

January 18, 2026 | 8:30am



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Second Sunday After the Epiphany



18865 SW Johnson St. | Aloha, OR 97003 | 503-649-3380 | www.BLCFAMILY.org

LARGE PRINT

Order of Worship

Second Sunday After the Epiphany | 8:30 am | January 18, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Worship

Opening Hymn *(Please Stand)*

Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs LW #204

Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;

Ten thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.

“Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “To be exalted thus!”

“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply, “For He was slain for us!”

Jesus is worthy to receive honor and pow’r divine;
And blessings more than we can give be, Lord, forever thine.

Let all creation join in one to bless the sacred Name
Of Him who sits upon the throne and to adore the Lamb.

Invocation and Confession

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

C: Amen.

Kyrie

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P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

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This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength
And honor, blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Collect of the Day

P:The Lord be with you.

C:And also with you.

P:Let us pray together:

C:Gracious Father, thank You for providing us with such a great cloud of witnesses. Blessed are the feet of those that bring

the good news even to us sinners. We know that You have also called us to bear witness to others. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we may be bold to proclaim the good news of Jesus to others. It is in His holy and precious Name that we ask. Amen.

First Reading *(Please Sit)* *Isaiah 49:1-7*

Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God."

⁵ And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶ he says:
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷ Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:
"Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus,
and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in
Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in
every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both
their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of
God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you
were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶ even
as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷ so
that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing
of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the
end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is
faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

L:This is the Word of the Lord.

C:Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel *(Please Stand)* ***John 1:29-42a***

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

³⁵ The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴² He brought him to Jesus.

P:This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:Thanks be to God!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for *us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(* “us men” means “all people”)

Children’s Message (*Please Sit*) Eric Oswald, DCE

Hymn of the Day

Spread the Reign of God the Lord LW #321

Spread the reign of God the Lord, spoken, written, mighty Word;

Ev'rywhere His creatures call to His heav'nly banquet hall.
Tell how God the Father's will made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer's grace, who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price, gave Himself as sacrifice.

Tell of God the Spirit giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true, working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field; Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few for the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind, rouse to action heart and mind;

Let the gath'ring nations all see Your light and heed Your call.

Sermon

Witness in the Family Pastor Steve Nickodemus

Gathering of our Tithes and Offerings

Bringing tithes and financial gifts to the Lord is an act of worship. These offerings help to accomplish ministry both here at Bethlehem and around the world. May God bless your response of faith.

Please join our members in filling out the Red Friendship Register in your pew. Thank you!

Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

Many of our prayer concerns and needs can be found at the end of this service folder.

(Please Stand)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Agnus Dei *page 172*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion *(Please Sit)*

see information on inside cover page

Distribution Hymns

How Great Thou Art

LW #519

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

*Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *refrain*

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; *refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" *refrain*

Just As I Am Without One Plea

LW #359

Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was
shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I
come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict,
many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I

come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,

Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;

Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Communion Blessing (*Please Stand*)

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P:The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with his favor and give you peace.

C:Amen.

Closing Hymn

Jesus, Priceless Treasure LW #270 v1,4,5

Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me long my heart was burning,
And my soul was yearning, Lord, with You to be!
Yours I am, O spotless Lamb; nothing I'll allow to hide you,
Nothing as beside you.

Hence, all earthly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure,
Jesus is my choice. Hence, all empty glory!
What to me your story told with tempting voice?
Pain or loss or shame or cross shall not from my Savior
move me
Since He chose to love me.

Hence, all fears and sadness, for the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in. Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather, still have peace within.
For, whatever I must bear, still in You lies purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Sending

P:Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C:Thanks be to God.

Come, Let us Join Our Cheerful Songs

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: Johann Cruger 1598-1662

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Spread the Reign of God the Lord

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841, alt.; tr. Composite

Tune: J.A. Freylinghausen, Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1704

Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

How Great Thou Art

Text: Carl Boberg, 1859-1940; Stuart K. Hine, b. 1899

Tune: Swedish folk tune; arr. Stuart K. Hine, b. 1899

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Just as I Am, Without One Plea

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68

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Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78, alt.

Tune: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

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