



*“Come to me all you who are weary
and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

– Matthew 11:28

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 One (beginning on p. 41)

See also “Prayers for Worship” on p. 40 in the front of the hymnal.

The Hymn – #76 – “Father, We Praise Thee”

The Collect for the Day

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life’s end, grant us your promised rest and the full joys of your salvation; 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 – Exodus 33:12-23

¹²Moses said to the LORD, “Look, you yourself have been telling me, ‘Lead this people up,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³So now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you, so that I may find favor in your sight. Consider that this nation is your people.”

¹⁴The LORD said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

¹⁵Moses said to him, “If your Presence is not going to go with me, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶After all, how would people know that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Isn’t it in this way: that you go with us, so that we are distinguished, I and your people, from all the people who are on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷The LORD said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have said, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

¹⁹The LORD said, “I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” ²⁰He said, “You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live.”

²¹The LORD also said, “Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. ²²It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen.”

The Psalm of the Day – Psalm 119:137-144

P: You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right.

C: You have commanded your testimonies. They are righteous and very trustworthy.

P: My zeal wears me out, because my foes forget your words.

C: Your saying has been thoroughly refined, and your servant loves it.

P: I am insignificant and despised, but I do not forget your precepts.

C: Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is truth.

P: Distress and anguish have found me, but your commandments are my delights.

C: Your testimonies are right forever. Give me understanding, and I will live.

The Second Lesson – Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not keep doing what I want. Instead, I do what I hate. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But now it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸Indeed, I know that good does not live in me, that is, in my sinful flesh. The desire to do good is present with me, but I am not able to carry it out. ¹⁹So I fail to do the good I want to do. Instead, the evil I do not want to do, that is what I keep doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me.

²¹So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is present with me. ²²I certainly delight in God’s law according to my inner self, ²³but I see a different law at work in my members, waging war

against the law of my mind and taking me captive to the law of sin, which is present in my members. ²⁴ What a miserable wretch I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Gospel Lesson – Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵ At that time, Jesus continued, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from clever and learned people and have revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, because this was pleasing to you. ²⁷ Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

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

C: ♪ **God be prais-ed for his glad tidings.**

The Nicene Creed (p. 47)

The Chief Hymn – #413 – “Come Unto Me, Ye Weary”

The Sermon – Matthew 11:25-30– “How Do We Get God’s True Rest?”

The Prayer of the Church

P: Eternal God, with your almighty power and wisdom you guide and guard the universe you created.

C: Lead us to marvel every day at the wonders of your creation.

P: You have created the family, arranged society, and established our government to provide order and stability in our lives. You command us to respect and support the authorities that function at your behest. Lead us to love all people, especially our fellow citizens, and to offer care to those in need of help.

C: Move us to love and serve others as your Son loves and serves us.

P: Two hundred fifty years ago, you established this new land and have led this government to provide us the freedom to worship you

and proclaim your name here and among the other nations of the world.

C: Continue to bless our country with your providence and your holy Word. Lead people here to listen to and follow your law and to hear and believe in Jesus our King and find comfort in your everlasting gospel.

P: Guard and guide us even when you allow plagues, financial turmoil, and unrest to torment our country. You surely punish the wicked in troubled times, but you also use them to call people to turn away from sin to your forgiving love.

C: Lead us to repent and examine our thoughts, words, and actions.

P: Enable doctors to discover cures for diseases and emergency workers to alleviate the suffering in our world caused by earthquakes and other disasters. Preserve the lives of your believers that we may continue to share your love with others. Spare the lives of those who do not know you so they may be led to you and be saved.

C: Give us confidence to place our own lives into your protecting hand.

P: Allow our farms, factories, and businesses to flourish, our schools to teach the truth, and our institutions to provide the blessings you desire to bestow on us. Use the blessings of our prosperity to enable us to spread the gospel throughout the world.

C: Teach us to be faithful stewards of your blessings and lead us to manage our blessings from you according to your will.

P: Free us from prejudice and pride, that we may see all people as precious souls redeemed by the innocent life and precious blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died and rose for every person from every nation under heaven.

C: Help us as Christians to be a part of the solution to tensions that plague our land and world.

P: Give wisdom to the leaders of our country. Make their will follow your will. Help our people find contentment in helping and protecting one another.

C: Guide us away from anger and arrogance, to love and harmony.

P: Keep in your care all those who are sick and suffering. Restore health according to your will. Comfort those you are leading to heaven with the anticipation of their eternal home.

C: Move us to pray fervently for those in need.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

(Silent prayer)

P: As we observe the memorable 250th anniversary of our declaration of independence, we come to you on behalf of our dear country and plead for your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer for the sake of Jesus, your Son and our Savior.

Amen.

The Offering Hymn - #445 (vss. 1-2) - "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

The Service of Holy Communion (beginning on p. 50)

**The Hymn of Thanks - #311 (vss. 3-5) - "Lord Jesus Christ,
We Humbly Pray"**

**The Closing Hymn - #411 - "Christians, Come, in Sweetest
Measures"**

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Announcements

- **The Voters will meet for a call meeting on Wednesday, July 22 at 7:00pm.**
 - The Council meets next Sunday following the worship service.
 - The Voters meet Sunday, July 19, following the worship service for the regular quarterly meeting.
 - All are invited to the installation of Rev. and Mrs. Mark Faugstad as teachers at Scarville Lutheran School on Sunday, July 19 at 4:00pm. Rev. Faugstad will also be installed as an associate pastor of the church.
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Visiting with us today? Please sign the guest register in the entryway or use the QR code.

