**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: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

8all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. 2Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. 3He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. 5And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. 8So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.9And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. 10Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

**PSALM: Psalm 19:1-14**

1The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**2Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge**.

3There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

4yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

5which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**6Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.**

7The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

**8the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

9the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**10More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

11Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**12But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**

13Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

12For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20As it is, there are many members, yet one body. 21The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, 25that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.27Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. 29Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

**GOSPEL:** **Luke 4:16-30**

16When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” 20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” 22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” 23He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” 24And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. 25But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; 26yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. 27There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” 28When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. 29They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. 30But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

**THIS WEEK AT BETHANY**

**Today: January 26th Sunday: February 2nd**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

9:15-Adult SS 9:15-Adult SS

9:15-Youth SS 9:15-Youth SS

9:30-Coffee Fellowship 9:30-Coffee Fellowship

10:30-Worship 10:30-Worship w/Communion

Annual Meeting 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group

6:00-Bethany Prayer Group

**Monday: January 27th**

7:00-Handbell rehearsal

**Tuesday: January 28th**

8:30-Prayer Group

9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC

**Tuesday-Thursday January 28-30th**

Pastors Conference San Antonio TX

**Wednesday: January 29th**

7:00-Confirmation

**Prayer Concerns**:Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, those suffering any illness, Don DeHaan, Ed Schmidt, Dorothy Smith, Janelle Mason, Linda Galbraith, Tim Burton, Desiree Welty, Roberta Baker, Pastor John Mayer, Elizabeth Dunbar, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen.  Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries. Families of Jerry Mackie & Mary Joy Roberts

**Lectors:** Dean Armstrong

**Ushers:** January 26th **-**Tom & Elaine Anderson

 February 2nd -Jim & Denise Hodgell

**Acolytes:** Bethany Youth

**Weekly Budget Needs:**

**\*\*\*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 (as able)*

**ORDER OF THE SERVICE**

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL /

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION**

\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56

\*HYMN  ***When the Morning Gilds the Skies LBW 546***

\*GREETING P.57

\*KYRIE P.57

\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.59

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY *(bulletin-in unison)*

**MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

**PSALM: Psalm 19:1-14**  *(bulletin – responsively)*

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

\*ALLELUA VERSE P.62

\***THE HOLY GOSPEL:** **Luke 4:16-30**

\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN ***Hark, the Glad Sound LBW 35***

APOSTLES’ CREED P.65

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

OFFERING P.75

\*OFFERTORY P.75

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

 \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

 Leader: …Lord in your mercy

 Response: Hear our prayer.

*\*****THE LORD’S PRAYER*** **CH 631**

**OUR SENDING**

\*BENEDICTION P.76

\*HYMN  ***Oh, for a thousand Tongues o Sing LBW 559***

\*DISMISSAL

 **January 26, 2025**

 **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT**

**TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

213 S. Harrison, PO Box 151

Laurens, IA 50554 Ph. 712-841-2181

Email: bethanynalc@gmail.com

Pastor David Klappenbach

Cell 419-603-8350 Home 712-841-2532

Shirley McKiernan, Organist

Website: www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org

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 and give to an usher. Please come again!

***We are a***

***Christ-Centered***

***Mission-Driven***

***Traditionally-Grounded***

***Congregationally-Focused***

***Church***