

Bethany Lutheran Church | Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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SERVICE TIMES: Sundays 8:15 & 11am; Mondays 7pm; Sunday School for all ages 9:45am



ALL IN? ALL IN!

First Sunday after Epiphany

January 13, 2019

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! In our service we gather before our almighty and saving God to offer Him our worship and praise. We also assemble to hear God's holy and powerful Word and celebrate His life-giving Sacraments. Through these means, God strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with Him.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED

To participate in this service, just follow along in this service folder. Lutheran worship is specifically designed to include the participation of the assembly. We are not here to be an audience, we are here to speak and sing the Word of God to each other. Parts marked P are spoken by the pastor, and parts marked C are spoken or sung (♪) by the congregation.

A NOTE ON COMMUNION

Bethany practices "close communion." Close communion is the biblical practice of admitting to communion only members in good standing of our congregation and those who are completely united with the congregation in faith and understanding. Close communion protects those who do not understand the danger of communing without self-examination or without recognizing the presence of the Lord's body and blood with the bread and wine, and preserves the intimate unity expressed by communing with one another. Therefore, we invite all members in good standing of an Evangelical Lutheran Synod or Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod congregation to join in Holy Communion with us, and we ask that all others please refrain and speak to one of our pastors for more information or if you are interested in joining our church. Thank you for respecting our teachings. Communicants, please remember to sign the communion register.

A GUIDE TO OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP

The traditional Divine Service contains elements which are **Sacrificial** (what we do for God) and elements which are **Sacramental** (what God is doing for us). Though the Sacrificial aspects are important, the Sacramental aspects are where the true focus should be. When Jesus visited the home of friends (Luke 10:38-42), Martha was distracted with serving Jesus a meal,

while Mary sat listening to Him. Martha requested that Mary help her, and our Savior replied: "*Martha, Martha... one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part.*"

This is where Bethany's motto comes from, and has application for our worship life: what Martha was doing for Christ (Sacrificial) was certainly appreciated by Him, but what Mary did by sitting at His feet (Sacramental) was a better part – the "one thing needful."

THE LANGUAGE OF WORSHIP

Four languages are represented in liturgical songs in our service. **Hebrew** shows our connection to the Old Testament believers; **Greek** shows our roots in the New Testament apostolic church; **Latin** shows that we are part of the Western heritage of the church, and **English** shows that our worship is also present day and relevant for our time.

CHRIST IN OUR WORSHIP

Note how the **liturgy** presents the life of Christ: His birth, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, etc. All Christian worship is centered in Him and performed through Him.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher	Pastor Tony Pittenger
Organist	Mrs. Roberta Highfill
Ushers 8:15	<u>Team 7</u> (Gaskins)
Ushers 11	<u>Team 13</u> (Dahlke)
Communion Assistant 8:15	Chris Denney
Communion Assistant 11	Jerry Harless
Acolytes 8:15	Sarah Overfield, Logan Bowman, Lexi Elliott, Laurey Hoefler
Acolytes 11	Sarah/Emilie Circelli, Ben Patterson, Justin Sievers
Greeters 8:15	Jim & Jennifer Crider
Greeters 11	Bonilla family
Elder on duty this week	Earl Miller

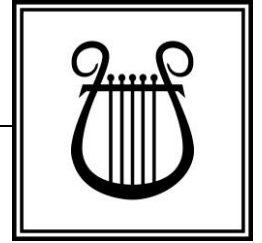
🔊 HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE – please ask for a receiver at the usher station

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THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

ELH Rite II, Responses I



(please stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Word of God Incarnate | 294

THE INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit

C: ♪ Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: ♪ Who made heav'n and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: ♪ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

be seated

The Baptismal Font was typically in the entryway of churches. Through this Sacrament God had us enter the Holy Christian Church. For that reason the **Invocation** opened the service as a reminder of Baptism, as we worship in the name of the Triune God who has graciously made us His own. The pastor makes the (†) **Sign of the Cross**, likewise reminiscent of Baptism. We note that the sign of the cross opens and closes the service and marks the Sacramental aspects of the service where God comes to us in the Means of Grace during Absolution, the Creed (Baptism), Words of Institution and reception of the Supper.

THE INTROIT

P: I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up. I heard the voice of a great multitude saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!" Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands. Serve the Lord with gladness.

THE GLORIA PATRI

**C: ♪ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.**

THE KYRIE ELEISON

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

**C: ♪ Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,
we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For You only are holy. You only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.
C: ♪ And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT

P: Let us pray:
P: O Lord God, we beseech You mercifully to receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You; and grant that they might both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and by Your merciful help may faithfully perform them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.
C: ♪ Amen.



THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the afflicted. He sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for those who are bound, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion, to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a faint spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord to display His beauty.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 12:1-5

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. ³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

THE GRADUAL

P: Alleluia! Oh, praise the Lord, all you nations! Laud Him, all you peoples! For His merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endures forever. Alleluia!

C: ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

please stand

P: The Holy Gospel for first Sunday after Epiphany is written in the 2nd chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the 41st verse.

C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL LESSON & SERMON TEXT

Luke 2:41-52

Every year His parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When He was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. ⁴³When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Since they thought He was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for Him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for Him. ⁴⁶After three days they found Him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. ⁴⁸When His parents saw Him, they were astonished. His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? See, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you looking for Me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of My Father's business?" ⁵⁰They did not understand what He was telling them. ⁵¹He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And His mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵²Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

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

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED

C: 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall 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 worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

be seated

THE SERMON HYMN

Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall | 625

THE SERMON

ALL IN? ALL IN!

please stand

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus unto everlasting life. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

C: ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

be seated

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

OFFERING

This is a moment in our worship when members and friends of Bethany Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support His saving work. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate.

please stand



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Created in Your image, formed for Your glory, called by Your name and washed clean in Baptism, we come this day as the people of Your promise with the intercessions and prayers for all people as they have need.

P: Holy God, the nations still live in darkness and in the despair of death.

C: Raise up people to bring them Your Word and truth, and accompany it with Your Holy Spirit so that those who hear may believe.

P: Bring to a good end the efforts of our church and school and those in every place where Your people work to share the Gospel.

C: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P: Lord of all power, all the might of man is nothing before You. We pray You to place Your blessing on all those who serve Your people in government, the police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, disaster relief and the armed forces.

C: Give them good and honest hearts for their service, and lead them by Your Word to know and do what is good and right for all people and in accordance with Your will.

P: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

C: Lord of compassion and mercy, no suffering passes before You unnoticed. Give to the sick, those hospitalized, those recuperating from illness, those in treatment and those troubled in mind and heart both Your healing presence and Your healing peace.

P: Especially hear us on behalf of _____ as well as those each of us hold in our hearts. Be their companion in solitude, their healing in affliction, their deliverer from trouble and their life in death.

C: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P: Eternal God, You have made us Your own people by Baptism and granted us Your Holy Spirit to confess Christ in words and in works. We remember with thanksgiving all those who went before us in the saving faith, who passed on to us that same faith as they now rest from all their labors.

C: Make us as faithful in our own time, and keep us faithful to the baptismal covenant in which we were buried with Christ and raised again with Him free to live ever, only, all for You.

P: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O almighty and everlasting God, do we commend all for whom we pray this day, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

THE PREFACE/PROPER PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.



Holy Communion ties us to the Church of all time, to those already in heaven, and also to the angels who are serving at the Feast of the Lamb. **The Preface, The Proper Preface,** and **The Sanctus** all reflect this. The Sanctus in particular praises the Trinity, reminiscent of the vision given to Isaiah. We now prepare for the special visitation of our God in the Body and Blood of Christ. **The Exhortation** was written to instruct us so that we do not receive Christ's Body and Blood to our judgment, as St. Paul warns. **The Lord's Prayer** has traditionally been included in the Communion order. Then follow **The Words of Institution** by which our Lord Jesus blesses the bread and wine through the mouth of the pastor. As St. Augustine said, "When the Word is joined to the element it becomes a Sacrament." **The Pax Domini** was a custom in many churches: a kiss of peace was passed among the faithful to show their unity in this blessed Communion. Today we simply sing the response. **The Agnus Dei** quotes the words of John the Baptist regarding Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world." What the Passover Lamb once only pictured is now truly before us in the Real Presence of the Body and Blood of Christ, given to the communicants in **The Distribution.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; through Jesus Christ our Lord; and now we praise You that You sent us Your only-begotten Son and that in Him, being found in fashion as a Man, You manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)

**C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

THE EXHORTATION

P: Dear friends in Christ! In order that you may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that you consider what you must now believe and do. From the words of Christ; "This is My body, which is given for you; this is My blood which is shed for you for the remission of sins" you should believe that Jesus Christ is Himself present with His body and blood, as the words declare.

From Christ's words "for the remission of sins" you should believe that Jesus Christ bestows upon you His body and blood to confirm unto you the forgiveness of all your sins.

And finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "this do in remembrance of Me."

If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He therein has commanded, then you have rightly examined yourselves and may worthily eat Christ's body and drink His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins.

You should also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian Church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father grant you His grace; through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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,

C: ♪ For Thine is the kingdom and the pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying; "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **♫ Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

C: **♫ O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us Your peace. Amen.**

be seated

DISTRIBUTION

(visitors, please note our communion practice on page 2)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth | **296**

Lord Jesus, Who Art Come | **485**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

C: **♫ Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace
according to Your word.**

**For my eyes have seen Your salvation,
which You have prepared before
the face of all people,**

**A Light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Your people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.**

Upon receiving the first Supper Jesus' disciples sang a hymn. The early church continued this practice by singing the wonderful hymn of Simeon, the **Nunc Dimittis**, upon receiving the Christ-child in the Temple. Just as Simeon held the infant Jesus in his arms, we also now have this Savior in our presence, having received His true Body and Blood in the Sacrament. With Christ we can look forward to leaving this world in peace, according to the promises God has given in His Word.

THE COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: **♫ And His mercy endures forever.**

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

C: **♫ Amen.**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

please stand

The Salutation & The Benedicamus again remind us of the love between pastor and congregation, as well as our love to God. Then the service concludes with the special blessing of the Lord in **The Benediction** which God commanded the Old Testament priests to use when they addressed His people. Often called the Aaronic Blessing, it again reflects the Triune nature of our God, and reminds us of our Baptism as His children.

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And with your spirit.**

THE BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you †peace.

C: ♪ **Amen, amen, amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds | 629

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 1/13 *Epiphany I*

8:15 & 11:00 am Worship
9:45am Sunday School for all ages

MONDAY, 1/14

7:00pm Worship

WEDNESDAY, 1/16

8:20am BLES Chapel
1:00pm Juanita's Bible Study
3:30pm Jr. Confirmation
6:00pm *Bedtime Books @Bethany*
6:30pm Church Choir

THURSDAY, 1/17

9:00am- 2:00pm Preschool PowerHour [A, B, C]
11:30am Early Dismissal BLS K-8, end of 2nd Qtr

FRIDAY, 1/18

No School BLS K-8, Winter Teacher's Conference

SUNDAY, 1/20 *Epiphany II*

8:15 & 11:00am Worship
(ELC/Kgtn sing @ 11:00 am)
9:15 -9:45am Altar Care Training Workshop
9:45am Sunday School for all ages;
Tornado Relief Fellowship Fundraiser*

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY:

USHER TEAMS: 1 [Seals] & 14[Nesseth]

GREETERS: D/D Morrison & J/K Harless

ACOLYTES: Pittenger/Alonzo/Lee;
Amiling/Baur/Sickler

THE RECORD

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by Spencer & Karlie Gaskins, in honor of Spencer's birthday.

Last Sunday 184 of God's people came to worship and hear His holy Word. 66 attended Sunday School.

*FELLOWSHIP & DISASTER RELIEF

Join us next Sunday

January 20th

between services
for coffee & goodies
to help local
tornado victims.



Nothing to bring; simply stop by after first service (or come early to second service) to enjoy treats and catch up on your visiting!

Free-will offerings will be accepted in support of relief efforts following the tornado that hit Port Orchard in December.

Many thanks to Thrivent Financial for providing Action Team grant funds to cover all the supplies for this event! #livegenerously

STEWARDSHIP

Like a muscle used, exercised and strengthened, stewardship is a positive action to be used, exercised, and built up to generate even more positive stewardship to the glory of God.

Stewardship Pledge cards are available on the table under the office window (beside brown pledge return box)

COMING EVENTS

Wed 1/23 4-7pm

blockfest

Sun 1/27 1-3pm

BLS/ELC Open House

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SPECIAL WINTER BEDTIME BOOKS!

Parents, bring your kiddos (jammies welcome!) at 6pm this Wednesday 1/16! They'll enjoy a 20-minute bedtime story read aloud and then be able to pick a FREE book from the 'book buffet' for the ride home. This is a quick, fun literacy event for kids in our church, school, and community – invite others who you think would love to hear a story and get a new book!

ALTAR CARE TRAINING FOR NEW & RETURNING HELPERS will be held NEXT Sunday 1/20 at 9:15am -we will be done in time for Sunday School (*and before all the Fellowship goodies are gone 😊*). Whether you're a 'newbie' or an 'old hand', please be sure to attend so we can share knowledge with each other!

OUR PRESCHOOL POWER-HOUR has openings in their 10:45am & 12:30pm Thursday classes. This joyful hour for 2-5-year-olds (together with a caregiver) is full of music, Bible stories, math, science, literacy, crafts, stories and more! There's also a 30-minute parenting Bible class at 10:05am & 1:35pm. Classes are \$40/8 weeks, \$25/4 weeks. Foster families attend at no cost. Get more at: <http://www.bethanylutheranes.org/preschool-power-hour/> or talk to Melissa Pittenger.

BEAUTIFY THE ALTAR WITH FLOWERS -2019 Flower Chart is posted in the back corner of the narthex by the stairway door. Sign up to sponsor altar flowers in honor of a special day or person, or simply in thanksgiving for God's blessings! Cost for florist-provided flowers is \$40 payable to Bethany Lutheran and due one week prior to your chosen Sunday.

FORM A THRIVENT ACTION TEAM IN 2019

Thrivent policy holders are eligible for \$500 in Action Team funds EACH YEAR. These 'seed money' mini-grants (two per policy holder, \$250 each) may be used for a wide variety of projects benefitting Bethany members and/or the community (such as next Sunday's tornado relief fundraiser). We have many members with Thrivent policies, meaning thousands of dollars just waiting to be put to work!

Think of something you'd like to do at Bethany this year; every \$250 stretches the budget and helps more people. Online forms make applying fast, and grant requirements are easy to accomplish. Learn more/ apply online at Thrivent.com/actionteam or ask the office for details. Questions? Need ideas? Ask Melissa Pittenger! #livegenerously

DIGITAL GIVING?

Here are some ways to give your offering in the digital age:



1. Bethany has contracted with a service called "Faithstreet". From their website you can make a one-time-gift or set up regularly scheduled offerings. Look for a button like the one above on Bethany's website or our Facebook page (www.bethanylutheranes.org or www.facebook.com/Bethany.Kitsap) or click on the QR code you see here:



2. Give by text via Faithstreet: Save the number **646-832-4848** to "Bethany Offerings". Send a text to that number with the amount you want to give as the content of the text. ("25" = \$25.00 will be sent to Bethany.) You'll receive a link asking for a **quickcode**. Enter "**bethany**" and finish this setup form. (one-time setup.) Next time simply text the amount to the number. Your gift will be processed immediately.

3. Consider making your offering a part of your online bill pay (either by electronic transfer or by having your bank cut the check and send it to Bethany). This helps remedy the "forgetfulness factor."

Find yourself using your checkbook less and less? Consider these alternatives to your continued acts of worship, service, trust, & sacrifice (i.e. "offering") to the Lord.