

**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: Isaiah 9:1-4**

<sup>9</sup>But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**PSALM: Psalm 27:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**<sup>2</sup>When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh— my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

**<sup>4</sup>One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

**<sup>6</sup>Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**<sup>8</sup>“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, LORD, do I seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

**<sup>10</sup>If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.**

<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**<sup>12</sup>Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.**

<sup>13</sup>I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

**<sup>14</sup>Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?<sup>14</sup>I thank God

that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)<sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-25**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: January 25<sup>th</sup>  
Third Sunday after Epiphany  
9:15-Adult & Youth SS  
9:30-Coffee Fellowship  
10:30-Worship  
Annual Congregational MTG  
Bethany Prayer Group following  
Mtg  
**Monday: January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00-Handbell Rehearsal  
**January 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>** Pastors Conference  
In VA Beach  
**Tuesday: January 27<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30-Prayer Group  
9:30-Coffee @ BLC

Sunday : February 1<sup>st</sup>  
Fourth Sunday after  
Epiphany  
9:15-Adult & Youth SS  
9:30-Coffee Fellowship  
10:30-Worship w/Communion  
Installation of Officer  
11:45-Bethany Prayer Group

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness Shannon Hersom, 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

**Lectors:** Rhonda Shewell

**Ushers:** January 25<sup>th</sup> -Myra Reese & Michelle Gordon  
February 1<sup>st</sup> -Jim & Denise Hodgell

**Acolytes:** Bethany Youth

**Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00**

Faith Promise \$ 205.00    Worship 29    Youth SS 0    Adult SS 3  
Thank you God gift \$ 50.00    Potluck \$36.00

**Birthdays:** January 27-Caleb Pierce

\*\*\*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 *Shine, Jesus, Shine* CH 431  
\*GREETING P.57  
\*KYRIE P.57  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.59  
\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)  
FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4  
PSALM: Psalm 27:1-14 (bulletin – responsively)  
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
\*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62  
\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-25  
\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63  
CHILDREN’S SERMON  
SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach  
HYMN *Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult* LBW 494  
APOSTLES CREED P.65  
OFFERING P.75  
\*OFFERTORY HYMN 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  
\*BENEDICTION P.76  
\*HYMN *Here I Am, Lord* CH 589  
\*DISMISSAL



January 25, 2026  
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 and give to an usher. Please come again!

We are a  
Christ-Centered  
Mission-Driven  
Traditionally-Grounded  
Congregationally-Focused  
Church