



*“Yet not one of them will fall to the ground
without the knowledge
and consent of your Father.”*

– Matthew 10:29

BETHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bethany Lutheran Church (ELS)

Welcome to Bethany! You have joined us for the most important time we spend together as a congregation. Each week we gather around God's Word and sacraments with the sure promise that Jesus is present wherever two or three come together in his name. We also rely on his promise to build us up and strengthen us in our faith through his Word and sacraments.

The order of service is outlined in this folder. Hymns will be sung from the hymnals located under the seats in front of you.

Restrooms are located next to the coat racks just off the entryway.

An offering will not be taken during the service. An offering plate is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to give an offering.

Should you have any questions or need any type of assistance, please feel free to ask the usher or the pastor.

About Bethany: Bethany is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS). We are in full fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We would love to become better acquainted with you at your convenience. For more information, contact Pastor Smith at mksmith@blc.edu or 515-232-1544.

Bethany Lutheran Church (ELS)

3113 Diamond St

Ames, Iowa 50010

(515) 232-1544

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Michael K. Smith

Find us on the web at bethanyames.net.

Holy Communion: *We invite members of our congregation or other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with Pastor Smith before our next communion service. **Members:** Please sign the communion registration sheet on the table in the narthex.*

Order of Service – Rite Two (beginning on p. 60)
See also “Prayers for Worship” on p. 40 in the front of the hymnal.

The Hymn – #7 – “Praise to the Father”

The Introit

P: God is in his holy habitation; he sets the solitary in families. The
God of Israel gives strength and power to his people. Let God arise,
let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

C: ♪ **Glory be to the Father....**

The Collect for the Day

P: O God, because your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us
aware of your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in
your eternal love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

The First Lesson – Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷You persuaded me, LORD, and I agreed to it.
You are stronger than I am, and you won out.
I have become a laughingstock all day long,
and everyone is mocking me.

⁸Whenever I speak, I cry out.
I cry out, “Violence and destruction!”
But the word of the LORD has brought scorn on me.
I am mocked all day long.

⁹If I say, “I will not mention him
or speak in his name anymore,”
then there is a burning fire in my heart,
shut up in my bones,
and I am weary of holding it in.

I cannot!

¹⁰ I hear many whispering,

“Terror on every side!”

All my close friends,

those who are watching for my fall, say,

“Denounce him! Let’s denounce him.

Perhaps he can be pressured into making a mistake.

Then we will have the upper hand against him,

and we will take our revenge on him.”

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior.

So my persecutors will stumble,

and they will not gain the upper hand.

They will be put to shame completely,

because they have not been successful.

Their eternal disgrace will never be forgotten.

¹² LORD of Armies, you test the righteous.

You see the heart and the mind.

Let me see your vengeance on them,

for I have laid out my case before you.

¹³ Sing to the LORD!

Praise the LORD,

for he has delivered the life of the needy

from the hand of the wicked.

The Psalm Hymn - #261 - “Who Trusts in God, A Strong Abode”

The Second Lesson - Romans 5:12-15

¹² So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, so also death spread to all people because all sinned. ¹³ For even before the law was given, sin was in the world. Now, sin is not charged to one’s account if there is no law, ¹⁴ and yet death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those whose sin was not like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the gracious gift is not like Adam’s trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of this one man, it is even more certain that God’s

grace, and the gift given by the grace of the one man Jesus Christ, overflowed to the many!

The Alleluia (p. 67)

P: Alleluia! My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia!

C: ♪ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Gospel Lesson – Matthew 10:24-33

P: The holy Gospel for this Sunday is written in the 10th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the 24th verse.

C: ♪ **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

²⁴ [Jesus said,] “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher and the servant like his master. If the master of the house was called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

²⁶ “So do not be afraid of them, because there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

²⁹ “Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge and consent of your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone who confesses me before others, I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies me before others, I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

P: This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: ♪ **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

The Nicene Creed (p. 69)

The Chief Hymn – #364 – “O For a Faith That Will Not Shrink”

The Sermon – Matthew 10:24-33 – “Be a Fearless Disciple of Jesus”

The Offertory (pp. 70-71)

The Prayer of the Church

P: Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the world on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

C: Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

P: Give your word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

C: Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

P: The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

C: Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

P: Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

C: Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

P: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

C: Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

(Here special intercessions may be made, silently or spoken by the pastor.)

P: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

C: Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Service of Holy Communion (beginning on p. 72)

**The Hymn of Thanks – #309 (vss. 1,3,6) – “A Wondrous Mystery
Is Here”**

The Closing Hymn – #517 (vss. 1,4,12) – “If God Himself Be For Me”

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Announcements

- The Council meets following the service today.
 - Please keep our synod in your prayers this week as we meet for our annual convention. Thanks to Jode Edwards and Michael Lauer for serving as our congregation’s delegates. (Jode is also on the ballot to serve on the synod’s Board of Trustees.)
 - Pastor Smith will be out of town this afternoon through Thursday as he attends the ELS annual convention in Mankato. In case of an emergency, please contact one of the elders (Keith Lukens or Joel Franzen).
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Visiting with us today? Please sign the guest register in the entryway or use the QR code.

