



On
coming to
the house,
they saw the
child with
his mother
Mary, and
they bowed
down and

Worshiped

him.

MATTHEW 2:11

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name
and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us"
rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks
and placed in the offering plate.

The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Ordination & Installation / Epiphany Sunday
January 2, 2022 - 11:00 AM

** Indicates congregation standing if able.*
Congregational responses indicated in bold.

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship Pad found in your pew, passing it down the pew then back.

Prelude

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: We gather wondering,

'Where will we find the Babe born in Bethlehem?'

**P: We will find the Babe in the laughter of children,
in the wisdom of grandparents.**

L: We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'

**P: We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope,
where the oppressed are set free.**

L: We gather wanting to know,

'where will we find the Christ who has come for us?'

**P: We will find our Hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace,
where hatred is overwhelmed by love,
where all people are overwhelmed by joy.**

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Darkness descends. Winds rattle bare trees.

Winter landscapes push us to the hearth -- to the warmth of a blazing fire,
to the depths of a thoughtful heart.

There in the interior, in the midst of shadows and worries,
you have placed your Word like a lamp, your Spirit like a bright star,
your Truth like a crescent moon.

God of the day and God of night, God of winter darkness,
we praise you for your Epiphany lights.

In the name of Jesus, the Light of the World. Amen.

* Hymn No. 125

“BEFORE THE MARVEL OF THIS NIGHT”

MARVEL

*Be-fore the mar-vel of this night,
a-dor-ing, fold your wings and bow,
then tear the sky a-part with light
and with your news the world en-dow.
Pro-claim the birth of Christ and peace,
that fear and death and sor-row cease:
sing peace; sing peace; sing gift of peace;
sing peace; sing gift of peace!*

*A-wake the sleep-ing world with song:
this is the day the Lord has made.
As-sem-ble here ce-les-tial throng,
in roy-al spleen-dor come ar-rayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heav-enly bliss,
a teas-ing taste of what they miss:
sing bliss; sing bliss; sing end-less bliss;
sing bliss; sing end-less bliss!*

*The love that we have al-ways known,
our con-stant joy and end-less light,*

*now to the love-less world be shown,
now break up-on its death-ly night.
In-to one song com-press the love
that rules our u-ni-verse a-bove:
sing love; sing love; sing God is love;
sing love; sing God is love!*

* Call to Confession

Why do we huddle in the shadowed corners of life,
rather than running to the Light of life?
Why do we love the wrong we do
rather than grasping the good news offered to us?
As we struggle with such questions,
let us speak to God of all we have failed to do,
seeking hope and grace as we pray,

* Prayer of Confession

**We search for your light, Star Caster,
but too often end up settling for the dimness of temptation.
Our motives for seeking to find Christ are not always pure,
for we expect him to fulfill our desires,
rather than your hopes for us.
We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, fulfillment,
rather than those of servanthood, of compassion, of peace.
Forgive us, when we are so foolish
to put our needs ahead of your grace.
Help us to be like those wise people of so long ago,
who found hope, instead of a destination;
who found grace, instead of gratitude;
who found salvation, instead of a sign.
Fill us with the light of your joy and love.**

* Declaration of Forgiveness (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: Grace has been poured into our hearts, love has flooded our souls,
the light of hope shines in us.

In Gods light we find forgiveness and new chances.

**P: This is the light which has come to all, the light we will carry
and give to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

* Sung Response No. 581 “**GLORY BE TO THE FATHER**”

GLORIA PATRI

*Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be,
world with-out end. A-men, a-men.*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Let your good news radiate from these pages;

Let your Epiphany grace break into our hearts and minds. Amen.

Readings from Scripture

Prophet Isaiah 60:1-6 (*The Ingathering of the Dispersed*) Pg. 649

Epistle Ephesians 3:1-12 (*Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles*) Pg. 181

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12 (*The Visit of the Wise Men*) Pg. 1

Sermon: “Home By Another Way”

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Sentences of Scripture (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**P: There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

L: God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**P: To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.**

L: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination and Installation

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism,
and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit.

This is our common calling,
to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord.

Within the community of the church,
some are called to particular service as deacons, as elders,
and ministers of the Word and Sacrament.

Ordination is Christ's gift to the church,
assuring that his ministry continues among us,
providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world,
ordering the governance of the church,
and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

(The Clerk of Session)

Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church,
the session of Bethel Presbyterian Church now ordains
Kathy Banker to the office of elder,
and installs her to active service.

The session also installs to active service
those who have been previously ordained:
elders Amy Coen, Ken Dungan, Cyndi Fowler and Celia Simon.

* Profession

With the whole church, let us confess our faith
saying together the Apostle's Creed:

* Apostles' Creed (*Traditional*)

Hymnal pg. 35

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;**

**the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal and gracious God, we give you thanks.

In countless ways you have revealed yourself in ages past,
and have blessed us with signs of your grace.

We praise you that through the waters of the sea you led your people Israel
out of bondage, into freedom in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus your Son,
who for us was baptized in the waters of the Jordan,
and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit.

Through the baptism of his death and resurrection
you set us free from the bondage of sin and death,
and give us cleansing and rebirth.

We praise you that in baptism you give us your Holy Spirit,
who teaches us and leads us into all truth,
filling us with a variety of gifts,
that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

We rejoice that you claimed us in our baptism,
and that by your grace we are born anew.
By your Holy Spirit renew us, that we may be empowered to do your will
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all glory and honor, now and forever. Amen.

Remember your baptism and be thankful.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Constitutional Questions

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior,
acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church,
and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be,
by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ
in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

I do.

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets
of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church
as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us
to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions
as you lead the people of God?

I do and I will.

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ,
under the authority of Scripture,
and be continually guided by our confessions?

I will.

Will you be governed by our church's polity,
and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry,
working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ,
love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will.

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I do.

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence,
imagination, and love?

I will.

Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people,
providing for their worship, nurture, and service?

Will you share in government and discipline,
serving in governing bodies of the church,
and in your ministry will you try to show
the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

(Addressing the congregation)

Do we, the members of the church, accept

Kathy, Amy, Ken, Cyndi, & Celia

as elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation
to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions,
and to follow as they guide us,

serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Prayer of Ordination

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your steadfast faithfulness to us.
In every age you have called forth leaders to serve you
and equipped them with your gifts.

Among your people Israel, you anointed prophets, priests, and rulers.
You called pastors and teachers, bishops, elders, and deacons
to build up your church.

With Moses, the seventy elders bore the burdens of your people,
ministering in the power of your Spirit.

Alongside the apostles, deacons cared for all in need
and guarded the community's peace.

In the church, deacons, elders, and pastors serve together,
so that your whole people might be equipped for ministry,
and built up into the full unity of Christ.

For your servants in every age, O God, and for the church of Jesus Christ,
we give you all thanks and praise.

Prayer for Elders

(Those gathered around the candidates for the office of elder lay hands on them.)

God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on

Kathy, Amy, Ken, Cyndi & Celia,

that they may be your faithful elders in the church.

Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage
to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word.

Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit,
that they may exercise the ministry of discipline
with humility and compassion.

Guide them in governance,
on this session and in every court of the church,
that they may be servant leaders following Christ
who came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life to set others free.

Give them joy in their walk of faith
and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.
(The laying on of hands is concluded.)

Gracious God, through the waters of baptism,
you have claimed us as your own
and called us to share in Christ's ministry.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us,
that we may discern the gifts you have given,
calling them forth from one another,
and together use these gifts for the good of all.

In obedience to Christ, and in the unity of his Spirit,
may we proclaim good news, make disciples,
be light and leaven, share or bread,
offer a cup of cold water, wash one another's feet.

Make us strong in Christ to live as your people
and show forth your saving love in the world,
by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Kathy, Amy, Ken, Cyndi & Celia,

you are now elders in the church of Jesus Christ
and for this congregation.

Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life
will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ.

Welcome

(Ministers and elders greet those who are newly ordained)

Charge

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Call to Offering

As a star led wise men to Jesus,
may the Light of Christ lead us to compassion and generosity.

Offertory

* Hymn No. 606 **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

OLD 100TH

*Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;
praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;
praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;
praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.*

* Prayer of Dedication

May the gifts we offer bring food to the hungry,
healing to the broken, community to the lonely,
and hope to those who live in the shadows of our time.
In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 152 **“WHAT STAR IS THIS, WITH BEAMS SO BRIGHT”**

*What star is this, with beams so bright,
more love-ly than the noon-day light?
'Tis sent to an-nounce a new-born king,
glad ti-dings of our God to bring.*

*'Tis now ful-filled what God de-creed,
“From Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed;”
and lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand
to read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.*

*While out-ward signs the star dis-plays,
an in-ward light the Lord con-veys
and urg-es them, with ten-der might,
to seek the giv-er of the light.*

*O Je-sus, while the star of grace
im-pels us on to seek your face,
let not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse
the guid-ance of your light to use.*

* Benediction

* Sung Response No. 744 **“ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!”**
*A-rise your light is come! The Spir-it's call o-bey;
show forth the glo-ry of your God, which shines on you to-day.*

* Postlude