# Welcome
## to Bethel Lutheran Church!

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church! We're so glad you've joined us as we gather to Connect, Grow, and Serve God and others. Today Jesus reminds us that waiting is part of the life of faith, but faithful waiting is never simply doing nothing. As we worship, may God help us keep our lamps burning, share what we have, and let our light shine while we wait for Christ to come again.

*You are invited to stand, as you are able.

*All who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome and encouraged to join us for communion, regardless of church membership or denomination.*

Prelude: "Two Chorale Preludes" Healy Willian
Monica Weekes, organ

Welcome/Announcements

**The Opening Hymn: "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" #851**

*The Greeting:
Leader: We gather in the name of th Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
**People: Amen.**
L: Christ calls us to remain faithful while we wait.
**P: Keep our lamps burning and our hearts awake.**

*Today's Responsive Reading:
L: Waiting is not always easy.
**P: Still, we trust in God's promises.**
L: When the night feels long…
**P: keep our lamps burning.**
L: When someone else's light begins to fade…
**P: teach us to share what we have.**
L: As we wait for Christ to come again…
**P: help us live faithfully today.**
L: Let our lives reflect the light of God's Kingdom.
**All: We will keep awake and let our light shine.**

*The Prayer of the Day:
L: Faithful God…
**P: You call us to trust You even when the waiting is long. Keep our hearts awake and our faith strong. Teach us to use what You have given us to serve our neighbors, share generously, and help others along the way. May our lives shine with the hope of Christ as we wait faithfully for His coming. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

*The Sharing of God's Peace:
L: The peace of the Lord be with you always...
**P: and also with you!**

The Children's Message: Pastor Keith Ruehlow

The Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18–24
L: The Word of the Lord.
**P: Thanks be to God!**

The New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
L: The Word of the Lord.
**P: Thanks be to God!**

***The Doxology: #884**

*The Gospel: Matthew 25:1–13

The Message: "Faithful Waiting" Pastor Keith Ruehlow

***The Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" #244**

The Rite of Confirmation: Lillia Heckmann
Lollie Pape

*The Offering Prayer:
L: Generous God…
**P: You have given us more than enough to share. Receive these gifts, and use them to bring hope, light, and help to those in need. Teach us to live generously while we wait, trusting that what You have given us can bless others, and strengthen Your Kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

Giving our First and Best to God through our Offering

The Offering Music: "Andantino in Aflat" Edward MacDowell
Monica Weekes, organ

*The Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer:
**ALL: 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.**

*The Invitation to Communion:
L: Come to the table of Christ, where there is grace for the weary and strength for those who wait. Here Christ feeds us with hope, and reminds us that we do not wait alone. Come and receive what you need for the journey ahead. Come, for all is ready.

**The Communion Hymn: "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" #461**

*The Communion Blessing

*The Prayers of God's People:
L: Faithful God…
**P: Keep us awake in hope.**

*The Closing Blessing

***The Closing Hymn: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" #712**

*The Sending:
L: Go in peace and wait faithfully.
**P: We will keep our lamps burning.**
L: Share what you have, care for your neighbor, and let Christ's light shine through you.
**P: We will live as signs of God's Kingdom. Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude: "When I our Music God is Glorfied" Robert J Powell
Monica Weekes, organ

# WORSHIP NOTES

GIVE

I'M NEW

"What would faithful waiting look like, according to Matthew's overall narrative? What would happen if those women had more oil… Everyone will fall asleep from time to time, but we wake up to advocate for those who need solidarity. We embody the kingdom of heaven. We seek reconciliation with others. We relieve burdens. We sustain our neighbors when they struggle. We hold each other up when doubt and exhaustion become acute."

—Matthew Skinner, Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessings, p. 83

## WE HOLD IN PRAYER

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK, INJURED AND IN NEED OF HEALING:**
Pastor Bob Bipes, Leslee Camarata, Don Evers, Don & Linda Flatt, Anita Hildebrandt, Trina Hilke, Greg Hojem, Ed Hustad, Jennifer Kapaun, Jackie Krebsback, Nan Lopatka, John Macloed, Mary Martin, Kay Monroe, Rick Mosholder, Jerry Peterson, Earl Phillips, Terri Pomeroy, Jon & Sharon Sippel, Eric Sigmond, Diane Sonnenberg, Dorothy Vietor

**THOSE SERVING OR DEPLOYED IN THE MILITARY:**
Evan Hojem, Isabelle & Sam Rick

**TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**
**Organ:** Monika Weekes
**Scripture Reader:** Sean Hanner
**Worship Support:** Susie & Jimmie Caldwell, Jackson Beach, Parker Wilt
**Technical Assistants:** Patrick Willson, Roger Nilsson, Eli Helm, Ethan Sonnenberg
**Shuttlebus:** Lee Woodward & Calista Smith

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM:**
Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at the 9:00 service is Fynn McCoy Tackmann, son of Aubrey & John Tackmann.

**IN SYMPATHY:**
We offer our sympathies and prayers of comfort and strength to Linda James, family and friends, on the death of her husband, Skip James. For Roger Pavlis, family and friends, on the death of his sister, Judith Tollerud. For Helen Zarfos, family and friends, on the death of her daughter, Sutheree Lovell. For Katy Kapaun, family and friends, on the death of her son, Matt Drinkwine. God bless and comfort these friends with the promise of Christ: *"Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted."*

## WAYS TO GIVE

To Bethel's Mission:
Connect, Grow, and Serve

**Via Text Message:**
Text: (833) 222-5193
In the message line type "give"
then follow the prompts

**Via Online:**
Visit bethelhudson.org click on
GIVE NOW or SCAN HERE

**Via Mail:**
Bethel Lutheran Church
920 3rd Street
Hudson, WI 54016




## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026
## 10:30 AM WORSHIP | DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

**Pastor Keith Ruehlow, Preacher**
**Jackie Stutzman, Worship Leader**

Bethel service's are livestreamed on Bethel's website, Bethel's YouTube page, and are broadcast on River Channel 15, Wednesday at 7:00pm & 9:00pm and Thursday at 7:00am.

BETHEL
CONNECT. GROW. SERVE.

BETHELHUDSON.ORG
715-386-8821