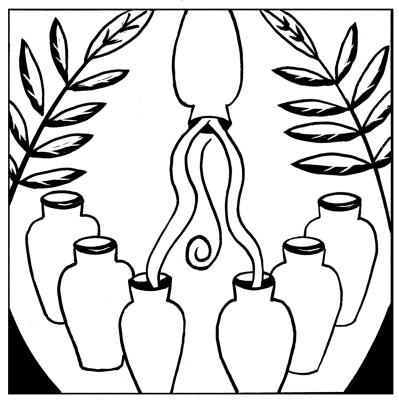
St. James Lutheran Church Second Week of Epiphany January 19th, 2025



St. James Lutheran Church

Presiding Minister: Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Assistant Minister: Shirley Richlen

Acolyte: Carter Royse & Rilynne Larson

Organist: Linda Gross

Church Address: 1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722

Office Email: stjamesbett@gmail.com

Church Office: 563-355-4161

Website: www.stjamesbett.com

WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from St. James following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate. Welcome!

Children's Church for children takes place during our worship service. The children will be dismissed after the *Prayer of the Day* and will be brought back after the *Prayers of Intercession* to join their families.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PRELUDE

The assembly rises in body or spirit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for personal confession.

You may find a simple prayer helpful, such as: "Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." or "Lord, you see all things. I open my heart before you now. Forgive me for my faults - known and unknown."

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God. C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 798 Will You Come and Follow Me





GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Refer to bulletin insert

Carolyn Ackerman
Glenn, Grace, Velvet, Indigo Boyles
Austin Pessein

HYMN ELW 453 Baptized and Set Free (verses 1 & 4)



The assembly is seated.

Children are dismissed for children's church.

WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 62:1-5

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the LORD and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called Hephzi-Bah,* (which means "My Delight Is in Her") and your land shall be called Beulah, (which means "Married"), for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married.
- ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

A: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

^{*}Pronounced "Hef-tsee-bah"

PSALMODY: Psalm 36:5-10

- ⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.
 - ⁷ How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
 - 8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.
 - ⁹ For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.
 - ¹⁰ Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart.

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1-7

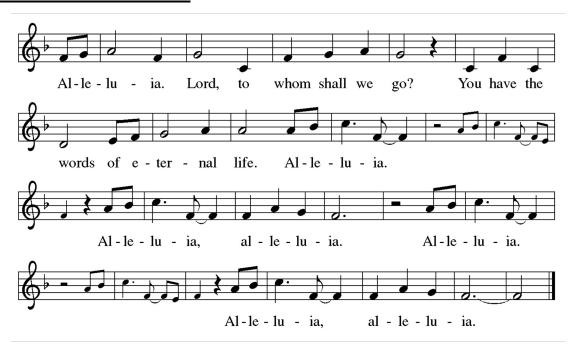
¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. chooses.

A: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to St. John 2:1-11

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁶ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. ⁶ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him,

9

"Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

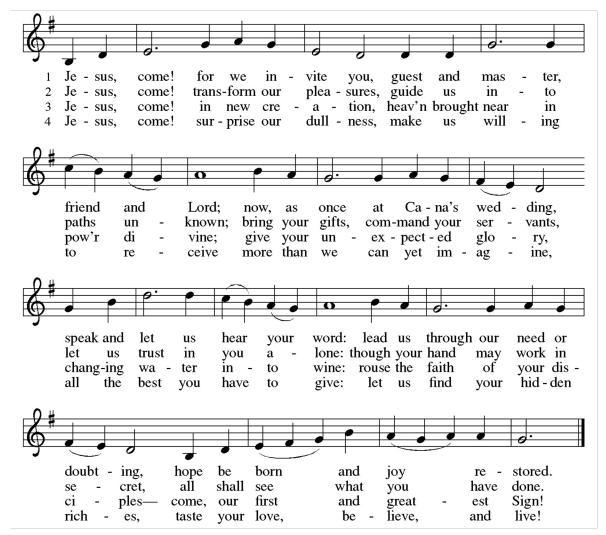
The Two Become One

Questions to consider:

- What is revealed about Jesus (the "epiphany") at the wedding feast?
- Where else do you see the themes of celebration and feast in our liturgy and in Scripture?
- How might this influence the imagery you associate with these lines in the Lord's Prayer: Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven?

The assembly rises in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 312 Jesus Come! For We Invite You



PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

Pass the peace by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world.

God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

A: Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. We pray for the areas of California affected by wildfires. Contain the devastation and bring health to all living things in your care. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. Keep safe first responders, especially those fighting the fires in California, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others, especially **Anthony**, **Brandon**, **Eli**, **Nathan**, **and Samantha**. God of grace, **C**: **hear our prayer**.

A: God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need, especially Addie, Barry, Bev, Carol, Connie, Donna, Dotty, Drew, Frieda, Grant, Hattie, Janet and Paul, Jason, Jeanne, Jeff, Joann, John, Julia, Konnor, LaVonne, Lynn, Mark, Maggie, Michelle, Michelle, Minhon, Phil, Russ, Ruthann, Sandy, Sherry, Theo, and Wally. We also pray for healing and good health for the people at the Bettendorf Health Care Center as they recover from an outbreak of COVID.

God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

A: Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*, we pray for neighboring congregations on 18th street, especially **Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Asbury United Methodist Church, Riverview Free Will Baptist Church, and Sacred City Church**. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. We also pray for peace and safety for common folks in **Syria, Ukraine, and the Holy Land** who are in harm's way through no fault of their own. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for all your saints. We thank you for **Wanda** and we pray for her grieving family. Give them peace. We give you thanks for **Henry**, **Bishop of Uppsala** whom we commemorate today and for **Agnes of Rome** whom we will commemorate* in the upcoming week. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer**.

A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **C: Amen.**

*See announcements for additional details.

MEAL

OFFERING: our offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

OFFERTORY: Create in Me a Clean Heart



OFFERING PRAYER:

A: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

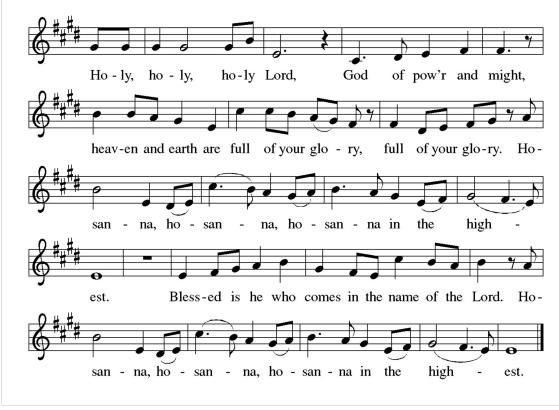
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Full of compassion, you granted them your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he suffered under unjust tyranny, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **C: Amen.**Seeing his epiphany at the wedding feast, we exclaim Amen. **C: Amen.**Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **C: Amen.**Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God most majestic, O God most nurturing,

O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P. Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

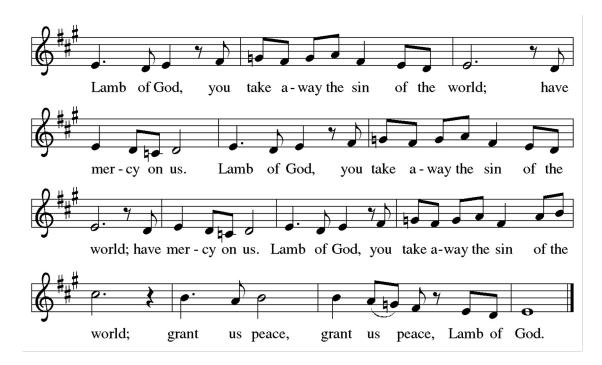
P: Come, eat this meal of gladness. All are welcome here.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

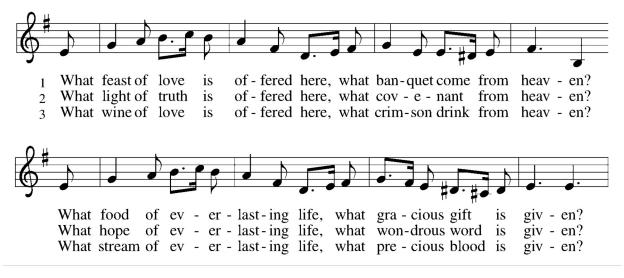
Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white).

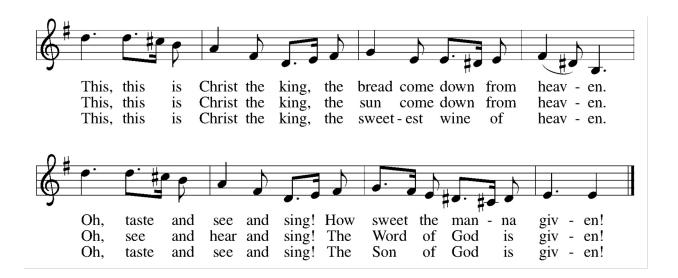
Hymn: Lamb of God



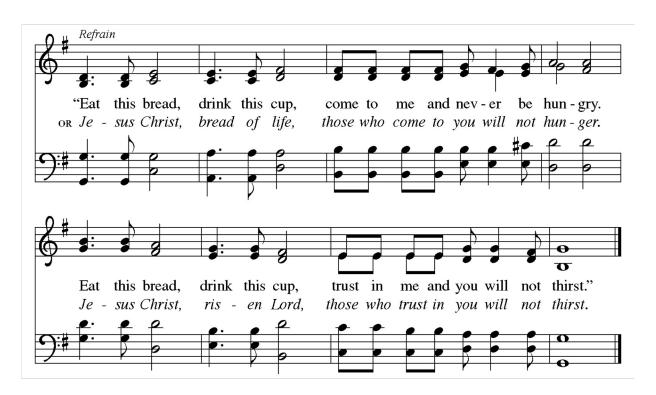
COMMUNION HYMNS:

Hymn: ELW 487 Feast of Love





Hymn: ELW 472 Eat This Bread (sing 3 times)



The assembly rises in body or spirit.

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **C: Amen**

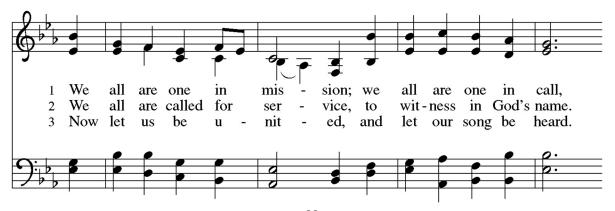
SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God ⊕ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 576 We All Are One in Mission





<u>AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION</u>

P: Siblings in Christ, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, all the days of your life?

C: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and donuts following our service to welcome the new members who joined our congregation today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health or out of town!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjngGF4g QWtn I2SqpL5Q

Attendance last week: Saturday Evening 31

Sunday Morning 74 YouTube 3

This week's birthdays:

1/19 Barbara Jackson 1/21 Leo Southwell

This week's anniversary:

1/19 Sherry Germanio & Lynn Chamberlain

The flowers today are given by Janet & Paul Brakel in memory of their son, David.

<u>Flowers</u>—We have a new flower chart in the Narthex! There are plenty of dates to purchase flowers in memory of loved ones, to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries or for special occasions, so be sure to reserve your special date! The flowers will remain at \$45 through 2025. The offering envelopes for flower donations are next to the chart.

<u>Offering Envelopes</u>—Make sure to pick up your box of offering envelopes—boxes are located in the Narthex!

<u>1/26</u>—10:15AM Annual Congregational Meeting. This is a meeting where we recall everything that has been done in the church over the past year. New Council members will be voted in. Each committee will share their report from 2024. <u>There will be no Saturday service on 1/25.</u>

2/2—10:15-11:15AM Choir Practice

2/9—8:30AM Choir Warm-up. Singing "In the Bleak Midwinter."

February Adult Prayer and Learning Group:

Sign up sheets located in the Narthex.

February: The Dance of Christian Meditation

Date: February 12 at 2:00 p.m, February 13 at 6:00 p.m.

- The Psalms and other places in the Bible talk about meditation. What is meditation for the Christian?
- How is Christian meditation different or the same as other ideas about meditation?

Scripture Study: Jeremiah 17:7-8 and Exodus 40

Recommended Reading: Meditation by Jim Downing

*Commemorations and Additional Details

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Sunday, January 19th

Henry was an Englishman living in Rome. He accompanied the papal legate, Nicholas Cardinal Breakspear to Scandinavia in 1151 and was consecrated bishop of Uppsala, Sweden, the next year by the cardinal. Henry was with King Eric of Sweden in the latter's invasion of Finland to punish Finnish pirates and remained behind when Eric returned to Sweden. Henry was murdered by a convert named Lalli, on whom he had imposed a penance for a murder he had committed. Henry is considered the patron saint of Finland, though he does not appear to have ever been formally canonized.

Agnes of Rome, martyr, died around 304

Tuesday, January 21st

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Christian churches across the globe mark the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will focus on affirming the Nicene Creed and its expression of the faith Christians share. The theme chosen for the 2025 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is Jesus' question to Martha of Bethany: "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26).

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Worship Assistants

January 19

Presider

Assisting Minister Acolyte

Ushers

YouTube Assistant

Altar Guild Counters

January 26

Presider

Assisting Minister

Acolyte **Ushers**

YouTube Assistant

Altar Guild Counters

February 2

Presider

Assisting Minister

Acolyte **Ushers**

YouTube Assistant

Altar Guild Counters

9:00 AM Worship

Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Ann Larson Carter Royse

Dee Worley & Darryl Worley

Deb Crooks

Mary Meumann & Terry Martens

Needed

9:00 AM Worship

Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Pat Larson Edi Southwell

Caroline Hicks & Shirley Richlen

Deb Crooks

Mary Meumann & Terry Martens

Needed

9:00 AM Worship

Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Judie Brooks & Diana Worley

Needed

Pat Larson & Ellen Hogbin

Deb Crooks

Mary Meumann & Audrey Lovell

Needed

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Lynn Chamberlain, Bev Chappen, Sherry Germanio, Sandy Henry, Jeff Hicks, Frieda Houldsworth, John Leder, LaVonne Mienke, Jeanne Peters, Maggie Bayliss, Minhon Ridenour

Family and Friends

Addie (Diana Worley's co-worker's daughter), Barry (cousin of Ellen Hogbin), Carol (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Connie (friend of Maggie Bayliss), Dotty (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Donna (Ed Arp's sister), Drew (Pat Larson's friend),

Grant (grandson of Carol Leacox), **Hattie** (Frieda's sister) **Jason** (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),

Jerry (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Joann (Frieda's sister-in-law), Jon (Joleen Bakken's nephew), Julia (Keegan's girlfriend), Konnor (Bert Leder's grandson), Mark (friend of Jason Forari), Michelle (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),

Michelle (friend of Jason & Melissa Forari), Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother), Russ (friend of Steve & Sue Miller, husband to Chris),

Ruthann (Justina Pessein's mom), **Theo** (Great Nephew to Kathy Melby & Lora Gwin), **Wally** (Frieda's nephew)

Military Personnel

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
Lt. Col. Brandon Sandoval USAF (Pat Larson's grandson)
CPT Eli Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)
Samantha Richard (friend of Larson family)

In Memoriam

Wanda Severinsen (Janet Brakel's mother)

If you have anyone who needs to be taken off or added, please notify the church office.

Notes

January / February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19 9AM Worship— New Member Service 10:15 Council Mtg.	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 1:00PM Sarah Circle	22 6-8PM Food Pantry	23 9-11AM Food Pantry	24	25 NO Saturday Service
26 9AM Worship 10:15AM Annual Congregational Meeting	27 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship 5:30PM Meal at Zion	28 12-4PM Quilting	29 6-8PM Food Pantry	30 9-11AM Food Pantry	31	2/1 5:00PM Saturday Service
2/2 9AM Worship 10:15-11:15AM Choir Practice	2/3 6:15PM Social Ministry Mtg.	2/4 4PM Property Mtg.	2/5 8AM Worship & Music Mtg. 6-8PM Food Pantry	2/6 9-11AM Food Pantry	2/7	2/8 5:00PM Saturday Service
2/9 8:30AM Choir Warmup 9AM Worship 10:15AM Finance Mtg.	2/10 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship	2/11	2/12 2:00PM Adult Prayer & Learning 6-8PM Food Pantry	2/13 9-11AM Food Pantry 6:00PM Adult Prayer & Learning	2/14	2/15 5:00PM Saturday Service
2/16 9AM Worship 10:15 Council Mtg.	2/17	2/18	2/19 6-8PM Food Pantry	2/20 9-11AM Food Pantry	2/21	2/22 5:00PM Saturday Service