



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

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**Epiphany 3 – January 25, 2026 – 9:00 AM**

Prelude: *"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"* Shelton Ridge Love,  
Tune: SHOWALTER by Anthony J. Showalter

Welcome & Announcements

\*Confession & Forgiveness

\*Gathering Hymn: *"Making Their Way"* **ACS #979**

\*Gloria En Excelsis: *"Glory to God in the Highest"* **ELW pg. 139**

\*Prayer of the Day (see 'Today's Readings' insert or the screen)

First Reading Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Second Reading I Corinthians 1:10-18

\*Gospel Acclamation: *"Alleluia! Lord to Whom Shall We Go"* **ELW pg. 142**

\*Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

Sermon Pr. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"* **ELW #817**

\*Apostles' Creed

\*Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Offerings Received: *"I Hear Thy Welcome Voice"* Marianne Kim,  
Tune: WELCOME VOICE by Lewis Hartsough

Offertory Hymn *"Let the Vineyard Be Fruitful"* **ELW #182**

\*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, Distribution

Communion Music: *"Let Us Keep the Feast"* Todd Beaney

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

**ELW #815**

Dismissal

Postlude: *"They'll Know We Are Christians"* Mark Hayes,

Tune: ST. BRENDAN'S by Peter Scholtes

## **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. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew.

Large-print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2026 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:**

Pr. Erma Wolf & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

### **Many thanks to our worship volunteers:**

Greeters: Jaci Schreier, Arya Studer, Rhonda Petitt; Reader: Judy Hiemstra

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jody Vollmer and Jaci Schreier

Usher: Kent Baker; Fellowship Hosts: Dale & Sandi Witt

Count: Francis Hiemstra; 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!

**2025 GIVING STATEMENTS** are available. Please pick them up after church if you have not already received yours.

**UDMO FOOD PANTRY** Bring food and hygiene items to Bethany – we'll deliver to UDMO. Not sure what to get/give? Get a shopping list at the Welcome Center.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** Many thanks to everyone who provided flowers to beautify the altar in 2025. The flower chart for 2026 is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you are interested in providing altar flowers for a service in this new year, please fill out a yellow card and leave it at the church office or in the offering plate.

**BFFFF'S (BETHANY FUN & FELLOWSHIP, FOOD & FRIENDS)** will meet at THE DOCK in the North Mall for a dutch-treat lunch on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Ladies, come join in this relaxing, fun-filled fellowship lunch. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

**DONATIONS FOR MINNEAPOLIS** - At Tuesday's meeting of Bethany's Planning Council, a donation to be made to ELCA churches in Minneapolis was approved. These churches are asking for help as they work to buy food and supplies for people afraid to leave their homes. They are providing safe transportation. The churches are also helping with rent for people afraid to go out to work and assisting small businesses afraid to unlock their doors. This is the work of the Church.

" ... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ..."

(Matthew 25:35 - NRSVUE©)

If you feel called to donate to this ministry, you may use your Special Offerings envelope this Sunday. Or, you may drop your donation at the church office or in the black lockbox by the north doors – be sure to note what the check is for.

As the need is great and immediate, donations will be sent on Monday, January 26th.

***Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:***

*Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am*

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

## PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

### Health Concerns

Kirk Andersen, Cindy Heiter, Lucille Huber, Donna Jones, Carolyn Kruger,  
Jill Meyer, Sylvia Moore, Mike Palm, Liz Vulk, Betty Lee  
DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother),  
LuAnn Becker (Bob Becker's sister),  
Donna Dirksen (Bill Bensen's grandma),  
Lois Sanchez (Deb Mechler's sister)



## CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 25 – Epiphany 3

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Fellowship
- 10:15 am KIDZ TIME

### Wednesday, January 28

- 9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 11:30 am BFFFF's at THE DOCK
- 4:00 pm Bell Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm Confirmation

### Saturday, January 31

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)

### Sunday, February 1 – Epiphany 4

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Fellowship
- 10:15 am KIDZ TIME



### 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.