



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
& Early Childhood Center**



**Second Sunday of Christmas**

January 2, 2022

# GATHERING

## WELCOME

## CHRISTMAS DIALOG

L: Amazing God, you love us so much that you came to us as an infant.

**C: Born in a stable because there was no room at the inn.**

L: You call us to love the world as we have been loved by you.

**C: Wrapped in swaddling clothes, you slept in a manger because there was no crib.**

L: You command us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

**C: Shepherds welcomed you.**

L: You call us to create an inclusive church in which everyone is welcomed and loved.

**C: No one was turned away from the stable door.**

L: You keep calling us to open our doors, to welcome the outcasts, house the homeless, feed the hungry, and turn over the tables in the temple.

**C: Lambs and cows, chickens and donkeys, men, women, children, angels of all kinds surrounded you.**

L: One star brighter than the rest led the world to your door. Help us to create a world and a church in which all of your children are safe and loved, affirmed, welcomed, and fully accepted, where we all have a community of angels surrounding us.

**C: Amen**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Jesus, the Light of the World – ACS 914

One verse per week



- 1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je - sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
join the tri - umph of the skies; Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je - sus, the Light of the world.

*Refrain*



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ... Dear Child of Bethlehem,

**C:** As we remember the stable and the manger, the dusty roads you walked and the cross on which you died, give us the faith and courage to tell your truth and make it our own. May your story guide us and help us claim the sacredness in our own lives and stories. Help us follow you with all of our hearts and minds and souls and strength, for you are our hope and redeemer. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S TIME

# WORD

## SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

R: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.  
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found  
 him whose praise the ages sound.  
 We too have a star to guide us,  
 which forever will provide us  
 with the light to find our Lord,  
 with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,  
 that will never lead astray  
 with its message so appealing,  
 is the word of God, revealing  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. [The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor John Bredding

# HYMN OF THE DAY

# Light Dawns On a Weary World – ELW 726



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

*Refrain*



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always, **C: And also with you!**

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord – ELW 286

One verse per week



1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with



come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our



soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
sweet-est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: The Lord be with you, **C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts, **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung to Away in a Manger – ELW 277

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name!  
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same  
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:  
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;  
As we forgive others, our sins take away;  
In times of temptation, to lead us be near:  
From evil deliver Your children most dear.**

**For Yours is the kingdom; o'er all things Your reign.  
And Yours is the power; all things You maintain.  
To You be the glory, resounding again  
From all of creation, forever! Amen.**

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly – ELW 276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

# COMMUNION HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming – ELW 272



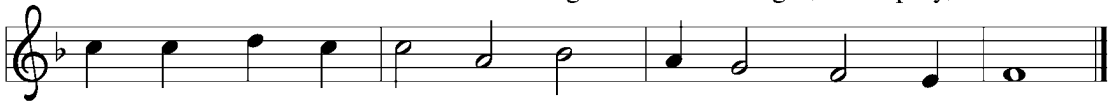
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

## SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

## SENDING HYMN

Shine, Jesus Shine – ELW 671



1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the  
3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, So our

midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the  
fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from

world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now  
glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your

bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,  
flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,  
Lord, and let there be light!

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the newborn King!

C: Thanks be to God!



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## **Electronic Giving Options Update**

- Our Give Plus+ App has been replaced by **Vanco Mobile App!** **Vanco Mobile App** will be your new mobile means of financially supporting Bethlehem. To begin using it:
  - Download the “**Vanco Mobile**” app from your App Store using your smartphone or tablet
  - Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church **Encinitas** by name
  - If you already have an account, your Username and Password remain the same. And your prior online account information and recurring gifts will automatically carry over
  - If you don’t have an account, follow the app’s “Sign Up” prompts
- BLC Website
  - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “Contribute” tab from the top menu as before
  - Click the “Give Now” button to go to our new and improved Vanco Online page.

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- With either option you can:
  - Use a checking account, or credit & debit cards
  - Choose to cover the credit card transaction fee
  - Make recurring, or one-time donations
  - Give to the general or various special funds
  - All donations appear on your giving statements

**Thank You for Supporting Bethlehem!**

# All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.



Reconciling in Christ



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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