

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today lifts up the story of Anna. Mary and Joseph are faithful to the Jewish tradition of bringing their son to the temple. The prophet Anna, who is also worshipping at the temple, recognizes the child as the one destined to redeem God's people and she begins sharing this news with all who will listen. May we who bear witness to the Christ child among us share that same good news with others.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"Seasonal Meditations"	organ
Welcome & Announcements		
Invocation		
Confession & Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"Cold December Flies Away"	ELW 299
Greeting		
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

Psalm	Psalm 148	
Children's Hymn	"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord"	ELW 286, vs. 1 & 2
Children's Word	The Christmas Story in Pictures	
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40	
Sermon	Recognizing the Savior	
Hymn of the Day	"Love Has Come"	ELW 292
Nicene Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
Gathering of Gifts		
Offering Prayer		

MEAL

Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Words of Institution		
The Lord's Prayer		ELW p. 154
Distribution		
Post Communion Blessing		

SENDING

Blessing		
Sending Song	"Go, Tell It On the Mountain"	ELW 290
Dismissal		
Sending Music	"Good Christian Men Rejoice"	organ



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Worship Participants

Preacher:

Rev. Anjanette Bandel

Lector: Lin Gentling

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:

Brock A. Besse



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'Prayground' for Children

Our worship services offer a 'Prayground' towards the back of the Sanctuary as the perfect place for families with small children to grow together in faith, with the freedom to move, explore, and worship in a supportive environment.

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today lifts up the story of Anna. Mary and Joseph are faithful to the Jewish tradition of bringing their son to the temple. The prophet Anna, who is also worshipping at the temple, recognizes the child as the one destined to redeem God's people and she begins sharing this news with all who will listen. May we who bear witness to the Christ child among us share that same good news with others.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"Seasonal Meditations"	organ
	"Celebrate the Season"	Bethel Ensemble
Welcome & Announcements		
Call To Worship	"I Saw Three Ships"	Bethel Ensemble
Invocation		
Confession and Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"Cold December Flies Away"	ELW 299
Greeting		
Kyrie		ELW p. 203
Canticle of Praise	"Glory Be to God in Heaven"	ELW p. 204
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

Musical Offering	"Manger Song Medley"	Bethel Ensemble
Psalm	Psalm 148	
Children's Hymn	"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord"	ELW 286, vs. 1 & 2
Children's Word	The Christmas Story in Pictures	
Gospel Acclamation	"Alleluia"	ELW p. 205
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40	
Sermon	Recognizing the Savior	
Hymn of the Day	"Love Has Come"	ELW 292
Sacrament of Holy Baptism:	Logan William Oetjen (9 am)	
Nicene Creed (10:30 am)		
Prayers of Intercession		
Gathering of Gifts		
Offering Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		ELW p. 112

SENDING

Blessing		
Sending Song	"Go Tell It On the Mountain"	ELW 290
Dismissal		
Sending Music	"Good Christian Men Rejoice"	organ

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Worship Participants

Preacher: Rev. Anjanette Bandel

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Michael Mandsager

Rev. Lisa Hawe

Lector: Judy Gittus (9 am)

Laurie Vlasak (10:30 am)

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:

Brock A. Besse

Sign Language Interpreter:

Becky Wulff



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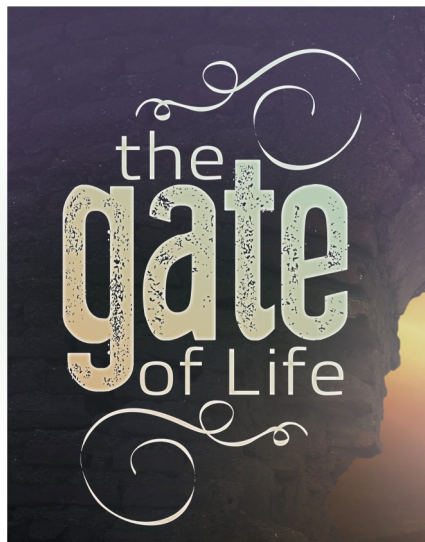
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Welcome to Our Contemporary Service!

Gate of Life is a service that will impact you musically, visually, and with the power of God's Word and Jesus' salvation as its backbone. **The name "Gate of Life" comes from the scripture John 10:9-10**, where Jesus says: *"I am the gate ... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* Expect worship to be highly engaging through the use of images, music that moves the body and soul, a message that encourages all to participate, and a community focused atmosphere with Christ at the center.



December 28th, 2025
First Sunday of Christmas

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today lifts up the story of Anna. Mary and Joseph are faithful to the Jewish tradition of bringing their son to the temple. The prophet Anna, who is also worshiping at the temple, recognizes the child as the one destined to redeem God's people and she begins sharing this news with all who will listen. May we who bear witness to the Christ child among us share that same good news with others.

WORSHIP INFORMATION

Psalm	Psalm 148
Children's Sermon	The Christmas Story in Pictures
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40
Sermon Title	Recognizing the Savior

Worship Participants:

Preacher: Rev. Anjanette Bandel

The Gate of Life Worship Leader: Michele Nyman

Do you enjoy The Gate of Life?

WE INVITE YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

If you would like to **be a part of the Gate of Life service** in a musical way, helping with visuals, or behind the scenes work, please contact Michele Nyman at nyman@bethellutheran.com.

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- Texts will only come from our Bethel phone number.
- Bethel Pastors or staff will NEVER send you texts asking for 'favors', gift cards, etc.
- We will only send occasional texts about important news, events, or cancellations.
- Opt-out at any time by replying STOP

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info@bethellutheran.com
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eNews and/or activate your
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INFORMATION

ARE YOU NEW AT BETHEL?

We're glad you're here! Please stop by the Welcome Desk for more information about our vibrant Bethel church family.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Saturdays:** 6 pm
- **Sundays:** 9* am | 10:30 am
10:10 am Gate of Life (Contemporary Service with Holy Communion)
*9 am in-person worship offers an ASL interpreter and is Live-streamed through our YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/RochBethelLutheran
- **Videos of our services** are posted on our website to be viewed at any time: www.bethellutheran.com/worshiponline

HOLY COMMUNION

All the baptized believing that Jesus is truly present in the bread & wine are welcome to take communion (including visitors). Holy Communion is offered during our Saturday worship at 6 pm and Gate of Life Contemporary service on Sunday at 10:10 am each week. Our 9 am & 10:30 am Sunday services offer Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

- A looping system is installed for those with compatible hearing aides.
- Assisted listening devices are available, please ask one of the ushers.
- Parenting room available on the back left of the sanctuary. Our nursery is open during Sunday services for parents to stay with their children.

3 OF THE MANY THINGS HAPPENING AT BETHEL

1. **Join the Financial Audit Committee! Your Mission:** To diligently review our church's financial records and processes, ensuring every dollar is accounted for and stewarded with excellence. **The Commitment:** Just one meeting a year (typically early January) to finalize findings and write the all-important report. **The Reward:** The knowledge that you are guaranteeing the accuracy and transparency of our church's finances. Interested in learning more about how to serve on the Bethel Financial Audit Committee? Contact Pastor Anjanette, bandel@bethellutheran.com or Alyssa Mickow mickow@bethellutheran.com.
2. **Wednesdays in January at 4 pm in Room 115**, join Pastor Michael Mandsager and Parish Nurse Jeanne Townsend for a Book Study and conversation around *Sold in Egypt*, a book by the best-selling author of *A Wrinkle in Time*. Everyone is invited to participate in this book study, and especially those who have suffered grief and loss. Please register for the study to reserve a copy of the book, or order your own copy online. To register, call the church office, or send an email to mandsager@bethellutheran.com.
3. **The Epiphany of Our Lord** is a yearly Christian festival to commemorate the revealing of Jesus as the Christ to the Gentiles, in the persons of the Magi (the Three Wise Men), at Bethlehem. Epiphany culminates the Twelve Days of Christmas. The appearance of the Christ Child to the Three Wise Men manifests Jesus to all humans! **Please join our Epiphany worship on Tuesday, January 6th at 6 pm in the Chapel.**

To learn about more events subscribe to our weekly eNews by emailing us to info@bethellutheran.com or pick up a printed version through our **"Bethel Connection Box"** located by the entrance of our building.

SUNDAY BAPTISM

- December 28th | 9 am -

Logan Willaim Oetjen, son of Erik & Laurel Oetjen.

Sponsors: Erin Johnson,
James & Linda VanSoest,
Nicole Oetjen

CHILDREN'S NOISY OFFERING

Our children offerings will be directed to support
Ray of Life

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