A nursery is available on the First Floor for infants and children under 3 years.

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in honor of W. Ashley Long by Connie Culver Long.

Prayer Requests: Beth Brewer, Gary Brewer, Dan Buckner, Tim Durham, Dale Fischer, HJ Fleming, Matt Gilley, Martha Greenlee, Cathy Hanks, David Holder, Toni Holder, the Labanick family, Patti Moran, Rita Petoskey, Tracie Powell-Wilkin, Beverly Rakestraw, Andrew Reitzel, Jerry Reitzel, Maxine Reynolds, Linda Seifert, Scott Smith, Ann Towery, Shelley Winkler

There's still time to fill out your 2026 Commitment Card! Please scan the QR code below to fill out your card and let us know how you plan to support Bethel with your prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness in 2026. The information you provide will help us better plan for the upcoming year.

We welcome Penny Holt as our guest organist today.

Online Giving

Visitor Scan Me

Commitment Card

Church Office Hours
Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Brad Gray
Pastor

Chad Deetz
Youth Minister

Dale Fischer
Director of Music

Jennifer Bartless
Coordinator of Children's Ministry

BETHEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Invite. Grow. Send.

"The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."

December 21, 2025 **4th Sunday of Advent**

11:00 AM Worship Service

Prelude *"Once in Royal David's City"* arr. Charles Callahan

Trinity Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship

Beloved, God calls to us – like Joseph – through angels and messengers, inviting us to listen for the Spirit's guidance in the midst of half-truths and distractions.
We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.
Sometimes, angels surprise us (as they did Mary) with good news too fantastical to believe and yet too real – realer than real – to ignore.
We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.
For generations, God has sent signs of God's coming kingdom in unexpected places – the birth of a child, the wisdom of the lowly, the faithfulness of a carpenter.
We listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.
Come! Let us worship God who calls out to us, inviting us to faithfulness as we watch, wait, and work for the day when the whole world knows abundant love and grace.
Come! Let us worship as we listen faithfully for the day that all the earth awaits.

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* UMH 203

Advent Candle Lighting The Cooper Family

Congregational Response

All: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.

Offering

Offertory *"Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine"* arr. Douglas E. Wagner

*Doxology *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH 95

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Preparation *"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"* UMH 216

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Response: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Christmas Cantata

*Benediction

*Postlude *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* arr. Gordon Young

**Please stand if able*

The Music Ministry of Bethel UMC presents
The Sanctuary and Youth Choirs in
"Behold the Star" by Lloyd Larson

I. Light of the World
II. Do Not Be Afraid
III. O Holy Night
IV. Shepherds, Leave Your Flock
V. See Amid the Winter's Snow
VI. Behold the Star!
VII. The Star Still Shines

Narrators – Parker and Ella Bowen
Sound – Jim Griffith
Rehearsal Accompanist – Penny Holt
Director – Dale Fischer

The Singers

Soprano	**Alto**	**Tenor**
Emily Daniel	Jane Burns	Matt Connolly
Patrice Daniel	Becky Griffith	Alex Henderson
Sheila Dobbins	Sandra King	Lee Richards
Katie Fleming	Ann McIntyre	Phillip Stone
Blaine Gray	Ellie Powell	
Penny Holt	Marion Keller-Robertson	
Peggy Horner	Peggy Taylor	**Bass**
Haley Moore		Brent Daniel
Laura Painter		Bill Dobbins
Peggy Parrot		Mark Fischer
Maggie Perez		Scott Fleming
Elaine Ready		
Mallory Robson		
Dorothy Rocbuck		
Mary Scruggs		
Amelia Smith		
Tracie Powell-Wilkin		