

Thank you to Lucas Dubbelde for designing our Advent bulletin covers.



**YPS:** No YPS until January. Have a fun & safe Christmas.

**Jr. YPS:** Tonight we will have our Christmas party from 7-8:30pm in the Lighthouse.

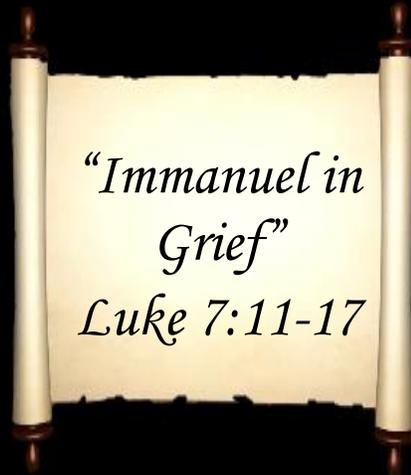
***THIS WEEK AT BETHEL***

<b>TODAY</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Prayer for Worship</b> – Cadet Room
	10:00 AM	<b>Morning Worship Service</b> – Care & Concern Groups #1-5
	6:00 PM	<b>Evening Worship Service</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	11:00 PM	<b>Staff Meeting</b> – Council Room
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7:00 PM	<b>GEMS Counselor Meeting</b> – GEMS Room
	7:00 PM	<b>Cadets</b> – Snow Derby Practice
<b>SATURDAY</b>	9:00 AM	<b>Reservation</b> – The Lighthouse
	10:30 AM	<b>Reservation</b> – GEMS Room
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	10:00 AM	<b>Morning Worship Service</b> – Care & Concern Groups #6-10
	6:00 PM	<b>Evening Worship Service</b>

	<b><i>TODAY</i></b>	<b><i>Next Week, Sunday, December 20</i></b>
Sound	Sean Quinlan & Kyle Vanden Bosch	Allan Bolkema & Jeremy Kraayenbrink
Video	Travis Mulder	Janna Bolkema
Power Point	Thea Quinlan	Judy Van Voorst
PM Offering	Dordt University	Zestos
Ushers AM	Timon R, Tim S, Dave D Matt D	Tim S, Wade VB, Timon R, Rod Z
Ushers PM	Nate DW, Ross F, Rod Z	Dave T, Ross F, Herm VDH
Doors AM	Ron F, Dave T, Herm VDH,	Matt D, Nate DW, Ron F
Doors PM	Timon R, Matt D, Ted A	Dave D, Chad H, Jeff VV

# *Immanuel*

God With Us



*“Immanuel in  
Grief”  
Luke 7:11-17*



## *BETHEL CRC ~ December 13, 2020*

Although gathering in different spaces, we are thankful for the ability to worship together on this Lord's Day! We also hope to care for one another during the week. Please reach out to Pastor John ([jrlee12@gmail.com](mailto:jrlee12@gmail.com), 712-441-5871), our staff, or your elder, deacon, or care and concern group coordinator if you have a prayer concern, need a pastoral contact, or have questions, concerns, or needs. We are here for you!

### *WORSHIP NOTES*

#### ***This Week***

- This Sunday morning, our 10:00 AM worship service will be **in-person for Care & Concern Groups #1-5 and Livestreamed for everyone else**. Pastor John will lead us in worship and continue the Advent series focusing on Jesus as our "Immanuel." We will focus on Luke 7:11-17 – "Immanuel in Grief." We will also witness the Baptism of David Calhoun, son of Frank and Lisa Calhoun (daughter and son-in-law of Don and Arnola Wynia), and Dylan Borger, son of AJ and Kirsten Borger.
- This morning's first offering (Bethel Ministry Fund) supports the many ministries of this church and the Christian Reformed denomination. Our second offering is for the Bethel Christian Education Fund, which helps reduce the tuition for the children in our local Christian schools.
- This Sunday evening, our worship service will be an **in-person congregational worship** service with social distancing. Pastor John will continue his series "Faith Walk" with a focus on Hebrews 11:31 and Joshua 2 – "Rahab." The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades will be presenting their Christmas program. We will also be celebrating the sacrament of Communion. Communion kits will be available at the entrance.
- This Sunday evening, our offering will be for Dordt University. As an institution of higher education committed to the Reformed Christian perspective, Dordt equips students, alumni, and the broader community to work effectively toward Christ-centered renewal in all aspects of contemporary life. To learn more, visit [www.dordt.edu](http://www.dordt.edu).

#### ***Next Week***

- Next Sunday morning, our 10:00 AM worship service will be **in-person for Care & Concern Groups #6-10 and Livestreamed for everyone else**. Pastor John will lead us in worship as we continue the Advent series focusing on Jesus as our "Immanuel." We will focus on John 4:1-26 – "Immanuel in Loneliness."
- Next Sunday morning's first offering (Bethel Ministry Fund) supports the many ministries of this church and the Christian Reformed denomination. Our second offering is for the Bethel Christian Education Fund, which helps reduce the tuition for the children in our local Christian schools.
- Next Sunday evening, our worship service will be an **in-person congregational worship service** with social distancing. Our worship service will be our annual Christmas Candle Light Service. Pastor John will lead us in a traditional service of Lessons and Carols.
- Next Sunday evening, our offering will be for Zestos.

**All Bethel members are encouraged to write our missionaries this week:**

**Terry & Shelley Dolieslager**

P. O. Box 611

Hull IA 51239

[tdolieslager@familylife.com](mailto:tdolieslager@familylife.com)

### *THANK YOU*

Thank you to everyone who packed boxes for operation Christmas child. We collected 67 love-filled boxes. We greatly appreciated all the donations.

## *The Mission and Outreach Committee*

Thank you to everyone for your continued support for our Christian Education Fund. Your dedication and hard work pulling tarps and placing tires has raised over \$134,000 this fall, and you embraced a Covid-style Harvest Sale and raised \$28,000! Thank you again for your generosity with time and money. Stay tuned for our bowtie fundraiser in January. It will be up to you to determine if Pastor John is an Iowa or Iowa State fan!

*The Christian Ed Committee.*

We would like to thank our Bethel family for the prayers that have been offered up for Curt and our family. We are so very thankful for the cards that were sent to Curt while he was at Avera, he was so very overwhelmed by the love and care of the church family. We want to thank everyone for the visits, especially Pastor John, Mary Jo and Anna. We want to thank our Elder Rog F, Deacon Joel S and our care and concern coordinators Jordan & Julie for the love they have shown our family. Thank you for the gifts of food and visits from the congregations. We are still walking forward with God at our side, thankful for what he has provided for us.

Bethel has been a blessing to us.

*Curt & Karen De Koning and family*

## ***PRAYER MINISTRY***

- Mariann Haak was able to return to Royale Meadows on Sunday, December 6 after hospitalization with Covid-19. We praise God for His healing grace!
- Phyllis Beukelman will undergo knee replacement surgery in the Sioux Center Hospital on her left knee next Thursday, December 17. We pray for God's hand over the procedure and the days of healing and therapy that follow.
- Happy Birthday to Elizabeth Dokter! She will be 88 on Tuesday, December 15.
- Happy Birthday to Cynthia Kruid! She will be 84 on Saturday, December 19.
- Happy Birthday to Janet Rens! She will be 87 on Saturday, December 19.
- We continue to join our community in praying for different local congregations. This week, we will be in prayer for the Church of Christ congregation. We pray for their pastor, Dustin Bolks.
- If you have a prayer request that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Pastor John Lee at ([jrlee12@gmail.com](mailto:jrlee12@gmail.com)) or the Bethel office ([office@bethelsc.org](mailto:office@bethelsc.org)).

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**From the Deacons:** The deacons thank you for your continued faithful giving. You can give anytime on-line at <https://app.easytith.com/App/Giving/bethelcrc> (there is up to 3% fee to use this site for credit cards; 1% for bank withdrawals). Checks can be mailed to church, dropped off at the office, or placed in the locked mail slot outside the office door. If you wish to give cash, please place in an envelope with your desired designation and place it in the indicated locked slot at the Welcome Center. All undesignated funds will be placed in the Ministry Fund. As always, we thank you for your generous giving, especially in these challenging times.

**From the Council:** In light of the Governor's mandate and a direct request from local health officials, the council has requested we all wear masks at church, especially while entering and exiting the church and in common areas, such as the narthex. We greatly appreciate everyone's participation and patience as we together adapt through this pandemic.

**Ushers Needed:** During this time of Covid-19 we have not been assigning ushers randomly. Starting in 2021 we would like to go back to volunteer ushers. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center for anyone over the age of 15, who is capable and willing to usher, to sign up. The term will be one month, both morning and evening services. In this season, we ask ushers to wear a mask.

**Candles Needed:** The Worship Committee is in need of taper candles and holders. Any color and holder will work if you are willing to donate the candles for our Candlelight Service. Please place them in the box on the Welcome Center before the evening service on December 20. We will return the holders but not the candles. Please mark the holders with your name.

**Directory Updates:** The directory is being sent via e-mail to the congregation for updates. If you do not have an e-mail address, you may find your page in your mailbox to look over and return to the office. Please put it in the Secretary's mailbox by the door. Thank you to everyone who has responded so far. We have some great pictures to add to our church family directory.

**Talking Bibles project.** Our congregation will again participate in the "Talking Bibles" Christmas tree project. Many people are either unable to read or have no access to a printed Bible. The solar-powered Talking Bible is available in many different languages enabling individuals or groups to hear the Bible in their own language. Each year the Talking Bible organization focuses on one country. This year it is Africa. The cost of one Bible is \$50. A matching gift of 4 more Bibles will be added for every Bible our congregation donates. Donations can be brought to the office, placed in the offering bucket or placed in the mailbox. Each week ornaments will be placed on the tree in the back of church representing the number of Talking Bibles donated. Watch for the progress each week.

## **Sunday School Christmas Mini Programs**

The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade children will be involved in the 6 PM worship service on December 13. There will be a prelude of Sunday School children musicians on this evening as well. It will begin around 5:40.

**Sunday School Christmas Practice Schedule & announcements**

- Dec. 13 - 5th-6th practice at 11:15 and at 5:30 before their program
- Please contact Jina Tinklenberg if you have any musicians who would like to participate in the December 13 program.
- Candy bags will be handed out to all Sunday School children during class on December 6 & 13. Teachers will make sure each student gets one.
- There will be NO Sunday School and Catechism classes on December 20 and 27 for the Christmas break.



# Bethel CRC Welcomes You!

We invite visitors and guests to complete the information below and place it in the offering plate or complete a visitor info request form online at [www.bethelcsc.org/contact-us](http://www.bethelcsc.org/contact-us).

**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time of Service:** (please circle one) **AM** **PM**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check One:**

**Visitor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest** \_\_\_\_\_ **College Student** \_\_\_\_\_

**Requests:**

- I desire to learn more about Jesus as my Lord and Savior.
- I desire to be baptized or make Profession of Faith.
- I would like more information on joining Bethel CRC
- I would like to talk to a Pastor.
- I desire information about the ministries of Bethel CRC
- I desire information about youth ministries.
- I would like to know more about ministry opportunities at Bethel CRC and where I might serve.
- I would like to volunteer for \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Bethel Christian Reformed Church**  
**The Lord's Day ~ December 13, 2020, 10:00 AM**  
**Third Sunday of Advent ~ Joy**

**GOD GATHERS US IN WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Reading

Song of Invocation: **PH #328 "O Come, O Come, Immanuel" st 1,6**

\*Call to Worship

\*Song of Praise: **PH #337 "Joy to the World" st 1-2,4**

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

**RENEWING GOD'S COVENANT IN CHRIST**

Sung Call to Confession: **PH #535 "Come to the Savior Now" st 1,4**

Prayer of Confession

Song of Assurance and Commitment: *"He Who Is Mighty" (Sovereign Grace)*

Baptisms of David Elmer Calhoun and Dylan Andrew Borger

Hymn of Response: **PH #483 "How Great Thou Art" st 1-4**

**GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

Prayer for Right Hearing

Scripture: **Luke 7:11-17**

Sermon: **"Immanuel in Grief"**

Prayer of Application

**GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND OBEDIENCE**

\*Hymn of Response: **"O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life" (Singing the New Testament #82)**

- 1) O Christ, who shared our mortal life and ended death's long reign,  
who healed the sick and raised the dead and bore our grief and pain:  
we know our years on earth are few, that death is always near.  
Come now to us, O Lord of life; bring hope that conquers fear.
- 2) The ranks of death with trophy grim through ancient streets once trod  
and suddenly confronted you, the mighty Son of God.  
A widow's tears evoked your word; you stopped the bearers' tread.  
"Weep not!" in pity then you spoke to her whose son was dead.
- 3) The ranks of death, the Lord of life stood face to face that hour;  
and you took up the age-old strife with words of awesome power.  
"Young man, arise!" you ordered loud, and death defeated lay.  
The widow's son cast off his shroud and strode from death away.
- 4) Death's power holds us still in thrall and bears us toward the tomb.  
Death's darkening cloud hangs like a pall that threatens earth with doom.  
But you have broken death's embrace and torn away its sting.  
Restore to life our mortal race! Raise us, O risen King.

Pastoral Prayer

Offerings: 1) Bethel Ministry Fund; 2) Bethel Christian Education Fund

**GOD SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING**

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Closing Song: **"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" st 1-2 (PraiseCharts)**

- 1) Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art.  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
- 2) Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king.  
Born to reign in us forever now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone.  
By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

\*Postlude inister of the Word: Pastor John Lee

Organist: Leendert van Beek

Pianist: Jennifer Frens

Vocalists: Jennifer Frens, Mary Jo Lee, Herm Van Den Hul Advent Readers: Cynthia Kruid, Josie Post

**Bethel Christian Reformed Church**  
**The Lord's Day ~ December 13, 2020, 6:00 PM**  
**Third Sunday of Advent ~ Joy**

**GOD GATHERS US IN WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

\*Call to Worship

\*Opening Song: **"Joy Has Dawned" st 1-3 (Getty) with "Angels We Have Heard on High" st 1,3 (LUYH #82)**

- 1) Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation—  
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.  
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,  
But a humble gift of love—Jesus born of Mary.
- 2) Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels  
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,  
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.
- 3) Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;  
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.  
Gold—a King is born today, Incense—God is with us,  
Myrrh—His death will make a way, And by His blood He'll win us.

*Chorus:* Glo-ria in excelsis Deo, Glo-ria in excelsis Deo

- 1) Angels we have heard on high, sweetly signing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. (*Chorus*)
- 3) Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (*Chorus*)

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Program

Skit: "How Christmas Changed the Grouch" with "Silent Night"  
"He Shall Reign Forevermore"

Pastoral Prayer

Offering for Dordt University

**GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

Prayer for Right Hearing

Scripture: **Hebrews 11:31 and Joshua 2**

Sermon: **Faith Walk: Rahab**

Prayer of Application

**GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND OBEDIENCE**

\*Hymn of Response: **"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" st 1-4 (LUYH #69)**

- 1) My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?
- 2) Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

*Refrain:* My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

- 3) From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more for the food they can never earn;  
There are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. (*Refrain*)
- 4) Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who hold us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,

Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *(Refrain)*  
Profession of Faith: Apostles' Creed (PH page 813)

Time of Communion

\*Hymn of Dedication: ***“Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery” st 1-2,4*** (Matt Papa, Matt Boswell)

- 1) Come, behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King.  
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.  
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us
- 2) Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man.  
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.  
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man.  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.
- 4) Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life.  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when he comes. *(Repeat last two lines)*

### **GOD SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING**

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Doxology: ***PH #634 “Father, We Love You” st 1-3***

\*Postlude Minister of the Word: Pastor John Lee

Organist: Dawn Van Den Hul

Pianist: Jennifer Frens

Drums: Mikayla Meyers

Guitar: Thea Sampurno

Vocalists: Caitlin Frens, Chloe Vanden Berg