

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of you Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted and proclaim liberty to the captive, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

³The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

PSALM: Psalm 62

¹For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

²He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

³How long will you assail a person, will you batter your victim, all of you, as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

⁴Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence. They take pleasure in falsehood; they bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.

⁵For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

⁶He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

⁹Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

¹¹Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

¹²and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, (32-35)

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who

buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. ³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord; ³³but the married man is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife, ³⁴and his interests are divided. And the unmarried woman and the virgin are anxious about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: January 21st Third Sunday after Epiphany 9:15-Adult SS 9:30- Youth SS 9:30- Coffee Fellowship 10:30-Worship w Communion, SS Sing 11:30-Potluck-Growth & Sharing Mtg Following Potluck 5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ FCC Monday: January 22nd 7:00-Handbell Rehearsal Tuesday: January 23rd 8:30-Prayer Group 9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC	Sunday: January 28th Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 9:15-Adult SS 9:30- Youth SS 9:30- Coffee Fellowship 10:30-Worship Annual Congregational Mtg Following Worship 4:00-Laurens Care Center Service
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Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Pete Runneberg, Myra Reese, 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, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lector: Dean Armstrong
Ushers: January 21st -Myra Reese & Vicki Fontenot
January 28th -Tom & Elaine Anderson
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2800.00

Faith Promise \$11,277.00 1/7/24 Worship 24
Sunday School \$ 9.00 1/7/24 Adult SS 4 Youth SS 9

Birthdays: January 27 – Caleb Pierce
Anniversary:

***Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.**
Altar Flowers: Hope you had a WONDERFUL Christmas and wishing you a Happy New Year! The Wenell’s

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 *Here I Am, Lord* CH 589
*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: Jonah 3:1-5, 10
PSALM: Psalm 62 (bulletin – responsively)
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, (32-35)
*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
***THE HOLY GOSPEL:** Mark 1: 14-20
*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
CHILDREN’S SERMON SS Sing
SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach
HYMN *I Love to Tell the Story* LBW 390
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 *Blessed Assurance* CH 572
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.67
*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**

*HYMN *Rise Up, O Saints of God* LBW 383
*DISMISSAL
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January 21, 2024
Third Sunday after Epiphany

**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!