



A Christ-centered family who serves by sharing God's love and hope with all.

15 W 14th St, Spencer, IA 51301 | www.bethluthspencer.com | 712-262-2327

ADVENT 1 – November 30, 2025 – 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"Hark, the Glad Sound"* Tune: CHESTERFIELD by Thomas Haweis
arranged by Cathy Moglebust, Bethany Bells with piano

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of the Day

Gathering Hymn: *"He came down **that we may have light**"*

Lighting the Advent Candle

Hymn: *"He came down that we may have hope"*

First Reading & Psalm Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122

Second Reading Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation: *"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"* – v. 1 ELW #519

Gospel Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon Pastor Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"* ELW #241
(Tune: TESCHNER – ELW #344)

Confession and Forgiveness

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the People God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing the Peace

Offerings Received: *"Christ Be Our Light"* – vv. 1 & 5 ELW #715

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving **ELW pg. 144**, *"Holy, Holy, Holy"* **ELW pg. 144**,
Words of Institution, Lord's Prayer **ELW pg. 145**, Communion Song -
"Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world" **ELW pg. 146**

Communion Music: *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* arranged by Faye Lopez
Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (Plainsong)

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"Hark, the Glad Sound"*

ELW #239

Postlude: *"The Advent of Our God"*

composed by Edward Broughton

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ and His presence during our worship service this morning. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. All who seek Christ's true presence promised to us through the bread and wine, body and blood, are welcome and invited to commune. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. Please be sure to mark this if you partake in Holy Communion. Thank you for filling out the Fellowship Pad! Large-print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)

Please take this bulletin home with you as a reference for this week's calendar of events, as a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers, and for other useful information.

Each worship service comes together through the help of many people. Please consider being a worship volunteer. Find schedules at the Welcome Center and help fill in the blanks. Thank you for volunteering!

Today's worship leaders are:

Pastor Erma Wolf & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeters: Jaci & Arya Schreier; Reader: Katrina Brown

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jaci Schreier, Denise Tolzmann, & Mary Marske

Light Advent Wreath: Falline Family

Usher: Kent Baker; Fellowship Hosts: Francis & Judy Hiemstra,

Count: Sue Boblit; Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP will be after worship in the parlor. This gathering time is a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. All are welcome for fellowship and lively conversation! May this time of sharing in Christ's love be a blessing to us all. Hope to see you there!

UDMO FOOD PANTRY Bring food and hygiene items to Bethany – we'll deliver to UDMO. *Thank you to Lois for making the last delivery! Not sure what to get/give? Pickup a shopping list at the Welcome Center.

GRAND MEANDER Join us in the parlor Sunday, November 30th at 1 PM to fill bags with pebernødder, or "pepper nuts" as they are sometimes called. They are a small spice cookie; a beloved Danish Christmas treat. We will fill bags and add a tag that tells people about Christmas at Bethany. If you would like to join us, we will be handing them out downtown on Monday, December 1st from 5-6:30 PM or until the cookies are all gone. Please let Sue Boblit know if you want to help hand out the bags.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES are **Wednesday evenings at 5:45 pm in December.** (NOTE TIME CHANGE for Advent!) Students and their families are urged to participate in the light meal provided from 6:20 to 6:45 pm and stay for the worship service at 7 pm .

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING will take place December 6th at 9:00 am. Christmas trees will be set up throughout the church and decorations will be provided. Your participation will create a warm and joyful atmosphere for the season! **Everyone is encouraged to gather for a meal of chili and cinnamon rolls once the trees are decorated!** The more people who participate, the quicker the work will be accomplished & the merrier the celebration will be!

CHRISTMAS AT BETHANY A reminder to those who are preparing items for the bake sale or salads for the pulled pork lunch, please drop them off before 4:00 pm on Friday, December 12th or Saturday morning by 10:00 am. *Thank you to all Bethany members who volunteer their time or talents to make this event come together so beautifully. We couldn't do it without each of you!* All proceeds from this year's Christmas at Bethany Celebration will go to the Lutheran Lakeside "For Every Season" Campaign. Questions, please email Sue Boblit at sdboblit@gmail.com or call 712-260-2258.

THE SPENCER MESSIAH BOARD will be presenting "Selections from Handel's Messiah" on Sunday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 pm at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Spencer.

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns

Kirk Andersen, Cindy Heiter, Donna Jones, Jill Meyer, Steve McAllister, Sylvia Moore, Liz Vulk
Deb Albert (Cheri Klemme's sister), DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother), LuAnn Becker (Bob Becker's sister), Bill Boblit (brother of Tom Boblit), Dean Mechler (Deb Mechler's husband), Lois Sanchez (sister of Deb Mechler), and Rebecca Wolf (daughter of Revs. Erma & John Wolf)

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 30 Advent 1

- 9:00 am Worship followed by Fellowship Time (no KIDZ Time)
- 1:00 pm Prepare peppernødders for distribution
- 6:00 pm Messiah Rehearsal at Sacred Heart

Monday, December 1

- 5:00 pm Grand Meander - distribute pebernødders
- 6:30 pm Warner's 'Service of Remembrance' at Living Word Church

Wednesday, December 3

- 9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 4:00 pm Bethany Bells Practice
- 5:45 – 6:30 Confirmation in Parlor
- 6:20 – 6:45 Advent Meal Fellowship in Dining Room downstairs
- 7:00 – 7:45 Advent Worship in Sanctuary, "Holden Evening Prayer"

Thursday December 4

- 4:00 pm Caring Friends

Saturday, December 6

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)
- 9:00 am Christmas Decorating followed by Chili Lunch Fellowship

Sunday, December 7 Advent 2

- 9:00 am Worship followed by Fellowship Time
- 10:15 am Sunday Kidz Time
- 7:00 pm Selections from Handel's "Messiah" at Sacred Heart Church



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

If you would like to give online to support the ministries of Bethany Lutheran Church, scan this code for giving page on our website.

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am

or can be found on YouTube® (Search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer IA)