

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed his your beloved Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be your children and inheritors with him of everlasting life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.<sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**PSALM: Psalm 29**

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

**<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**<sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, “Glory!”

**<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

<sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**SECOND READING: Romans 6:1-11**

<sup>6</sup>What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in

a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

**Today: January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Baptism of Our Lord**  
9:15-Adult SS  
9:30- Youth SS  
9:30- Coffee Fellowship  
10:30-Worship w/Communion  
4:00-Laurens Care Center  
5:00-Youth Board Mtg @ FCC  
5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ FCC

**Tuesday: January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30-Prayer Group  
9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC

**Wednesday: January 10<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00-Council Meeting  
**January 9<sup>th</sup> -January 20<sup>th</sup> Pastor & Family On Vacation**  
**January 16-18-Clergy Retreat in Orlando, FL**

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Myra Walstead, Elizabeth Dunbar, Bob Winkelmann, Linda Booth, Monica Isom, Tiffany Klappenbach, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolto Rezarin, Ely Kleszczelski, Colleen Phillips, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Christine Gordon, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries..

**Lectors:** Tom Anderson  
**Ushers:** January 7 – Myles & Shirley Pedersen  
January 14 – Rich & Marilyn Ehlers

**Acolytes:**  
**Weekly Budget Needs: \$2800.00**  
Faith Promise \$4110.40                      Worship 26

**Birthdays:** January 7-Caleb Jamison; 10-Joy Raasch

**\*Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.**

**Altar Flowers:**

An asterisk (\*) indicates when to stand (for those who are able)

**ORDER OF THE SERVICE**  
PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL  
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION**  
\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56  
\*HYMN *Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God* **LBW 191**  
\*GREETING P.57  
\*KYRIE P.57  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.60  
\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)

**MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD**  
**FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5**  
**PSALM: Psalm 29** (bulletin -responsively)  
**SECOND READING: Romans 6:1-11**  
\*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62  
\***THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11**  
\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63  
CHILDREN’S SERMON  
Sermon Pastor David Klappenbach  
HYMN: *Baptized in Water* **CH 465**  
NICENE CREED P.64  
\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH  
**Leader:** “...Lord, in your mercy.”  
**Response:** “hear our prayer.”  
\*THE PEACE

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**  
OFFERING / \*OFFERTORY P.66  
\*OFFERTORY HYMN *You are My All in All* **CH 583**  
\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.68  
\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION P.69  
\*THE LORD’S PRAYER P.71  
\*LAMB OF GOD P.72  
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION  
BLESSING P.72  
\*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE P.72

**\*BENEDICTION** P.76  
\*HYMN *Shine Jesus, Shine* **CH 431**  
\*DISMISSAL  
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**January 7, 2024**  
**Baptism of Our Lord**

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT**  
**TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

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To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you. Please come again!

Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service.  
*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!*