



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

Epiphany 5 – February 8, 2026 – 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* arr. by Joel Raney
Bethany Bells with Elina on Piano

Welcome & Announcements

*Confession & Forgiveness

*Gathering Hymn: *"Rise, Shine, You People"* **ELW #665**

*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 58:1-9a

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 112:1-9

Second Reading I Corinthians 2:1-12

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

*Gospel Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon Pr. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"Now To the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"* **ELW #743**

*Apostles' Creed

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

Offerings Received: *"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"* Bethany Bells
George J Webb, Arr. by Linda R. Lamb

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: *"My Savior's Love"* by Faye Lopez

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: "God's Work, Our Hands"

ACS #1000

Dismissal

Postlude: "Oh, How I Love Jesus" William Ringham,

Tune: OH, HOW I LOVE JESUS, Traditional American Melody

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.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ. (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:

Greeter: Sue Boblit; Reader: Sue Boblit

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Sue Boblit, Kristin Bensen and Jaci Schreier

Usher: Kent Baker; Fellowship Host: Jana Phillips

Count: Connie Heien; Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am

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

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!

GAME DAY FUN Faith in Action committee invites everyone to come for an afternoon of fun and fellowship on Sunday, February 22, from 2-4 pm. Bring your favorite games, puzzles, crafts to share. All are invited – young and old. Bring a snack to share and drinks will be provided.

MINNEAPOLIS ASSISTANCE The first check for the mission below was sent on January 26th, however more funds have come in so we will be sending another check later this month. So, if you missed the first opportunity to contribute to this cause here's your chance now. Be sure to clearly mark that your donation is for Minneapolis.

At January'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©)

ONLINE LENTEN BOOK STUDY "What Makes You Come Alive" on Sundays, March 1-29 from 5:30-7:00 pm. Join the discussion during the Lenten season! This series will focus on the wisdom of Howard Thurman, whose influence on the leaders of the civil rights movement in the U.S. enabled them to act from a stance of spiritual strength. His remarkable life and teaching are well presented by Dr. Lerita Coleman Brown, whose book elicited high praise from contemporary progressive spiritual leaders. Deb Mechler will facilitate the discussion on Zoom. Contact her at dsmechler@gmail.com with any questions and to sign up by the end of February. The book is available through online booksellers such as Amazon, Alibris, and Broadleaf Books. Information may also be obtained on Deb's blog, www.saintsinnerseeker.net.

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.

WESTERN IOWA SYNOD WINDS OF HOPE CONFERENCE MEETING will take place in LeMars at Christ Lutheran Church on February 15th from 2 - 3 PM. If you are interested in attending speak with Denise Kramer Tolzmann or Sue Boblit.

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),
Lois Sanchez (Deb Mechler's sister)

Those Who Mourn

The family of Donna Dirksen (Bill Bensen's grandma)

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 8 – Epiphany 5

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

Wednesday, February 11

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
6:00 pm Confirmation

Saturday, February 14

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

Sunday, February 15 – Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 am Fellowship
10:15 am KIDZ TIME
2:00 pm Winds of Hope Conference Meeting at Christ Lutheran, LeMars



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.