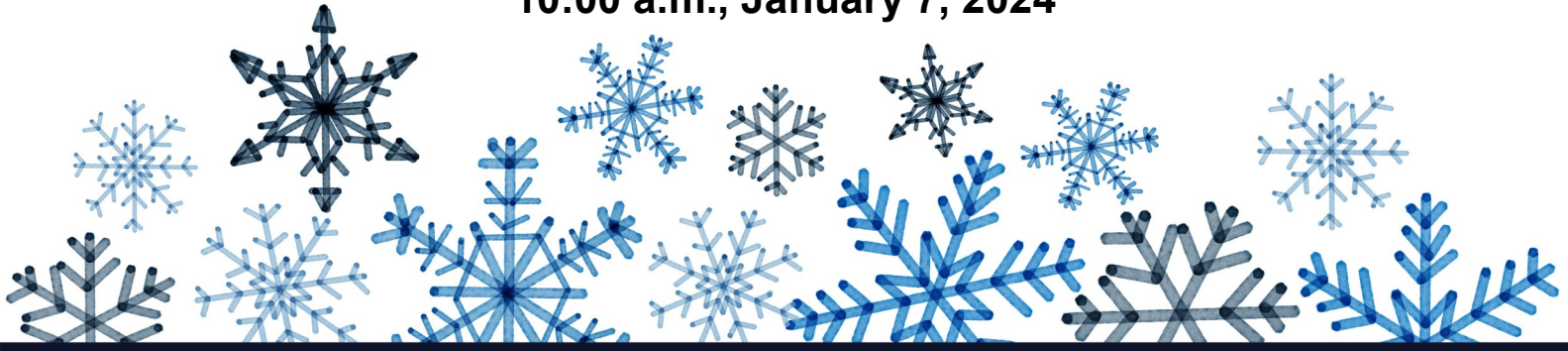


**United Methodist Church
340 N Newell Ave, Minden, Nebraska
Baptism of the Lord, Epiphany Sunday
10:00 a.m., January 7, 2024**



Welcome and Announcements

If you'd like to volunteer as a scripture reader, usher, greeter, or refreshment host, please write your name on the clipboard in the back.

Call to worship!

L: God of all times and yet beyond time, you call us into a new year still to be discovered.

P: Help us travel light, in faith and expectation. Guide us in this new venture of imagination.

L: Make us bold witnesses to the in-breaking of your future.

P: Let us rest our time in yours, confident that we do not enter this new year alone.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, and all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical Version)

UMH#882

Opening Song "Arise" #3 & "Today is the Day" #32

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

Scriptures

Dawn Moyer

Mark 1:1-8 (NIV) John the Baptist Prepares the Way

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"—

"a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Happy Birthday to

Kent Verbeck
Loneta Nolan
Nikki Dornhoff

Happy Anniversary to

Mike & Jodi
Boudreau—35 years.
Pastor Peter and Lena
Choi—13 years.

Prayer List:

Joe Hultquist
Marjorie Hultquist,
Larry Anderson
Merlin Beahm
Kent Verbeck
Peggy Rasmussen

January 7-13, 2024

Sunday

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Monday

Tuesday

7:00pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday

1:30pm UMW

3:30pm Wednesday School

4:30pm SPRC Meeting

6:00 Finance Meeting

6:30 Youth Group

Thursday

Friday

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday

Message

Pastor Peter Choi
“The Beginning of the Good News”

Joys and Concerns

The Invitation

The Covenant Prayer

Offering

“Doxology “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Offertory Prayer

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given -- Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave one year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! Amen.

Holy Communion

Special Music “In Christ Alone”

Closing Song “I Will Follow” #36

Sending Forth

May our God, who establishes covenant relationships with those who seek to enter the Kingdom, be with you always. May Jesus Christ, who seals the new covenant with his blood on the cross, bring you peace. May the Holy Spirit guide your life both now and forever. Go in peace to serve the Lord! Amen.

