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Worship Team for today:

Presider: Pastor Barb Lemke

Pianist: Cindy Josephson **Hymnists:** Patsy Lohmer and Shellie Sasscer

Reader: Rhyan Littlejohn **Greeter:** **Usher:** Rich. Richmond & Marv/Ev Kelley

Communion Asst.: Sean Gordon & **Screen/Sound:** Travis Kleven

Youth Offering Asst.: _ **Youth Communion Asst.:** _ **Acolyte:** _

Video FaceBook: Ron Freund **YouTube:** Tom Lenahan

Sunday Worship Service



*The
Word
became
flesh and made
his dwelling among us.*

Image: Church Art Online

Kyrie

Sung to the tune of "Away in the Manger" 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*

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

**Bethel Lutheran Church
1450 Airport Blvd.
Aurora, CO 80011**

**Phone: 303-364-2245 email: church@bethelaurora.org
website: www.bethelaurora.org**



SUNDAY WORSHIP
January 4, 2026
9:30 A.M.

PRELUDE: Cindy Josephson

GATHERING: “Oh Come, All Ye Faithful” ELW #283

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS ELW, pp. 94–96

OPENING HYMN: “From Heaven Above” (vv. 1, 3, 4) ELW, #268

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

1ST READING: Jeremiah 31:7–14

PSALM: Psalm 147:12–20

2ND READING: Ephesians 1:3–14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 205

GOSPEL: John 1:1–18

HYMN: “Love Has Come” ELW, #292

SERMON “The Mystery of God’s Will” Pastor Barb Lemke

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:

Glenda Alcaraz
Lisa Amdal & Ruben Barela, Rowen Amdal-Barela
Arturo Arellano & Shelby Arellano-Clutterbuck, Isabella Arellano

OFFERING
Special Music “Glory to His Name” McDonald
Bliss-Falk Families

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
“Once in Royal David’s City” ELW, #269
“Away in a Manger” ELW, #278

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: “On Our Way Rejoicing” ELW, #537

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

GO IN PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Recent hospitalizations, illnesses, and concerns:

Rev. Mike Lemke (*hip replacement recovery at home*) Randy Feakes (*fall injuries recovery*)
Cecelia Morrissey (*Debbie Diedrich's friend, breast cancer*) Ralph Westadt (*ankle surgery recovery*)

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

For those dealing with ongoing concerns:

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

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

“The Chosen” Bible Study – We have multiple options for “The Chosen” Bible Study groups that meet:
-Sundays after church,
-Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
-Thursdays at 1 p.m. at the church .
We would love to have you join us..

Choir – Choir rehearsals in January will be on the 11th and 25th, meeting at 8:15 a.m. We will also sing in Church those Sundays.

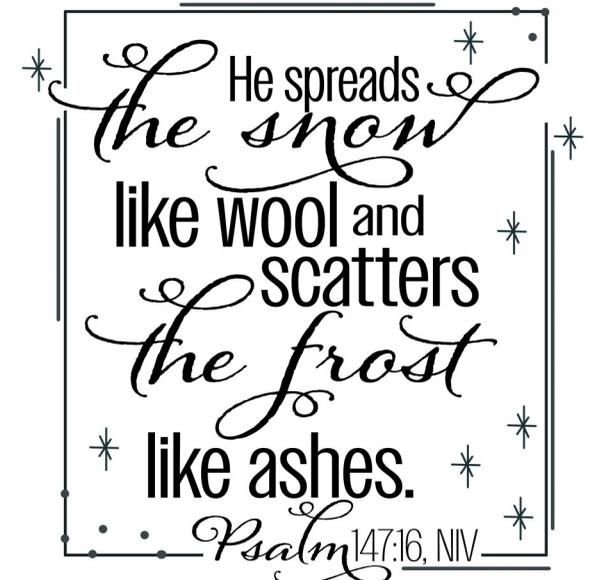
Annual Reports – Please submit your committee/ministry's report to the church office by January 15.

Congregational Meeting – *Sunday, January 25, after worship* Please plan to attend church in person and stay after worship as we will meet to discuss important issues as well as vote on the 2026 budget and elect the SLT for the year ahead.

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.

This Week at Bethel January 4–11, 2026

Sun	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11 a.m.	Bible Study
	3:00 p.m.	Tongans
Mon	6:00 p.m.	Music & Worship Meeting (Zoom)
	6:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tue	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study (Zoom)
Wed		
Thu	11:00 a.m.	Prayer Team
	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study (<i>in-person</i>)
Fri	6:00 p.m.	Tongans
Sat	9:00 a.m.	Quilting Group (<i>in-person</i>)
Sun	8:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11 a.m.	Bible Study
	3 p.m.	Tongans



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or visit our LinkTree page at bit.ly/m/Bethel-Lutheran-Aurora

