



Sunday, July 26, 2020

**Bethany Lutheran Ministries
621 South Orchard Avenue
Vacaville, CA 95688
707-451-6675
Email: mychurch@gobethany.com**

GoBethany.com

The people of the Kingdom of God at Bethany welcome you.

MISSION: *Living God's Word through Caring, Sharing and Teaching*

Pastor Phil Pledger,
School Principal Dr. Chris Smith,
Preschool Director Cindy Miller,
Administrative Assistant Natalie Hart



Invocation

Pastor: The Living Lord is here! Come, worship Him and receive His power and a new beginning for your lives!

People: Lord, we bring to You our broken dreams and unfulfilled hopes. We need Your forgiveness and healing. By faith in Your Son, make us new creations. Amen!

Pastor: Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God in His sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty heavens.

Pastor: Praise Him for His acts of power. Praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

People: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Amen!

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

Opening Hymn LSB 349 Hark the Glad Sound (verses 1, 2, 4)



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Confession

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

People: and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

We take a moment for silent prayer and meditation upon God's Word.

Pastor: Almighty God, thick darkness covers the whole earth, and the darkness of sin is on us, Your people.

People: We confess that we have walked in darkness instead of Your light. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have turned away from Your face and have broken Your commands.

Pastor: You alone, O Lord, invite all nations to come to Your light. You beckon those who are broken to find wholeness in the brightness of Your rising.

People: Guide us again to the mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ, that He may dispel the darkness of our sin and renew us in the light of Your presence. Amen.

Absolution

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward You, that we may love You above all things, and lead us, by faith, to Your eternal promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your

Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

6 For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. **7** The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. **8** But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **9** Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Epistle

Romans 8:28-39

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. **29** For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. **30** And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. **31** What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? **32** He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? **33** Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. **34** Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship

or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel

Luke 1:46-55

46 And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48** for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, **49** for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. **50** His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. **51** He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. **52** He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. **53** He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful **55** to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

Hymn of the Day LSB 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

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Sermon Wisdom, The Story of Mary

Creed Luther's Meaning to the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

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 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.

Benediction

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. --Romans 15:13

Closing Hymn LSB 387 Joy to the World (verses 1, 4)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.