

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Tim Snart, Pastor

Cecil Ward, Worship Leader

Ellen Cooke, Worship Music Leader

1st Sunday of Christmas

Morning Worship

9:00 a.m.

December 31, 2023

(Please sign attendance book.)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

L: As the land is renewed each year and new crops sprout,

P: so the Lord God is restoring us.

L: We are transformed by God's glory and power,

P: God's revelation in a little child.

L: Salvation shall bring complete transformation.

P: The Lord God is saving us. With our whole being we rejoice in our God. Let us worship God!

*Hymn #333, "See Ye First"

*Prayer of Confession

All: Great God, we want to fulfill the law as Joseph and Mary did. We want to sing like the prophets did. We want to witness God's saving love like Simeon did. We want to tell everyone the Good News like Anna did. Lead us in the ways of righteousness, that we might recognize Your presence among us. We give thanks that while we know that life gives way to death, Your death restores us to life. Deepen our faith so that, even as we testify to Your birth, we might anticipate the eternal life You gave in Your death. Teach us to obey and to serve; use us anywhere and anytime. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

L: We are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Old Testament Reading Proverbs 11:3, pg. 593

Team Jesus

Special Music

New Testament Reading Mark 7:21-23, pg. 42

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message "Read the Bible? Why bother?"

*Hymn #347, "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

*Apostles' Creed (Traditional version) pg. 14

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer Requests / Prayers of the People

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 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.

Giving the Lord His Tithe and Our Offering

*Doxology #592 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

♪ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #536, "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

*Charge / Benediction

*Congregational Response (#535)

♪ Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day that in Your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.

*Postlude

**Indicates to stand as you are able – for everyone to rise in spirit.*

BEULAH CALENDAR

Sunday December 31 9:00am Worship
Sunday January 7 8:00am Deacon meeting
9:00am Worship / Food Pantry Collection
after Worship Lorenzo's Birthday Celebration
in the Fellowship Hall

The **Deacons** will meet next Sunday, Jan 7 @ 8am.

Lorenzo Galindo's birthday is January 6. You are invited to celebrate with coffee, drink and cookies January 7 in the Fellowship Hall after the church service. Please bring a birthday card for a card shower and we ask for cookie donations. Thank you, Lorenzo, for playing your guitar weekly to enrich our worship experience!

Beulah newsletter articles are due to Nancy by Wed, Jan 10.

Beulah's Annual meeting is Sunday, January 28 during Worship.

Please send your **Annual Report** to Nancy @ nroberts822@gmail.com as soon as you can compile it. Thank you!

On Dec 15 donated items of toys and clothes for 5 family members were delivered to Ellen's neighbors in Moline.

Also, another African immigrant family, the Gamon's in East Moline, received 6 pairs of boots from Beulah and 4 coats, hats, and gloves from the Coal Valley Lutheran Church that Nancy Roberts attends.

Both families were overjoyed with the items delivered and expressed many thank yous and said "**Merry Christmas**".

This week, the following notes of thanks were received:

Good Morning Beulah Church, Please, it's me Amavi Gamon, Miss Ellen's friend. Thank you very much for the jackets, boots, towels, and everything.

Thank you so much for your time and for showing us love and caring. It means a lot for me and my family. **You can't imagine the blessing you have given us.** It is beyond our expectation. Thank you so much!

May God bless you and continue to bless you! Happy, Merry Christmas!!!

I wish the best for you and your family!!

Remain all blessed!!! -Amavi Gamon + Family (East Moline immigrant family)

The neighbors of Ellen (family of 8) who received boots, clothing, household items, Christmas tree and decorations sent us a Christmas card, which is signed with their American spelling and native language spelling of their names. It is on the bulletin board in the airlock.

"A star led the way to the Light of the world.

**May He shine on every part of your Christmas celebration.
God Bless you throughout the season and in the new year"**

To my Friends at Beulah Presbyterian,

Thank you so much for the many prayers you've offered for me this past year. Thank you for the cards and support. It has meant so much to me to know that so many were praying for me while I was sick.

I'm doing better and hoping to continue to stay well.

I really appreciate you. Thank you, Jessica Paulsen

Thanks to all old and new members of Beulah Church. It has been a great family to belong to all these years. I do miss seeing everyone.

I have so enjoyed and learned from your prayers and loving kindness. All the lovely flowers from Jan Passini and goodies everyone brings me.

The deacons for their cards and cheerfulness.

Sherrill who just stopped by to chat and happened to have Christmas goodies which were wonderful.

Then there was Deb Morgan (yes, she will always be Deb Morgan to me). I have to thank her for the poinsettia which was especially nice this year.

Pastor Tim has been very attentive in his visits. He always left me with prayers, AND his shoes were untied as usual 😊. We will certainly miss him; he fits right in. I wish him and his family well.

Thanks again to all. -Heading for 95 in June of 2024, Joyce King

The Orion Area Food Pantry completed the Christmas meal distribution on Tuesday, Dec. 19, with the many donations provided by the area churches. Christmas meals were provided to 28 families, a total of 81 persons, which included 20 children under 18.

Thanks for all your support of the food pantry with holiday meal items, money, and the volunteers who work tirelessly to provide holiday meals to the less fortunate in our community.

This week's Lectionary Readings for Home Study:

Gen 1:1-5 Ps 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-17

Prayer List

Vicki Blair	Heather DeHaven	Robert DeVries	Bobbie Furr
Louise Green	Martha Green	Dylan Preston	Terry Vincent
Kenneth White			

Missionary relatives and friends of our church family

- Tim & Bethany Spears and their daughters, Carmichael and Rose, are currently in the US. Tim & Bethany are teaching virtually, but all plan to return to the Philippines at a later date.
- Ted & Kim Treadway in Guatemala.

Please Remember Our Shut-ins in Your Prayers

Barbara Anderson
Nedra Baraks
Dorothy Gift
Louise Green
Joyce King
Alex Strandgard
Terry Vincent

Christmas Joy Offering Instructions

- If you were unable to contribute to the Joy Offering at the December 24th worship services, then you can still contribute today by following the instructions below.
 - Cash Contributions - If your contribution is cash, it is important to use the Joy Offering envelopes. The Joy Offering envelope will ensure your contribution will go to the Joy Offering rather than the General Church Fund. By including your name, it will be added to your annual church contribution.
 - Check Contributions - If your contribution is by check, it is important to designate Joy Offering in the memo field. The Joy Offering in the memo field will ensure your contribution will go to the Joy Offering rather than the General Church Fund.
 - Contributions taken on any December Sunday - If you are unable to attend the December 24 Services, you may make your contribution on any Sunday in December. If your contribution is via a check, then put the designation of Joy Offering in the memo field or when using cash put in an envelope with the Joy Offering designation and your name. By including your name, it will be added to your annual church contribution.

2024 Church Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes available in narthex.

- On the sign-up sheet, list your name with the box number (located in the upper left-hand corner).
- Dates on envelopes are not used by church, so use up old envelopes if possible.
- If you only write checks for the church offerings, it is not necessary to use envelopes.
- Any questions about envelopes, contact Dennis Morgan.