



Bethel  
United Church of Christ

February 24, 2019

Kent Harris '15

# The People of God Gather for Worship

## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Kindly turn off or silence all electronic devices  
Please observe a time of silence during the prelude for reflection and preparation for worship

PRELUDE

*The Great Commission*

Based on familiar hymns  
Arr. by Hugh Livingston, Jr.

WELCOME, CELEBRATIONS, & CONCERNS<sup>†</sup>

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INVITATION OF THE STEEPLE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 147

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

**Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.**

He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

**He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.**

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;

**But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

\* HYMN NO. 100

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 85:7-13

Pew Bible, page 473

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

CALL TO CONFESSION NO. 97      *Fairest Lord Jesus* (vs. 1)

ST. ELIZABETH

**Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down.  
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

W. Rauschenbusch

**In the great quiet of God, my troubles are but pebbles on the road, my joys are like the everlasting hills. So it is when I step through the gate of prayer from time into eternity. When I am in the consciousness of God, my brothers and sisters are not far-off and forgotten, but close and strangely dear. They shine, as if a light were glowing within them. Even those who frown on me and love me not seem part of the great scheme of God.**

SILENT CONFESSION

RESPONSE NO. 97

*Fairest Lord Jesus* (vs. 3)

ST. ELIZABETH

**Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, robed in the blooming garb of spring.  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.**

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14:22–33

Pew Bible, page 796

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

\* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all!

**And also with you!**

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 171 *God's Love Made Visible* (vs. 1, refrain only) POSADA

**God's love made visible. Incomprehensible.  
Christ is invincible. His love shall reign.  
From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable  
make death surmountable. His love shall reign!**

SERMON

DIVINE CONFIDENCE

INVITATION TO SHARE<sup>‡</sup>

\* Offertory

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

Lowell Mason

Arr. by Dennis Alexander

\* Response

*God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us*

BEECHER

**God, you wrap your love around us like a blanket, soft and warm.  
You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.  
May each person who finds shelter in these blankets that we share  
Also feel the joy and comfort of your love's protecting care.**

\* Dedication of our offering and CWS blankets

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND PETITION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*What a Wonderful World*

Weiss & Thiel

Arr. by Ed Lojeski

\* HYMN NO. 632

*Lead On, O King Eternal*

LANCASHIRE

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

*The Gift to Be Simple*

Shaker Melody

Arr. By Dale Wood

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\* Indicates those who are able please stand

‡ Please fill out the pew pad. In order that we may best serve your spiritual needs, please use the prayer request cards in the pew rack and place them in the offering

**Bold** Indicates congregational response

Large print bulletins are available

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### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Minister: Rev. David Bucholtz  
Music Director: Mary Sue Moore  
Greeters: Brian and Mary Finkbeiner  
Ushers: Larry Egeler, Fred Jahnke, Judy Jahnke, Phil Miller, and Vicki Miller  
Acolyte: Elizabeth Diuble  
Lay Reader: Jackie Martin  
Anthem: Women's Ensemble, Directed by Julie Roberts  
Child Care: Kristi Campbell and Garrett Corwin

### **BLANKETS AND MATERIAL AIDS**

Church World Service Blankets offerings continue through today, February 24<sup>th</sup>, when they will be dedicated. Envelopes are in the pews; please make checks out to Bethel Church.

Material Aids Ingathering is the entire month of February with dedication on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Material Aids include:

School and Health Kits, cancelled postage stamps, Box Tops for Education, no longer used eyeglasses and sunglasses, pop can tabs, quilts, Little Dresses for Africa, etc.

The Sunday School classes will pack School Kits on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Please be as generous as you were last year with your CWS Blankets offerings, your Kit & other donations.

Copies of items for School & Health Kits are available in the back of the church and in the Annex.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

In the spirit of Christian love, remember these people and their families  
in your thoughts and prayers – not only today, but throughout the coming week.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SUBMITTED BY</u>
February 3	Glenda Capps.....	Emily St. Charles
	Irene Jacob .....	Pastor Bucholtz
	Family & friends of David Kelly.....	Alison Robison
	Paul Whelan and family.....	
	Sharon Williams.....	Cat & James Meyer
February 10	David Bunn.....	Lori Lobbestael
	Patti Henes .....	Stacey Neigebauer
	Melvin and Joanne Roehm .....	
	David Jedele.....	
February 17	Karen Bellm .....	Renee St. Charles
	Debbie Farbrother .....	Nancy Loudin
	Michaela Holmquist and unborn baby.....	Renee St. Charles
	Alan Kremko .....	Nancy Loudin
	Family of Linda Ames .....	Pastor Bucholtz
February 24	Sonya Beedore .....	Larry Egeler
	Michael Cattran.....	Paul & Jennifer Heimerdinger
	Family of Sasha Dumitrache.....	Renee Casteels
	Gail Holder .....	Jean Holder
	Family of Lucille Loudin.....	Nancy Loudin
	Mac & Sharon McMurray .....	Emily St. Charles

### Those Serving Our Country

Sept. 25, 2010	Gy-Sgt. Evan Wahl, U.S. Marines .....	Lyle Wahl
Jan. 13, 2013	Zachary Steelman, 101 <sup>st</sup> Airborne, U.S. Army	
April 3, 2016	Kyle Braun, U.S. Marines .....	Harvey & Marcella Luckhardt
Oct. 8, 2017	Henry Arbogast, U.S. Navy Seals.....	Darlene Kuebler
Sept. 2, 2018	Willie Day, U.S. Navy Seals.....	Jody Munson
Feb. 24, 2019	Bruce Walrad, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers...	Betty Jean Harper

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