

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
215 3rd Ave SE, MINOT, ND, 58701

Pastors: Janet Hernes Mathistad & Gerald Roise
Organist: Deacon Kari Files, Pastor Intern David Myers

First Sunday of Christmas December 29, 2019

* Standing, for those who are able

PRELUDE

SPECIAL MUSIC: Karen Brunner Wright, Ariel Hirzel,
Maeli Haia, Nadine Holmly.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

C: Amen

P: Let us come before the living God in confession.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

C: we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven in the name of the one who is coming and is already here, + Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

GATHERING

* **HYMN:** *“Once in Royal David’s City”* Hymn 269

***GREETING**

***PRAISE:** *“Hark! The Herald...”* Hymn 270 (1-2)

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm 148

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

* **GOSPEL:** Matthew 2:13-23

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MORNING MESSAGE: Pastor Gerald

* **HYMN:** *“What Child is This”* Hymn 296

HOLY BAPTISM p. 225

* **THE PRAYERS**

* **PEACE**

MEAL

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Offering

* **Offertory:** *“Infant Holy, Infant..”* Hymn 276

* **PRAYER**

P: Giver of every good thing, **C: We set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. Amen**

* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

* **LORD’S PRAYER**

Distribution, *“Lamb of God”* (p. 195)

Special Music: *“The First Noel”*

* **BLESSING**

***THANKSGIVING** (tune “God Rest Ye Merry...”)

C: Oh, thank the Lord and sing His praise, What He has done proclaim! Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name Who leads His thankful people forth His promises to claim. Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

Lord, let your servant go in peace, Your word has been fulfilled. My eyes have seen the saving work which for the world you willed: The glory of Your chosen race as Light for all revealed. Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

Oh, praise to God the Father, and praise to God the Son, and praise to God the Spirit, most blessed Three in One, as ‘twas, is now, and e’er shall be while endless ages run! Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

SENDING

* **BENEDICTION**

P: May the good Lord bless and keep, Cause his face on you to shine, Look on you with favor deep, Granting you His peace divine.

C: Glo...ria in excelsis Deo! Glo...ria in excelsis Deo!

* **HYMN:** *“Cold Dec Flies Away”* Hymn 299

* **MISSION STATEMENT**

POSTLUDE

Alternate Worship Texts from *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers. Please sign a worship/communion card. (Take one from the pew rack.)

COLORED ENVELOPES are for kids offering in our kid’s church.

COMMUNION PRACTICE at Bethany: We offer bread or gluten-free wafers and either wine or white grape juice. All the baptized are welcome at the Lord’s Table. If you are a guest and commune in your home church, we invite you to share in the Lord’s Supper with us. If you do not yet commune, please come forward to receive a blessing.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS are available in the narthex for January, February & March.

ACTIVITY BAGS (paper, toys, etc.) are to enjoy and return.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Lenhart Mindt, Betty Niemann, Terry Price, Jeff Price, Brad Ness, Brian Amundson, Larry Walter, Arnie Semchenko, Harold Harmon, Archie Kress, Roger Lee, Jim Sundley, Geraldine Peterson, Vicki Amon, Jean Rollman, Leon Turner, Peggy Schumaier, Knute Roise, Family of Charles Bovee.

TRINITY: John Burns & Phillip Shaw.
 Librarians, Authors, Musicians, Journalists, Artists.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS will be done the 3rd Sunday of the month.

ACTIVITY BAGS (paper, toys, etc.) are to enjoy and return.

PRAYER CONCERN POLICY: Names will be carried for up to two months. After two months, you may call to re-enroll a name for another two months

CAUSE OF THE MONTH: Our cause of the month is mission support for **Global Barnyard**. Please use the global mission envelope in your offering box to support this cause.

BETHANY'S WEBSITE: bethanylutheranminot.org

BETHANY'S STREAMING: bethanylutheran.tv

BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER DEADLINES: The deadline for input and articles in the *Messenger* newsletter is the **20th of each month**, unless otherwise noted. The deadline for **bulletin** items is **2:00pm on Wednesdays** for that following weekend. Thank you!

PLEASE SAVE UPC BAR CODE labels from your purchases of Our Family Brand Products. The Lord's Cupboard food pantry gets five cents per label. There is a container for collection in the narthex

Bethany Lutheran Foundation
 To benefit the ministry of
 Bethany Lutheran Church
 now and to sustain it for
 future generations
A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING



The LYO has a few pans of Take'n'Bake Caramel Rolls for sale! \$8.00 for a pan of 4. Please stop by the office if you would like to get some!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DEC 29th:

TODAY	9:00 am	Worship/Baptism
	10:00 am	Fellowship
WED		OFFICE IS CLOSED
THUR	9:00am	Men's Coffee
SAT	7:15am	Breakfast Boys
SUN	8:30am	Worship
	9:30am	Coordinating Council
	9:30am	Fellowship
	10:30am	Worship

FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS – EXPRESSING THANKS

- Coordinator (9:00)
- Altar (9:00) Crystal Schlag, Shirley Price
- (10:00) Crystal Schlag, Shirley Price
- Ushers (9:00) Boyd Hanson
- Greeters (9:00) Phyllis Hanson
- Lector (9:00) Sue Taft
- Communion Assistants (9:00) David Alvin, Crystal Schlag, Claire Larson
- Coffee Hour Treats
- Altar Guild Joyce Anderson, Phyllis Hanson

**Offering
 Envelopes**

Offering envelopes are in the Narthex! Please pick yours up. If you contribute on-line, there will still be a box of envelopes for you. Thank you!



Please put magazines for train station in the new baskets under the pew by the elevator. No magazines over 6 months old and no catalogs!



Please remember as you do your annual cleaning, that the BLCW will be hosting their annual spring rummage sale at Bethany on May 2nd, 2020. Your unwanted items are another's treasure!

BLCW is looking for a laptop computer with the ability to run Quickbooks. Perhaps someone has a **Windows 10 laptop** that they would be willing to donate. Please contact June Stroklund at 509-7063.

Stewardship Cards!

Remember to fill out and return your pledge card! They are located at the back of the church or you can pick one up at the office! Thank you!!

Any financial donation given to the Men's Winter Refuge in December will be doubled by the St.

Joseph's Community Health Foundation through the "Twice Blessed" matching grant program. To give to the Minot's men's homeless shelter, or for more information, visit

<http://sjchfnd.com/organizations/mens-refuge/> online, or call Men's Winter Refuge director Mike Zimmer at 701-822-2585.

You can also submit your funds to the church office!

TRIVIA #1 TODAY:

How many times did God call out to young Samuel in the night as he was lying down in the house of the Lord? Was it 4 times, 3 times, or 20 times?

ANNUAL MEETING

Deadline for turning in annual meeting reports is Friday, January 10th! Annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26th.



Vayda Michelle Ullrich is being baptized today! She is the Daughter of Bradley & Hanna Ullrich. Vayda was born on August 30, 2019. Her sponsors are Brent & Denise Tollefson.

TRIVIA #2:

Who was the first person to come upon the injured man in the parable of the Good Samaritan?
The tax collector, innkeeper, priest or judge?



Henley Patricia Foley is being baptized today! She is the Daughter of Jared & Hannah Foley. Henley was born on November 20, 2019. Her sponsors are Jade Stenberg & Ryan Foley.

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Anticipated pledges vs received pledges are a close match this year as we come to a closing—within a couple thousand dollars!! We are down on our overall gross income with Hostfest coming in about \$3500 less than budgeted and also special offerings were down this year. The end of the year cutoff for donations is this week, and Bethany gives thanks to all for supporting us. We couldn't be successful without you as our congregation, the donations(monetary and physical), the volunteers, and the dedication of everyone. Thank you again.

Our Giving Tree Day raised \$593. This will be distributed to local areas of need, namely the Northern Plains Children's Advocacy, Men's Refuge, Domestic Violence, and the YWCA. These four areas are also listed on the Twice Blessed Website by the St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation, so our donation will be matched by them! Thank you for helping support our local community.

TRIVIA #3:

What were the names of the twins who wrestled in their mother's womb?
Was it Cain and Abel, Paul and Peter, Jesus and John, or Jacob and Esau?



GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD PIGGY BANK:

Bethany raised \$1,122.53 for God's Global Barnyard by passing the piggy bank on Wednesday's and Sunday's. Along with our mission cause of the month donations so far \$490 additional has been raised! What a blessing for this cause of the month!

TRIVIA #4

Which of the following is NOT part of the armor of God?
Is it the belt of truth, shield of knowledge, sword of the Spirit, or helmet of salvation?

We still have 3 full boxes of meatballs. If you would like to purchase a full box the cost is \$44.00. There are also 4 bags of gravy left for \$8.00 per bag. Please contact the office.

#1-4 times. 1 Samuel 3:3-10
#2-priest. Luke 10:25-37
#3-Jacob & Esau Genesis 25:22-26
#4-shield of knowledge Ephesians 6:10-18
Thank you Tim for this idea & Pastor Dave for the questions!!