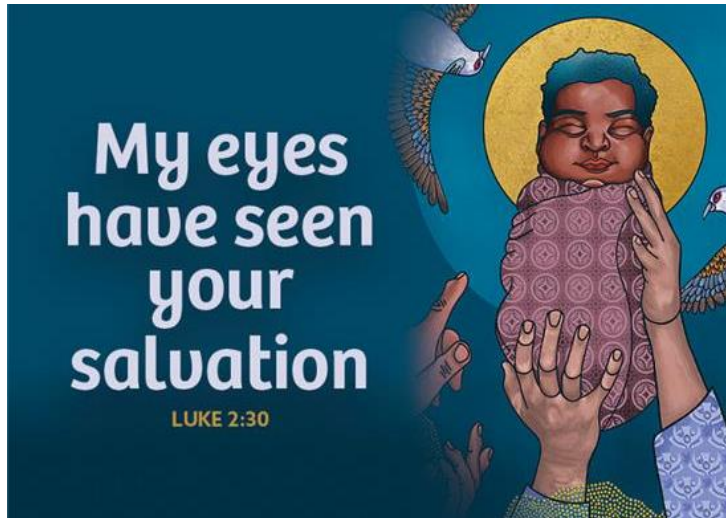




SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025



Introduction

The Presentation of Our Lord is referred to in some corners of the church as Candlemas because of an ancient tradition of blessing all the candles to be used in the church in the coming year at the mass celebrated on that day. It was a way of underscoring the truth of Simeon's confession that this baby Jesus was "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" and a light for glory to Israel. Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God's son, Jesus, the light of the world.

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS GATHERING SONG

“HOLY FOREVER”

Brian Johnson, Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, et al
© 2022 Brian and Jenn Publishing; Capitol CMG Paragon; S. D. G. Publishing; Be Essential Songs;
My Magnolia Music; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs; Bethel Music Publishing

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**
Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE (ELW 836)



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-21, 13:4-8a,13

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

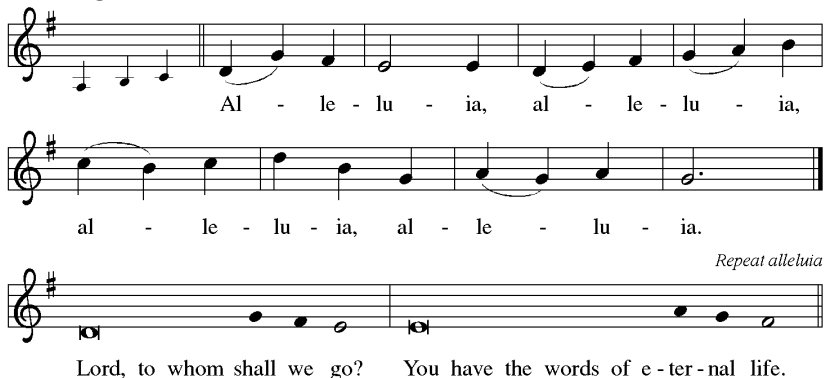
⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends.

¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

LUKE 4:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“JESUS AT THE CENTER”

Music and lyrics Adam Ranney, Israel Houghton, Micah Massey
© 2011 Heart Anthem Music; Integrity Worship Music; Integrity's Praise! Music
Sound Of The New Breed Admin Fund Attic Music, LLC integrity Music

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The 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 to the dead. 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with “God of grace” and the response will be “**hear our prayer.**”

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

————— MEAL —————

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the ongoing ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church! In-person gifts may be placed in the offering plates, mailed to Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church (2077 N. Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603), given online at www.bethelwinchester.com or using the adjacent QR code.



MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

OFFERING PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

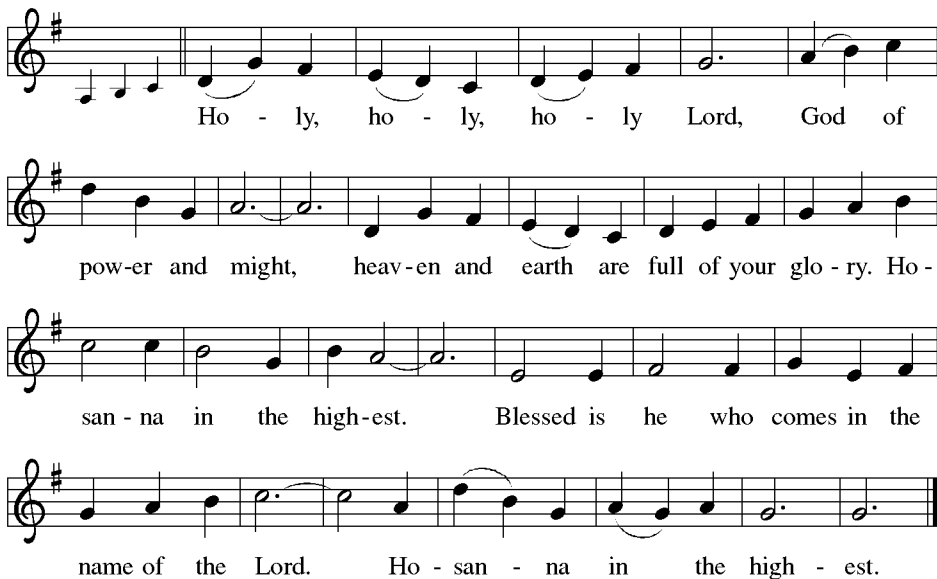
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the lord our god. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

JESUS' WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to our Lord's table of inclusion.

A table that hosts believers and betrayers, favored and outcast, seeker and disciple.

Come to our Lord's table of forgiveness.

A table that invites all, regardless of shame, sin, or past.

Come to our Lord's table of assurance.

A table that nourishes us through forgiveness, grace, and peace.

Come to the Table.

For the Lord Jesus is with us, and all are welcome!



THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Everyone, regardless of age and denomination, is invited to join us for Holy Communion. If you prefer a blessing, simply inform the communion distributors. The ushers will direct your row when it is time to come forward.

You will receive the bread from the first Holy Communion distributor. You will pick up the cup of wine or juice from the tray held by the second distributor. For those who need gluten free a pre-packaged **gluten-free** wafer and a cup of **grape juice is also available.**

Once you have communed, you are invited to return to your seat for silent reflection or singing

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME



1 O God, you search me and you know me.
 2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.
 3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,
 4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,
 5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.
 You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,
 you have known its mean - ing through and through.
 still I search for shel - ter from your light.
 gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:
 and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:
 You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:
 There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:
 For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
 e - ven the dark - ness is ra - dian in your sight.
 safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1992 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

HERE I AM, LORD (ELW 574)



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

May the peace of Christ go with you, wherever He may send you
May He guide you through any wilderness and shelter you through any storm
May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He will show you
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors

Go in peace, share the good news, and do what love does!

Thanks be to God

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

We hope every person felt welcomed here, especially our guests. We trust that our time together has filled you with a sense of joy and peace, and we invite you to return soon.

BETHEL STAFF & COUNCIL

Rev. Dr. David N. Young, Pastor
Vicar Lynette McSpadden

pastordave@bethelwinchester.com
vicar_lynette@bethelwinchester.com

Eddie Donovan, Parish Nurse

emcgoff@gmail.com

George W. Donovan, Jr., Minister of Music & Worship

george@bethelwinchester.com

**George W. Donovan, Sr., Director of Safety
and Security**

security@bethelwinchester.com

Shawn Garner, Facility Management

facility@bethelwinchester.com

Financial or Giving Questions

administrator@bethelwinchester.com

Matt Meade & Lexy Grymala Nursery Managers

office@bethelwinchester.com

Mel Siebert, Youth Ministry

youth@bethelwinchester.com

Nina Davis, Office Manager

office@bethelwinchester.com

Patty White, Parish Custodian

annwhite54@aol.com

Council Executive Committee

RACHEL CARLSON, PRESIDENT, TEXT/CALL 540-533-4312, EMAIL rachel.carlson@bethelwinchester.com

BRIAN DAVIES, VICE-PRESIDENT & MINISTRY TEAM TEXT/CALL 540-305-7529, EMAIL brian.davies@bethelwinchester.com

CHERIE LAUCK, SECRETARY & COMMUNICATIONS TEAM TEXT/CALL 540-336-0300, EMAIL cherie.lauck@bethelwinchester.com

LYNDA GRYMALA, TREASURER & FINANCE TEAM TEXT/CALL 540-222-9408, EMAIL lynda.grymala@bethelwinchester.com

DAVID YOUNG, PASTOR

COUNCIL GENERAL MEMBERS

MATT LYMAN, EMAIL MATT.LYMAN@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

MEL SIEBERT, EMAIL MEL.SIEBERT@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

LEEANN MARPLE EMAIL LEANNE.MARPLE@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

RENE HOLLEBRANDSE, MINISTRY TEAM EMAIL C.J.HOLLEBRANDSE@GMAIL.COM

JENNIFER LAFOLLETTE, FINANCE TEAM JNANLAFOLLETTE@GMAIL.COM

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2077 North Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603, 540-662-3245

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

www.bethelwinchester.com

