

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your only Son as the Word of Life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe with joy what the Scriptures proclaim, through your Son, Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God?" ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11

¹Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

²The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

³He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

⁴He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

⁵Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

⁶The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.

⁸He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

⁹He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;

¹¹but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a

Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. ²⁴Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. ²⁵Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; ²⁷but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: February 4th <i>5th Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:15 – Adult SS 9:30 – Youth SS 9:30-Coffee Fellowship 10:30 – Worship w/Communion Installation of Council 4:00-Laurens Care Center Service 5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ Bowling	Sunday: February 11th <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 9:15-Adult 9:30-Coffee Fellowship 10:30-Worship
Tuesday: January 30th 8:30AM – Prayer Group 9:30AM – Tuesday coffee at BLC	

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, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolfo 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.

Lectors: Marilyn Ehlers
Ushers: February 4th-Jim & Denise Hodgell
February 11th-Tom & Rhonda Shewell
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2800.00
Faith Promise \$2435.00 Worship 31
Sunday School \$4.00 Adult SS 8 Youth SS

Birthdays: Feb 7-Scott Pedersen
Anniversary: Feb 5-John & Marci Runneberg

***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 to the Lord, the Almighty* **LBW 543**
*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: Isaiah 40:21-31
PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11 (bulletin -responsively)

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27
*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62

*THE HOLY GOSPEL: **Mark 1:29-39**
*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63

CHILDREN’S SERMON
Sermon **Pastor David Klappenbach**
HYMN *He Touched Me* **CH 505**
NICENE CREED P.64

Council installation
*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 *For the Bread Which we Have Broken* **LBW 202**
*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 *I’m So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me* **CH 522**
*DISMISSAL



February 4, 2024
Fifth 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!