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:** Ron and Doris Freund
Reader: Richard Richmond **Greeter:** **Usher:** Marv & Ev Kelley
Communion Asst.: Sean Gordon & **Screen/Sound:** Travis Kleven
Youth Offering Asst.: _ **Youth Communion Asst.:** _ **Acolyte:** _
Video FaceBook & YouTube: Jamie Villante

Kyrie

Sung to the tune of "Away in the Manager" ELW 277

VERSE 1
Christ Jesus, our Savior, You come as our light,
Shine hope in our darkness and hold us each night.
Be born in our hearts, Lord, and teach us Your way.
O Kyrie, Christ, be our mercy today.

VERSE 2:
Lord, guide us and keep us in love pure and strong,
Help us to be gentle, to right what is wrong.
Prepare us to welcome Your kingdom of grace.
O Kyrie, Lord, show us Your holy face.

Text: North American, 19th century
Music: James R. Murray
Public Domain

Sunday Worship Service

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025

Bethel Lutheran Church
1450 Airport Blvd.
Aurora, CO 80011
Phone: 303-364-2245 email: church@bethelaurora.org
website: www.bethelaurora.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP
December 28, 2025
9:30 A.M.

PRELUDE: Cindy Josephson

GATHERING: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" ELW, #288

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS ELW, pp. 94–96

OPENING HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ELW, #270

GREETING

KYRIE sung to tune of "Away in a Manger" *see back cover*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

1ST READING: Isaiah 63:7–9

PSALM: Psalm 148

2ND READING: Hebrews 2:10–18

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 205

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13–23

Children leave for Sunday School afterwards, and will return for Communion.
Feel free to "pick them up" in the Fellowship Hall if you want them sooner.

HYMN: "What Child is This" ELW, #296

SERMON "Hope on a Winding Road" Pastor Barb Lemke

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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 *see insert*
Thanksgiving for Families:
Jeremy & Unique Carter, Melodi and Suki
Dick Wick
Carol Einertson

OFFERING
Special Music "Do You Have Room?" S. Edwards
Doris Freund

OFFERTORY: "Angels We Have Heard on High" (v. 1 only) ELW, #289

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:
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" ELW, #279
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" ELW, #283
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" ELW, #276

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" ELW, #290

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Recent hospitalizations, illnesses, and concerns:

Rev. Mike Lemke *(hip replacement recovery)*
Randy Feakes *(fall injuries recovery)*
Cecelia Morrissey *(Debbie Diedrich's friend, breast cancer)*
Ralph Westadt *(ankle surgery recovery)*
Ron McBroom *(Dana's husband, heart surgery)*
Gypsy *(esophagus health)* and the Hendricks *(friends)*

For the families who have lost loved ones:

The family of Cammy Gaylord *(Debbie Diedrich's godmother)*

For our homebound members and friends:

Wil Wertz – Jim Craig – Josh Carter – Cathy McConchie

For those diagnosed with cancer:

Patti Schoenfeld
Susan Riley *(Lorraine Chambers' friend)*
Ashlyn *(daughter of friend Wade and Lynn Hampton)*
Alicia Michaels *(Mary Katherine Smith's friend)*
Gary *(Andrea Newport's brother-in-law)*
Scott Petrock *(Carol Einertson's son-in-law)*
Tammy Hawley *(Sheila Kelly's boss)*
Linda Hardy
Andrew Carpenter *(Alexa Weaver's friend)*
Rodney Steggs & his mother Rita Johnson *(Hamptons' friends)*
Peggy Russell *(Eddie & Pat Garcia's friend)*
Linda Kirkegaard
Wendy *(Kim Evancho's friend)*
Connie Lovell *(Deloris DeLapp's friend)*
Bob Bliss
Patrick Stephenson
Pastor Steve Ruechel
Marv Kelley
Mike S. *(Gypsie's friend)*
Summer Stephens *(Doris Freund's niece)*
Heather & Heidi Mortenson *(Lynn Hampton's friends)*
Karen Ryberg *(Sylvia Cowan's niece)*
Ruth *(Joni Dammen's friend & roommate)*

For those dealing with ongoing concerns:

John & Casey Howshar
Delores Rasmussen & Dan Rasmussen
Eyes: Marvin Bohrer & Bonnie Frank
Ray Johnson
Danny Cowan
Kaylee (*friend of Hamptons)*
Bill Schmidt *(kidney health)*
Gerald Kelley, *Carol Smith's significant other (Alzheimer's)*
Sylvia Cowan *(leg and heart health)*
Frank Ruhs (*Ev Kelley's brother, heart health)*
Caroline Hailey-Kesler (*Linda Hailey's granddaughter rare kidney disease)*
Scott Crosby *(recovery from infection)*
Cheryl Gednalske *(leg infection)*
Donna Arntson (*Lynn Hampton's sister-in-law, stroke)*
Matthew Zenn (*Bob's grandson, heart health)*
Craig Mortenson (*Lynn Hampton's friend, health)*
Pastor Barb *(health recovery)*
Mary Sellinger (health) and Michael (her son, stroke recovery)
Paige Petrock *(Carol Einertson's granddaughter, CIDP)*
Lisa Pruitt (*Andrea French's friend, congestive heart failure)*
Carol Einertson *(heart & kidney health)*
Stephanie & Bret's premature baby Michael *(Joy's friend)*
Laura Thompson *(foot surgery recovery)*

Scan this QR code for links to Bethel Lutheran's Facebook page, website, and YouTube channel or visit our LinkTree page at bit.ly/m/Bethel-Lutheran-Aurora

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

Missions for December – We are collecting NEW sneakers and socks (preferably for toddlers or men's size 7) and monetary donations for Wholly Kicks as this month's Missions focus. Please mark your checks as Missions in the note field.

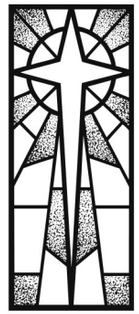
Cards for Ministry – We are collecting CLEAN greeting cards of any kind (except holiday) WITH envelopes for New Beginnings Women's Prison Ministry. Please place them in the labeled bucket on the table in the entryway.

January Newsletter – Please email your submissions for the January newsletter to the office by no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 30.

Welcome to our newest members! – Today we joyfully celebrate the growth of our church family as we receive into membership:
–Sean Gordon and his son Cole
–Gay Johnston and her granddaughters Janessa Johnston and Iliana Martinez

This Week at Bethel
December 28, 2025–January 4, 2026

Sun	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	3:00 p.m.	Tongans
Mon	6:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tue		
Wed		
Thu	**New Year's Day**	
		Church office closed
Fri	6:00 p.m.	Tongans
Sat		
Sun	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11 a.m.	Bible Study
	3 p.m.	Tongans



Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

PSALM 148:2, NIV