

St John's Lutheran Church - Bennington
Church 291-6225
Website: www.stjohnsbennington.com
Pastor Beth A. Olson 319-483-8135

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday: 1st - Sunday School - 9 AM
Worship w/ Communion - 10 AM
Annual Meeting

Monday: 2nd - Quilting - 9 AM
Pastor in Office - 10 AM
Hymns - 11 AM

Wednesday: 4th - Pastor in Office - 4 PM
Confirmation - 7 PM

Thursday: 5th - Brenda in Office - 9 AM
Pastor in Office - 10 AM

Sunday: 8th - Sunday School - 9 AM
Worship - 10 AM
LYO Meeting

About today: Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving. (Sundays and Seasons)

St. John's Annual Meeting is today after worship in the fellowship hall. We're hoping everyone will stay and attend the meeting, as we will be reviewing 2025 and looking ahead to 2026.

Today's Sunday School lesson was about 'The Beatitudes (Blessed)' from Matthew 5:1-12. Next Sunday, February 8, we will have a Valentine's Love party! Feel free to dress for the theme!

Lent begins February 18 with Ash Wednesday worship at 7 PM. During the season of Lent, we will also have First Communion instruction for those in grades 2nd and up; families of our second graders will receive an email. First Communion will then be shared on Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7 PM worship. Good Friday worship will be April 3, 7 PM.

Technical difficulties may delay getting the newsletters emailed out. Thanks for your patience as we work with Mediacom to get things sorted.

Prayer of the Day **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany** **2/1/26**
Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Ministers of Worship

TODAY:

Accompanist: Alex Speer
Lector: Deanne Salisbury
Zoom Operator: Denise Pierce
Acolyte: Gracie Kienast
Ushers: Greg and Denise Pierce;

Justin Pierce

Communion Servers: Joe and Teresa Stafford
February Communion Bread Maker - Julie Magee

Fellowship

TODAY:

Aidan Hesse
Family

Attendance

Last Sunday's Attendance: 35

NEXT WEEK:

Accompanist: Sarah Best
Lector: Jessica Huntley
Zoom Operator: Bobbi Seamans
Acolyte: Greyson Pierce
Usher: Willy Wolff

NEXT WEEK:

Kristin Best
Family

Last Month Attendance Average: 38

All are welcomed at God's table at St. John's, Bennington today! We will commune using little cups and gluten-free bread. White grape juice is available in the center of each tray. Those not communing are invited forward for a blessing, and all are welcome at God's table at St. John's!

Camp EWALU registration for 2026 is now open! Go to their website www.ewalu.org or check out the brochures on table. Construction is underway to renovate Cedar Lodge (the main dining hall). St. John's has contributed to this renovation! Dedication of the newly renovated lodge is slated for August 28-30, and will include a concert by Peter Mayer, singer and songwriter from Stillwater, MN, with 11 albums to his credit.

Did you know? Hymn 546 was written by Delores Dufner. She wrote the hymn in 2000, basing it on 1 Corinthians 12 and 13. The "author" summarizes its themes as 'our Christian calling to be the heart, hands and voice of Christ in the world; the church's joy in sharing Christ's mission to the world.' (Used by permission. *ELW Hymnal Companion*, pg. 381.)

LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? —Psalm 15:1

Order of Service

Prelude

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements
#Gathering Song **ELW # 522**
#Greeting **p. 203**
#Glory be to God **p. 204**
#Prayer of the Day (see left) **p. 205**
Children's Message

WORD

Scripture Readings: **p. 205**
First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
#Gospel Acclamation **p. 205**
#Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon

Hymn of the Day **ELW # 728**
#Apostles' Creed **p. 105**
#Prayers of Intercession
Offering
#Offertory Song **ELW # 182**
#Offertory Prayer

MEAL

#The Great Thanksgiving **p. 206**
and following pages.
The Lord's Prayer **p. 208**
Lamb of God **p. 208**
Distribution

Hymn During Distribution **ELW # 310**
#Post Communion Prayer

SEND

#Blessing
#Sending Song **ELW # 546**
p. 209

Kids meet pastor in back during last verse of song to help; congregation response is "And have fun doing it!"
#Dismissal **p. 209**
#Postlude

- Please stand as you are able

ELW - Cranberry Book