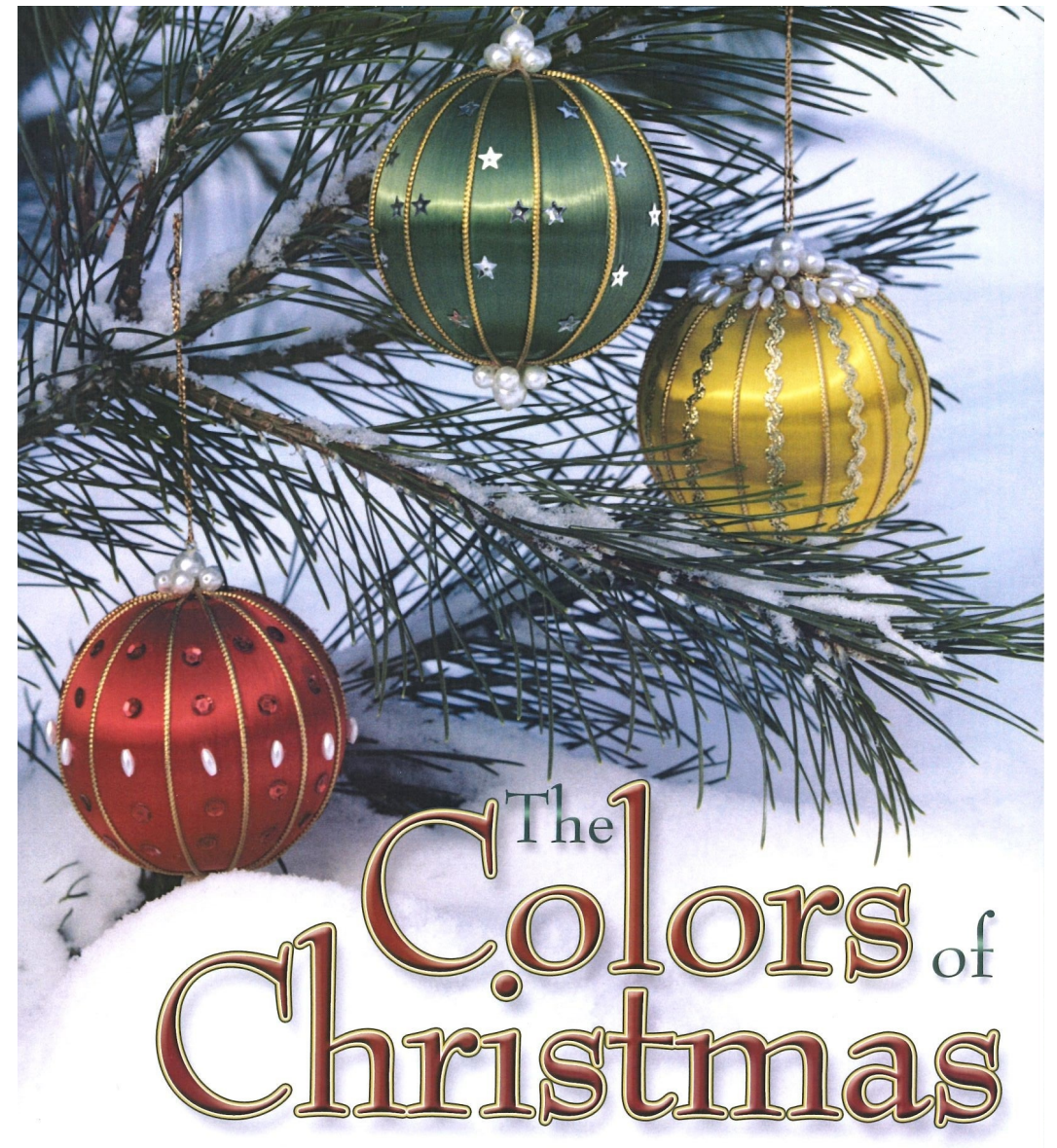
Reader: Jon Lohmer **Greeter:**

Usher: Richard Richmond & Marv Kelley **Communion Asst.:** &

Screen/Sound: Travis Kleven **Video FaceBook:** Jamie Villante **YouTube:** Tom Lenahan



Altar Flowers were given by Brenda Ham in memory of Jim and by
Joy Facine in memory of her father Thomas.



The Colors of Christmas

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

Bethel Lutheran Church

1450 Airport Blvd.

Aurora, CO 80011

Phone: 303-364-2245 website: www.bethelaurora.org

email: church@bethelaurora.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP with The Colors of Christmas Cantata
December 17, 2023
9:30 A.M.
GATHERING

PRELUDE: Cindy Josephson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORPORATE PRAYER:
“Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church.”

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS ELW, pp. 94–96

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH *see insert*

OPENING HYMN: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW, #254

GREETING

KYRIE “Have Mercy on Me” (v. 3 & refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE COLORS OF CHRISTMAS—CANTATA PART 1

1ST READING: Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

2ND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 188

GOSPEL: John 1:6–8, 19–28

HOMILY “Don’t Quench the Spirit” Pastor Barb Lemke

THE COLORS OF CHRISTMAS—CANTATA PART 2

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 into hell.*
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 THE CHURCH

Ukraine and Israel, our prayers are with you
John & Casey Howshar
Delores Rasmussen & Dan Rasmussen
Eyes: Marvin Bohrer & Bonnie Frank
Pat Oakes – Robert McBride – Patti Schoenfeld – Mike Lemke – Linda Faciane (Joy’s aunt)
– Susan Riley (Lorraine Chambers’ friend) – Don Kirkegaard – Ashlyn (daughter of friend
Wade and Lynn Hampton) – Katherine (friend of Ron and Doris Freund) – Alicia Jerrup
(friend of Mary Katherine Smith) – Brenda (Jeff Grawe’s sister) – Cammy (Debbie Die-
drich’s aunt) – Leisa Mortenson and Bryce Dunn – Bianca (cousin of
Lorraine, Heidi, and Mary Sellinger) – Gary (Andrea Newport’s brother-in-law)
Ray & Cathy Maver-Johnson
Danny Cowan
Armonni Gonzalez (friend of Patty Garcia’s daughter)
Bob Zenn
Carol Kirkegaard
Al Ryberg, Sylvia Cowan’s brother
Linda Washington
Abbie Chambers (Lorraine Chambers’ daughter-in-law) and her shipmates on the
USS Gerald Ford and their families
Dakota Wells, Pat French’s great granddaughter (respiratory health)
Stuart Andrews, Bob DeLapp’s nephew (recovering from heart surgery)
Carol Smith (recovery from sepsis)
Bill, Debbie Deidrich’s father (recovery from abdominal aorta surgery)
Jim and all the family of Linda Craig

Homebound members: Pat French – Wil Wertz – Jim Craig – Josh Carter

Thanksgiving for Families:
Anthony & Megan (Walker) Lee, Madelein
Tom & Tanya Lenahan, Connor
Sean & Brittany Licalzi, Harlo and Preslie, Colson and Kyla

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Shine on Us”

Welcome!

We welcome all who gather for worship on this day and pray God's blessing on our time together!

Guests are invited to record their visit by signing the Guest Book located at the entrance to the worship space.

All worshippers are invited to sign the red attendance folder in the pew and pass it on to their neighbor to sign.

Upcoming Events

Choir Cantata – The Bethel Choir will be presenting the cantata *The Colors of Christmas* as part of worship today. Following the service the choir will also serve breakfast. Come support the choir and all the hard work they have put in practicing for this special event.

Advent Soup Supper and Worship – *Wednesdays before Christmas* Come for a meal at 6 p.m. and join in worship at 7 p.m. as we reflect on the lyrics of the hymn “Of the Father’s Love Begotten.”

Christmas Poinsettias – See forms in the Narthex if you wish to sponsor one (or more) of the 26 poinsettias we will adorn the altar region with for our Christmas Eve service. Plants will cost \$11, due today, Dec. 17.

Missions – In December we are collecting brand new sneakers and funds to buy shoes for Wholly Kicks.

Giving Tree for Mehari Family – Wrapped gifts with the gift tag attached are due back at the church by today, December 17.

This Week at Bethel December 17–24, 2023

Sun	8:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:30 a.m.	Worship w/ Choir Cantata
	11 a.m.	Breakfast (<i>served by choir</i>)
	11:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	1:00 p.m.	Mila's Piano Recital
	4:00 p.m.	Tongans
Mon	6:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tue	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>)
Wed	11:30 a.m.	Senior Luncheon at Rendezvous
Wed	6:00 p.m.	AA
	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Advent Worship
Thu	11:00 a.m.	Prayer Team
	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study (<i>in-person</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	1 st /2 nd Year Confirmation
Fri	6:00 p.m.	Tongans
Sat	9:00 a.m.	Quilting Group (<i>in-person</i>)
Sun	CHRISTMAS EVE	
	8:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11 a.m.	Sunday School
	3:00 p.m.	Tongans
	6:15 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Worship
	11:00 p.m.	Worship

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P Today is the third Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the JOY we have in Christ.
- C **The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how the Savior would be born, a king of the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless the nations.**
- P On Christmas day the Christ of JOY was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our JOY died. On Easter morning the Christ of our JOY rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day the Christ of our JOY will return again bringing in his kingdom to reign over all the earth.
- C **As followers of Christ, we await his return. We light these three candles to remember that as he came to us humbly in a manager at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.**
- P We light this candle to remind us to be alert and filled with JOY as we watch for his return.

