

OT. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord January 1tth & 12th, 2025

The Season

"Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." When someone has an epiphany, it's not that reality changed. The way they see that reality is what changed, for a deeper truth has been revealed. In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth.

The Sunday

To answer that question—Who are you?— you look to your baptism. There, just like he did with Jesus, our Father declares you to be his dearly loved child. Moreover, in baptism God anointed you with power for a life of selfless service.

The Service

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar in which we joyfully receive Christ's body and blood, in, with, and under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate the Sacrament we also give public confession of our complete unity in the Christian faith. We invite communicant members of St. Lucas Lutheran Church, or of another congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) to commune. If you are a guest visiting with us today, please refrain from communing until you have spoken with our pastor. The congregation reads the potions in bold print.

Prayer before Worship

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you, loving Lord, for cleansing me of my sins and adopting me into your family through the miracle of Holy Baptism. As I worship today, help me remember what my baptism means to me. Lead me to feel genuine sorrow for my sins and empower me to put down the sinful nature that still lives in me. Lift me up as I hear your promise of forgiveness and give me strength to live a life pleasing to you.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Timothy Henning

Organist: Laura Schulz

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star CW 370 Stand for the 5th stanza 1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing The na - tions Star! see 2 0 high - est joy by mor - tals won, true Son of God 3 0 might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved me ere Oh. joy to know that you, my friend, are Lord, be - gin -5 Lift up the voice and strike the string, let all glad sounds hail a - far the light and in Ju dah shin - ing. and Mar-v's son. the high - born King of a - ges! vou had be - gun this an cient world's foun - da - tion. ning with-out end, the first and last, e - ter - nal! of mu - sic ring in God's high prais es blend - ed. 0 Da - vid's Ja - cob's race, my Bride-groom and son of vour blest bod In let me be. e'en as the branch v Son has made friend of and when Your me, in spir а And vou at length - 0 glo-rious gracewill take me to Christ will be with me all the way, to - day, to - mor -King of grace, for you my heart is pin - ing. my is in the tree, your life my life sup - ply - ing. it him I see, joy trib - u - la - tion. Ι in that ho - ly place, the home of jovs su - per - nal. row, ev - 'ry day till trav - 'ling days are end - ed. Low - lv. ho - ly, great and glo - rious. 0 vic - to - rious Sigh - ing, cry - ing for the sa - vor of vour fa - vor, What bliss He is this! is liv - ing, to me giv - ing a - men! Come and meet me, quick - ly greet me! A - men. vic - to - rious Sing out, ring out tri - umph glo - rious, 0 Prince of fill - ing all the heav'n-lv grac - es, plac - es. rest - ing till Ι vou for - ev nev - er rest in er. life for - ev - er; noth - ing from him can sev - er. me With deep yearn-ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing. cho - sen na - tion; praise the God of your sal - va - tion.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text and tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

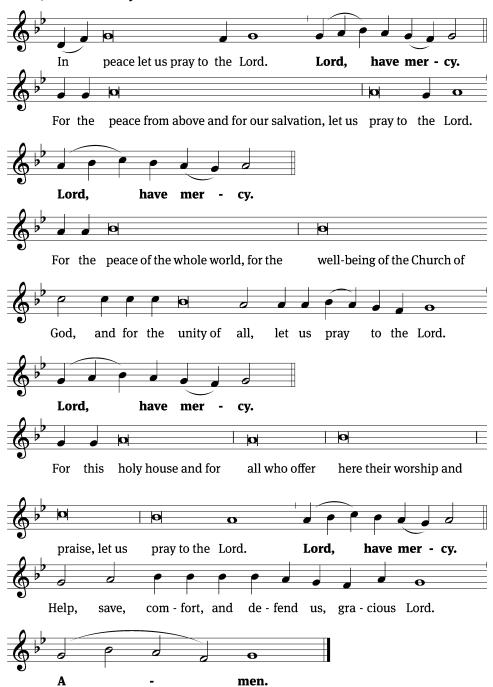
Let us confess our sins to the Lord. Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174



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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176





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The Word

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1–13

The Lord declared David's true identity—future king of Israel. ***

'The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

²But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

⁵Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." ¹¹So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

You Are My Son

Psalm 2A Sung responsively between Pastor & congregation



Why do the / nations rage?

Why do the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers assemble a- / gainst the LORD and against his A- / nointed One. *Refrain*

He who sits in / heaven laughs;

the Lord / scoffs at them.

Then he addresses them in his anger and frightens them with his fury, / saying,

"I have set my King on Zion, my / holy hill." Refrain

I will declare the / LORD's decree:

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have be- / gotten you."

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Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the / Holy Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain
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Text: translation Tune: Thomas Pavlechko Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House (verse text tr.). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Music: © 2004, 2012 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484

Second Reading

Titus 3:4–7

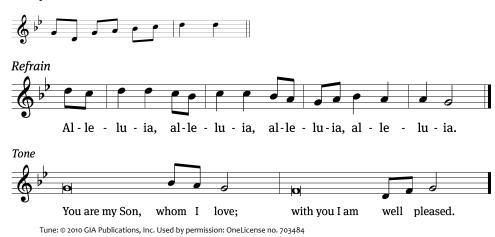
Baptism is your second birth that gives you the identity of God's child and heir.

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11



Gospel Luke 3:15–17,21-22 At his baptism, Jesus was identified by his Father as the Anointed One.

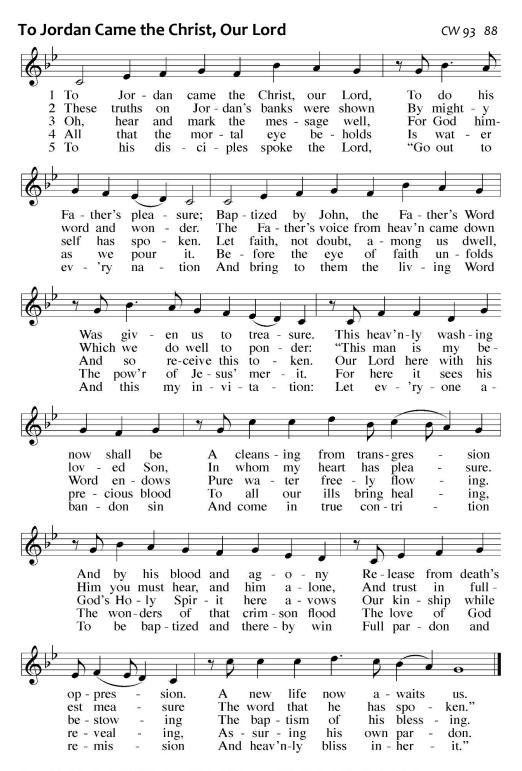
¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated

Children's Sermon



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911–88, alt. © 1976 Elizabeth Quitmeyer. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: CHRIST UNSER HERR ZUM JORDAN KAM (87 87 87 87 77) Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524.

Sermon

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 Embrace the Blessing of Baptism 1. for you 2. through Christ

Stand

Remembrance of Baptism

Holy Baptism is the priceless means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul wrote: "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Again Paul wrote: "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives us new life. We reject the devil and confess that we believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises? **Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty? Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

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maker of heaven and earth.
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Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

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Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
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Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus, to value the Word and sacraments, and to live a life that pleases God?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

May the eternal God, who saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Additional Petitions

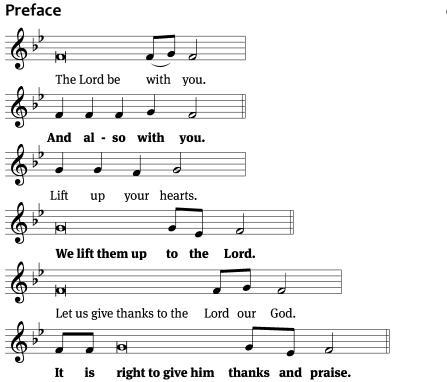
Loving Father, lead us to rejoice every day as we remember our baptism. When we sin against you and others, give us power to put down the sinful nature that was drowned in the water of baptism. When we doubt your love, cause us to remember the promises you made when we came to the font. When we feel weak, invigorate us with the hope of eternal life that awaits all who are baptized and believe in you.

Keep in your care all our brothers and sisters who are suffering in sickness, enduring hardship, carrying a cross, or mourning the death of someone they love. Let them also return to their baptism and remember the blessings you bestowed on them through the water and the Word. Keep all the baptized in your care and bring us at last to the river of the water of life in heaven.

Offering: God's people offer their first and best to the Lord in response to the Lord's blessings to them. The offering is gathered in a basket in the church entrance before or after the service. If you prefer to give electronically, you may scan this graphic to access www.stlucaswels.org/donate.



The Sacrament



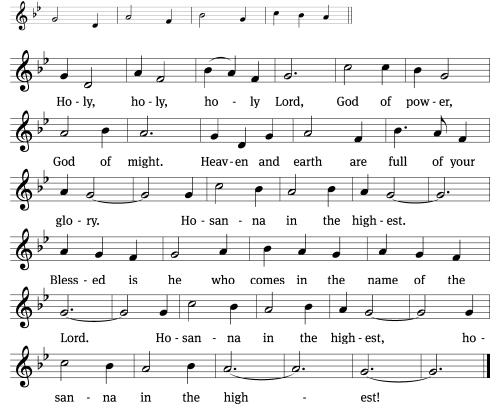
Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984, 1985, 2010 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

CW 183

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**



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Be seated

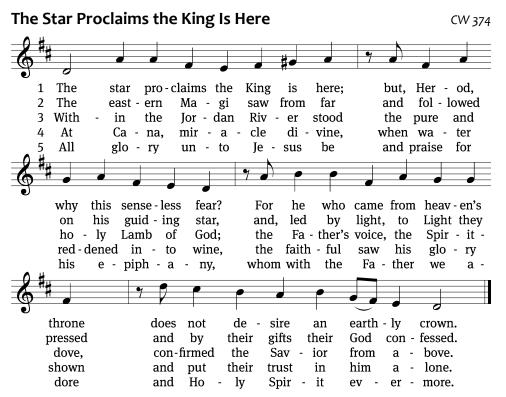
Distribution

Personal Prayer before Communing

Lord Jesus, you have invited me to come and receive your holy Sacrament. I believe that in the bread and wine you give me your true body and blood to eat and drink. Forgive my sins and nourish my faith through this precious meal. I long for the comfort that comes with your promises; I yearn for the assurance of your faithful love. Bless me now as I receive you by faith.

Personal Prayer after Communing

Thank you, dear Savior, for nourishing my faith with the Sacrament of your body and blood. Lift my heart with your forgiveness, renew my confidence in your grace, empower my love for others, and lead me to long for the eternal banquet of heaven.



Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go + in peace.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; **his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**



Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Church Resources

Family Devotions: Get your family into God's Word during the week! Our church body has short devotions available for the entire family. Each devotion comes with a Set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Please visit **wels.net/family-devotions** to get your weekly devotions.

Marriage Moments: Every marriage has its "moments". That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Couples may subscribe to receive the videos directly through email at <u>welscongregationalsevices.net/marriagemoments</u>.

Connecting WELS Members: Connection is more important now than ever. Our church body offers many ways for WELS members to connect through social media. Join the WELS online community at <u>facebook.com/welslutherans</u>, <u>twitter.com/welstweets</u>, <u>Instagram.com/welslutherans</u>, and <u>vimeo.com/wels</u>.

WELS Together e-Newsletter: Stay in the loop! Subscribe to the WELS Together e-Newsletter to stay connected with the people of your synod and the ministry they serve. Also, don't miss the twice-monthly videos that cover important and exciting synod news. Please visit <u>wels.net/together</u> to read and subscribe.

Baptism: If you or a loved one had not yet been baptized, and are interested in more information, please contact Pastor Henning.

Church Membership Starting Point If you're interested in becoming a member here at St. Lucas, we would love to share with you a few Bible studies to introduce you to the biblical teaching here at St. Lucas. We are willing to set up these classes in any setting most comfortable for you, and can always find time that will work for anyone and everyone. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Henning, whose contact info can be found on the final page of this bulletin, underneath the church calendar.

Announcements

Lutheran Memorial Park – Annual Lot Holders Meeting: will be held Monday, January 20, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the St. Lucas School Meeting Room. Anyone interested in serving on the Cemetery Board, please contact Chairman Paul Lemke at 262-626-4829 or Secretary Joyce Kral at 262-626-2725

Save the Date - Annual PTO Gala: Save the date for our 2025 PTO Gala, "Boots & Blue Jeans Ball" to be held on Thursday, 3/13/2025. Keep an eye out for more information, such as website and ticket information, to be released as it becomes available.

Our annual PTO Galas are exciting events that include an evening of music, fun, food, and fellowship all while raising money for much needed items and equipment for our Lutheran Elementary School. There will be a raffle with fun prizes as well as a silent auction. We hope to see you there!

KML Concert: Come join the KML Echoes and Unworthy for a free praise concert and sing along. Warm your hearts with the joy of the Gospel as we sing praises to our Savior together! This event will take place in the KML Performing Arts Center from 7:00 - 8:15 PM on Wednesday, January 15.

Camp Philip Summer Camp Registration Opens February 3rd: It's not quite time to pack your bags, but registration is almost here! Registration will open on Monday, February 3rd at 12pm CST. You can create your account in advance using the link below or watch a quick video on how to register. Spots fill up very quickly, so make your plans now!

https://events.circuitree.com/CampPhillip/Account/Login/

Please Note: Summer Camp sessions are divided by Grade Level of the most recent completed year. Summer 2025 age groups are based off of the 2024-2025 School Year.

Celebrating God's Blessings This Week

<u>BIRTHDAYS</u>				ANNIVERSARIES	
Paul Becht II	1/12	Cassie Wolter	1/14	Scott & Patti Derge	1/13
Sidalee Wendt	1/12	Audra Beyer	1/18		
Austin Ksioszk	1/14	Gary Hostetler	1/18		
Austin Nagel	1/14				

CALENDAR

Readings for January 12th - January 19th 2025

