

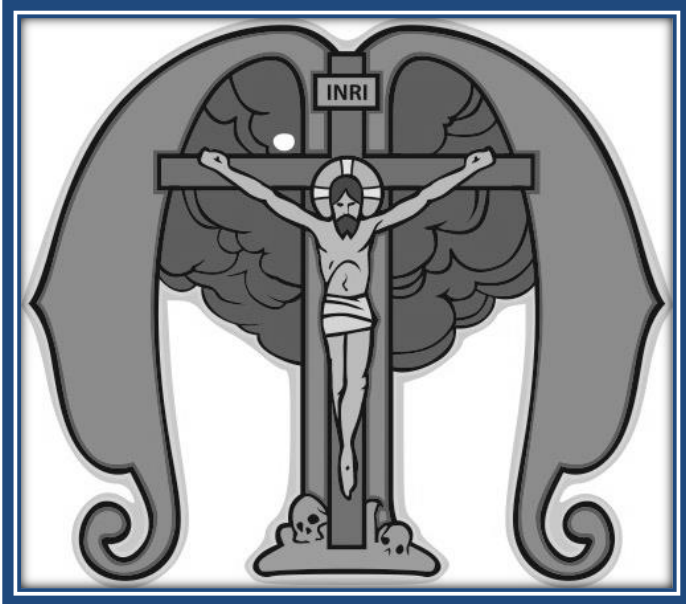
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# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 1, 2024

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My eyes are ever toward  
the Lord, for He will pluck  
my feet out of the net  
(Psalm 25:15)

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### ORDERS OF WORSHIP:

**Sunday:** The Divine Service, *Rite Two*,  
starting on page 60.

*Please follow along in the hymnal or above the altar*

**Monday:** The Office of Compline, pg. 128

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### HYMNS:

<b>90</b> Savior of the Nations, Come	<b>87</b> Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus	<b>101</b> The King Shall Come	<b>99</b> The Advent of Our King
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**INTROIT:** To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, I trust in You. Let me not be ashamed; let not my enemies triumph over me. Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed. Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths.

**COLLECT:** Stir up, we beseech You, Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins, and be saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

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### PSALM OF THE DAY

**O**f David. <sup>1</sup> *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.* <sup>2</sup> *O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.* <sup>3</sup> *Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.* <sup>4</sup> *Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.* <sup>5</sup> *Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.* <sup>6</sup> *Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.* <sup>7</sup> *Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!* <sup>8</sup> *Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.* <sup>9</sup> *He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.* <sup>10</sup> *All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.* <sup>11</sup> *For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.* <sup>12</sup> *Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.* <sup>13</sup> *His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land.* <sup>14</sup> *The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.* <sup>15</sup> *My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.* <sup>16</sup> *Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.* <sup>17</sup> *The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.* <sup>18</sup> *Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.* <sup>19</sup> *Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.* <sup>20</sup> *Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.* <sup>21</sup> *May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.* <sup>22</sup> *Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.* *Psalm 25 (ESV)*

**GRADUAL:** Alleluia! Remember, O Lord, You tender mercies: for they have been from of old.

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## GOSPEL LESSON

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. <sup>8</sup> Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, <sup>9</sup> according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup> And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. <sup>11</sup> And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>14</sup> And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. <sup>16</sup> And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, <sup>17</sup> and he will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.” <sup>18</sup> And Zechariah said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.” <sup>19</sup> And the angel answered him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup> And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.” <sup>21</sup> And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. <sup>22</sup> And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. <sup>23</sup> And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. <sup>24</sup> After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, <sup>25</sup> “Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.” *Luke 1:5–25 (ESV)*

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For unashamed hope in the Lord's return, that sustained by His Holy Spirit, we may have joy at the advent of Christ, our Savior, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our congregation, especially our students, that we may live sober lives, casting off the deeds of darkness as we wait for the revealing of our Savior, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian homes, that God would defend the single, husbands and wives, and all children, clothing them with the armor of light, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who govern, that the Lord who rules with righteousness and justice, steadfast love and faithfulness, would grant the authorities of our land to act justly, so that His people might live in peace as they make known His love and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

And for [                     and] all who suffer in mind or body, that Christ, our Immanuel, would be with them in their trials and grant health and healing in accord with His perfect will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

You caused Your Son, the righteous Branch, to spring up for David. By Your grace, keep us joined as branches to Christ, that we might bear fruit until the day He returns in glory; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

*Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.*

*Romans 12:6-8 (ESV)*

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**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** We collected 78 boxes. Thanks to all who participated to send the love of Jesus to children all over the world. A special thanks to Carrie Grey and her wonderful students who generously filled so many Christmas boxes.

You are awesome!

Nancy Busek



# BEDTIME BOOKS AT BETHANY

## CHRISTMAS EDITION

Join us for bedtime stories in the parking lot!

December 7  
10am

Directions:

1. Come inside and find a seat!
2. "The Nativity" & "The Biggest Little Boy" will be given to you.
3. Follow along together as the books are read.

An illustration of three children sitting in colorful toy cars (red, green, and red) on a grassy area. They are flanked by two decorated Christmas trees with lights and ornaments. The background is dark blue with a white crescent moon and snowflakes.

Bethany Lutheran Church, School, & Early Learning Center  
151 Tremont Street, Port Orchard 360-876-1300

### MAKE & TAKE

#### NATIVITY

Before books:

9:00am

After books:

10:30am

### CHRISTMAS

#### CAROLS

9:45-10:00am



### COOKIES &

#### COCOA

Before and after

books



### DONATION

#### COLLECTION

NEW pajamas and

hoodies for foster

kids



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## GATHER-GROW-GO

As part of our ongoing stewardship efforts, we invite you to consider giving the gift of your time by serving in key areas of our church community. Whether it's ushering, greeting guests, making coffee to welcome fellow worshippers, or helping with lawn maintenance to keep our grounds beautiful, your time and talents are a valuable contribution to the life and mission of our church. These acts of service not only support our ministries but also reflect God's love and care for others. Please consider how you can serve, and sign up today to be part of these important opportunities to serve our congregation and glorify God.

*Scan below to sign up for ways to serve the church.  
Questions of comments, see the office.*



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## PIONEER BOYS

The next Pioneer Boys hike is going to be snowshoeing up at Mount Rainier. There are snow shoes available for those who need them. We are scheduled for **Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**. We will meet at Bethany at 7:30am and will return around 5:30pm. Please let us know who is in! Coordination for snowshoes will be needed.



Contact Mike Lorette for more information.



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## SUPPORT BETHANY BOBCATS

**Purchase tickets after the Service and before Sunday School**

Support sports uniforms, equipment, and theater stage props by purchasing a raffle ticket! Tons of great prizes—see the full list in the office. Scan the QR codes below to buy your tickets today! Drawings will be held Friday, December 13th. For more info, contact

Renada Heinrich

**\$5 Ticket**



**\$10 Ticket**



**\$20 Ticket**



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# CALENDAR

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## **SUNDAY, 12/1 Advent 1**

**9:00 am Worship**

*(livestreamed)*

10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Church Decorating

4:00 pm Advent By Candlelight

## **MONDAY, 12/2**

**7:00 pm Worship**

## **TUESDAY, 12/3**

1:00 pm Juanita's Bible Study

6:00 Sunday School Teacher meeting

## **WEDNESDAY, 12/4**

8:25 am Chapel

## **SATURDAY, 12/7**

9:00am Men's Fellowship

9:00am Make and Take Nativity Set

10:00am Bedtime Books

## **SUNDAY, 12/8 Advent 2**

**9:00 am Worship w. communion**

*(livestreamed)*

10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

**BETHANY 55's:** If you are 55 or better, join them on **December 9<sup>th</sup>** at *That One Place* in Port Orchard for their monthly no-host brunch fellowship.

## **Questions for Take-Home Psalm Sheets**

Please take a Psalm-Sheet home for yourself and those in your home. Read the whole psalm at least once during the week or read the highlighted verses out loud throughout the week. The paragraph on the top back will help you better understand the psalm and the prayer on the bottom can be used all week long. Here are some questions you can ask yourself or parents can ask children. (Questions increase in complexity so that younger children can start while older siblings might finish. Answers may vary, discussion and conversation is the goal.)

1. What do you see in the picture on the front?
2. What do you think the picture has to do with God's promises to His people?
3. What words from this psalm do you like the best?
4. How do you think Jesus is connected to this Old Testament psalm?

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## **SERVING YOU TODAY**

**Preacher**

**Organist/Accompanist**

**Acolytes**

**Elder on duty this week**

Pastor Tony Pittenger

Mrs. Roberta Highfill

Acolyte Candidates

Mike Lorette

*Flowers on the Altar this week are given to the glory of God by Jeff and Jenine Monaghan in honor of Ryan's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday.*

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# Holiday Events



"Hanging of the Greens"-Church Decorating	Sun. 12/1 11:00 am
Ladies Advent By Candlelight	Sun. 12/1 4:00pm
Christmas Craft and Cocoa @ Bethany	Sat. 12/07, 9:00am
Bedtime Books @ Bethany	Sat. 12/07, 10:00am
Christmas Singing Service PH-Kindergarten	Sun. 12/15, 11:00am
Christmas Caroling/Open House	Sun. 12/15, 2:00pm
Christmas Service 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Thur. 12/19, 6:30pm
ELHS Christmas Concert	Fri. 12/20 7:00pm
Christmas Sunday School Service	Tues. 12/24, 5:00pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight	Tues. 12/24, 11:00pm
Christmas Day Festival Worship	Wed. 12/25 10:00am



151 Tremont St. W | 360-876-1300 | [bethany.lutheran@wavecable.com](mailto:bethany.lutheran@wavecable.com)  
[www.bethanylutheranportorchard.org](http://www.bethanylutheranportorchard.org) | <http://facebook.com/Bethany.Kitsap>  
*Worship Schedule: Sunday 9:00am; Monday 7:00pm; Sunday School for all ages 10:00am*