

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:4-15**

<sup>4</sup>The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” <sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. <sup>14</sup>If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.” <sup>15</sup>Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being, and provided a feast for all his servants.

**PSALM: Psalm 119:97-104**

<sup>97</sup>Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

**<sup>98</sup>Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.**

<sup>99</sup>I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

**<sup>100</sup>I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.**

<sup>101</sup>I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

**<sup>102</sup>I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.**

<sup>103</sup>How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**<sup>104</sup>Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.**

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the

fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

**GOSPEL: Luke 2:40-52**

<sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. <sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day’s journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” <sup>49</sup>He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

**Today: January 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Second Sunday after Christmas**  
9:15-Youth & Adult SS  
9:30-Coffee Fellowship  
10:30-Worship w/Communion  
11:45-Bethany Prayer Group  
**Monday: January 5<sup>th</sup>**  
4:00-W/M Mtg  
**Tuesday: January 6<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30: Prayer Group/Maten's & a Meal  
9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC  
**Wednesday: January 7<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00-Confirmation

**Sunday: January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Baptism of Our Lord**  
9:15-Youth & Adult SS  
9:30-Coffee Fellowship  
10:30-Worship  
11:45-Bethany Prayer Group

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness Pat Boughey, Tom Shewell, Mary Roat, Todd & Elizabeth Woods, Myles Pedersen, Pastor John Mayer, Monica Isom, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Gloria Bell, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & Missionaries

Lector: Rich Ehlers  
Ushers: January 4<sup>th</sup> -Myles & Shirley Pedersen  
January 11<sup>th</sup> -Rich & Marilyn Ehlers  
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

**Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00**  
Faith Promise                      Worship 10  
Sunday School                  Adult SS                  Youth SS

**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  
\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56  
\*HYMN *Go Tell it on the Mountain* **LBW 70**  
\*GREETING P.57  
\*KYRIE P.57  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.60  
\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)  
**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:4-15**  
**PSALM: Psalm 119:97-104** (bulletin -responsively)  
**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**  
\*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62  
\***THE HOLY GOSPEL:** Luke 2:40-52  
\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63  
CHILDREN'S SERMON  
**SERMON** Pastor David Klappenbach  
HYMN *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* **LBW 55**  
NICENE CREED P.64  
\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH  
    **Leader:** "...Lord, in your mercy."  
    **Response:** "hear our prayer."  
\*THE PEACE  
OFFERING / \*OFFERTORY P.66  
\*OFFERTORY PRAYER P.67  
\*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 *Joy to the World* **LBW 39**  
\*DISMISSAL  
.....



**January 4, 2026**  
**Second Sunday after Christmas**

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

213 S. Harrison, PO Box 151  
Laurens, IA 50554  
Ph. 712-841-2181  
Email: bethanylalc@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. 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!*