

# ***Sunday Morning Worship***

***January 18, 2026***



**FIRSTBAPTIST  
CHURCH  
UPPERMARLBORO**

**7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772**

**301-952-0117 :: [www.fbcum.org](http://www.fbcum.org) :: [fbcum@firstbaptistum.com](mailto:fbcum@firstbaptistum.com)**

# ***Order of Worship***

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***January 18, 2026***

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### **King's Kids Choir**

### **Call to Worship — Psalm 86:8-11**

***Song — Steadfast Love (Psalm 86)***

***Song — Only a Holy God***

### **Scripture Reading — Malachi 3:1-7a**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

***Song — Redeemed***

### **Prayer of Thanks**

## **Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

**Message — Zach Schlegel**  
**“Bearing Fruit with Repentance”**  
**Luke 3:1-22**

***Song — All I Have Is Christ***

## **Introduction of New Members**

### **Benediction**

**Comfort Rooms:** To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

**Visitors & Guests:** Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

## Call to Worship — Psalm 86:8-11 (ESV)

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<sup>8</sup> There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,  
nor are there any works like yours.

<sup>9</sup> All the nations you have made shall come  
and worship before you, O Lord,  
and shall glorify your name.

<sup>10</sup> For you are great and do wondrous things;  
you alone are God.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD,  
that I may walk in your truth;  
unite my heart to fear your name.

## Steadfast Love (Psalm 86)

Eric Dewar | Glory & Gladness Music

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### Verse 1:

Lord, we come to you poor and needy.  
Lord, we come to you poor and needy!  
O incline your ear as we pray,  
Showing steadfast love all our days.

### Verse 2:

Hear our cry, O Lord, for forgiveness.  
Hear our cry, O Lord, for forgiveness!  
All our sins and failures erase,  
Showing steadfast love all our days.

### Chorus:

You are rich in mercy,  
Full of lavish grace,  
Always slow to anger,  
Showing steadfast love  
All our days.

### Verse 3:

Give us joy and strength as your servants.  
Give us joy and strength as your servants!  
Turn our hearts and teach us your ways,  
Showing steadfast love all our days.

### Verse 4:

There is none like you in creation.  
There is none like you in creation!  
Let the nations join us in praise  
Of your steadfast love all our days.

# Only a Holy God

Michael Farren | Jonny Robinson | Dustin Smith | Rich Thompson

## Verse 1:

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven  
Who else could make every king bow down  
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles  
Only a Holy God

## Verse 2:

What other beauty demands such praises  
What other splendour outshines the sun  
What other majesty rules with justice  
Only a Holy God

## Chorus:

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out, sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God

## Verse 3:

What other glory consumes like fire  
What other power can raise the dead  
What other name remains undefeated  
Only a Holy God

## Verse 4:

Who else could rescue me from my failing  
Who else would offer His only Son  
Who else invites me to call Him Father  
Only a Holy God  
Only my Holy God!

## Scripture Reading — Malachi 3:1-7a (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup> “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup> From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.

# Redeemed

Benji Cowart | Mikael Weaver

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## Verse 1:

Seems like all I could see was the struggle  
Haunted by ghosts that lived in my past  
Bound up in shackles of all my failures  
Wond'ring how long is this gonna last  
Then You look at this pris'ner and say to me, son  
Stop fighting a fight that's already been won

## Chorus:

I am redeemed, You set me free  
So I'll shake off these heavy chains  
And wipe away ev'ry stain  
'Cause I'm not who I used to be  
I am redeemed

## Verse 2:

All my life I have been called unworthy  
Named by the voice of my shame and regret  
But when I hear You whisper  
child lift up your head  
I remember O God You're not done with me yet

## Bridge:

Because I don't have to be  
the old man inside of me  
'Cause his day is long dead and gone  
Because I've got a new name  
a new life, I'm not the same  
and a hope that will carry me home

**Sermon Notes**  
**“Bearing Fruit with Repentance” :: Luke 3:1-22**

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# All I Have Is Christ

Jordan Kauflin

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## Verse 1:

I once was lost in darkest night  
Yet thought I knew the way  
The sin that promised joy and life  
Had led me to the grave  
I had no hope that You would own  
A rebel to Your will  
And if You had not loved me first  
I would refuse You still

## Chorus:

Hallelujah!  
All I have is Christ  
Hallelujah!  
Jesus is my life

## Verse 3:

Now Lord I would be Yours alone  
And live so all might see  
The strength to follow Your commands  
Could never come from me  
O Father use my ransomed life  
In any way You choose  
And let my song forever be  
My only boast is You

## Verse 2:

But as I ran my hell-bound race  
Indifferent to the cost  
You looked upon my helpless state  
And led me to the cross  
And I beheld God's love displayed  
You suffered in my place  
You bore the wrath reserved for me  
Now all I know is grace

## This Week at First Baptist Church

### Sunday, January 18

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
12:00 PM Starting Point Seminar  
6:00 PM Youth Night

### Monday, January 19 — MLK DAY

Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, January 20

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

### Wednesday, January 21

5:45 PM King's Kids Choir  
6:30 PM Elder-led Bible Study (1 Cor)  
AWANA  
Choir / Band Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 22

### Friday, January 23

### Saturday, January 24

10:00 AM Ladies Morning Fellowship for Life

### Sunday, January 25

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship  
6:00 PM Youth Night

## Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

### TODAY, January 18

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service

*(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)*

### Saturday, January 24

10am — Ladies Morning Fellowship for Life

### Saturday, February 7

9am — Service to Celebration Event

### Friday, February 27—March 1

Youth Winter Retreat

# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of January 18

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### Prayer of the week:

Consider using the Apostle Paul's prayer from the book of Hebrews 13:20-21 as a springboard for your own prayer time this week. If you're a church member praying through the church directory, this is a great prayer to use as you pray for your church family this week.

<sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace... <sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in [you] that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

### Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

### Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)

- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

**Particular prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Praise God for the new members recently brought into our church family; Tanner Bradbury, Lisa VanGee, Will Shugart, Jamie Shugart, Grace Osilesi, Jamon Dick, Jacob Foster, and Jack Janes. Pray that God would unify us in Jesus Christ and that opportunities for fellowship would abound (Rom. 15:5-6, Acts 2:42).
- Praise God for the recent baptisms of our brothers, Jamon Dick, Tanner Bradbury, Jacob Foster, and Jack Janes. May God continue his work of sanctification in their lives and help us as a church family to walk along with him. (Rom 6:4)
- Pray for good spiritual fruit in the lives of the young adults who attended CrossCon last week. Pray that the gospel truths shared and the relationships built would glorify God and strengthen their faith. (Gal. 5:22-23)
- Pray that we would honor God in how we use technology (smartphone, computers, etc): to have self-control, to use it to grow in Christ and not sin, and prioritize its use according to godly wisdom for our relationships. (Prov. 25:28; Rom 13:14)
- Pray for those in our church family who are suffering through illness. Pray their faith would be strengthened and they would hope in Christ in the midst of suffering (Lk. 22:32; 3 Jn 2)
- Pray that our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray that we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God's steadfast love and mercy to the world. Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (Gal. 6:9; John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Tony Edwards (Death of Father), Jim and Pat Ernster, Pattie Graham (death of Father), Marjorie Griffin, The Joy Family (death of cousin), JoAnne Proctor, Bonnie Trott, Janice Tyler (death of bro-in-law and niece)**

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

# Ministry Spotlight

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“Ministry Spotlight” is meant to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin). Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

## Bookstall Ministry

**Isaac Neal :: Deacon of Bookstall Ministry**

The Bookstall Ministry serves as a discipleship tool to support spiritual growth and biblical studies at FBC. All books contained in the Bookstall are examined for scriptural accuracy by our Elders and church leaders before they are recommended to the congregation, to ensure that the congregation has access to sound and doctrinally faithful resources.

The books in the Bookstall are intended to help deepen your knowledge - understanding of scripture and provide guidance as you apply God’s word to your life. There are many books available at the Bookstall, reference books that contain historical, cultural and geological books, which details, evidence through artifacts, historical accounts and maps during specific eras which is so important as you seek to understand how descriptions impact the meaning of scripture events. There are also books that reveal key points by showing you how biblical scholars focus on clues in scripture to reveal truths about the Lord. Then there are books that help you as you work through a specific struggle in your life, sort of an introspective look at your heart. The goal of all of these books is singular and that is to enhance your knowledge and understanding about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ which will aid you in growing in your faith.

Christians go through various stages in their journey as believers, the Pilgrim’s Progress by John Bunyan (available at the Book Stall) comes to mind. You will go through mountain top experiences that you are rejoicing and the next you are mourning or discouraged about something that happened. God is still present, because He will not leave you or forsake you (Deut. 31:18). The point is no matter where you are in your walk with Jesus, the Book Stall Ministry has a book that will meet you where you are each day.

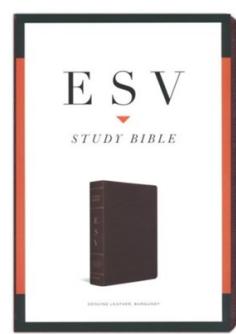
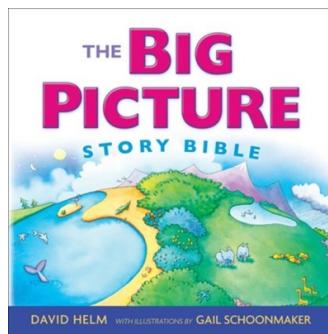
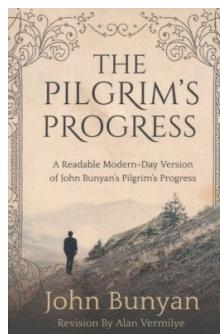
# Ministry Spotlight

Did you know that all of the books available at the Bookstall are listed on our church website under the 'Resources Tab?' That's right, you can access the list of available books, read the description about the book, make your selection, and submit your list to Isaac Neal and he can have all of your books available for you to pick up at the Bookstall. Could it get any easier? Think about it, when you look through the list of books, you will have confidence about your selection because these books are doctrinally sound whether it is for you or a member of your family. That is comforting! Reading a book to enhance your spiritual walk and understanding about scripture is a great investment in your spiritual growth.

Perhaps you find yourself wondering how you could serve in a ministry at FBCUM. In this ministry, any member of FBC is eligible to serve and need only to inquire about this ministry. What are the duties and responsibilities for serving in the Bookstall Ministry? Duties include; Sunday sales following the worship service; a monthly inventory; updating catalog descriptions as new books are added to the inventory; applying price stickers as shipments are received and then stocking books on the shelves. Team members will be trained on processing digital purchases using Square® and how to send the weekly deposit report to the Treasurer.

For this reason, reliable staffing is critical to the success of this ministry. Ideally, the ministry would like to maintain six (6) team members to allow for two-week rotations.

If you are a member at FBC that loves books and has a desire to help others obtain resources that will enhance their spiritual walk, this is the ministry for you. **Contact Deacon Isaac Neal, for more information or to join this ministry.**



**Books are available for all ages!**

# Announcements

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## **1. Interested in Church Membership? Attend Starting Point :: TODAY after worship.**

Starting Point is a seminar-style meeting following the worship service open to anyone interested in joining our church family or simply learning more about who we are and what we believe. Approximately 12-2:30pm in the Youth Rooms (120-125). A light lunch will be served.

## **2. Ladies Morning Fellowship for Life :: Jan 24th :: 10-11:30am.** Ladies, please join us as we gather to fellowship, pray, and learn about the life affirming work that's being done at Wellspring Life Ministry. With the Gospel as their foundation, Wellspring Life Ministry has been serving Annapolis, Bowie, Crofton, Severna Park, and the surrounding communities since 1982 providing free medical services, options counseling, education, and community referrals to women and families. Attendees are asked to bring 1/2 dozen muffins or other pastry to share. Questions? Contact Trish Crandell.

## **3. "From Service to Celebration" Event :: February 7 :: 9AM.** You're invited to join us for a morning of celebration and vision as we reflect on God's blessings and look ahead to exciting things in 2026. See the bulletin insert for more information. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

## **4. Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- by mail: send to the church office.



Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.

### Note of Thanks:

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We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the many expressions of sympathy extended to our family following the passing of our father, William Livingston, Jr. Your cards, thoughtful phone calls and presence have been such a blessing to us and have comforted our hearts.

With sincere appreciation, Pastor Tony and Family



### **Digital Communication Card**

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.



FROM  
**SERVICE**  
TO  
**CELEBRATION**

a morning of **CELEBRATION & VISION...**  
reflecting on God's blessings...  
looking ahead to 2026!

**SATURDAY • FEB 7 • 9AM • FBC UPPER MARLBORO**

**7415 SW Crain Hwy**  
**fbcum.org**

## **You're Invited!**

Join us for a **morning of Celebration & Vision:**

- Delicious breakfast
- Celebration: reflecting back and looking ahead to 2026
- Fun activities highlighting our ministry teams
- Discover upcoming service opportunities

**Ministry Leaders:** Take time this week to reach out to your team and invite them to the celebration.

**Want to help serve breakfast?** Contact Pastor Tyrone.

**We can't wait to celebrate with you!**

Scan the QR code below with your mobile device to register online OR fill out the form and drop it in the designated box on the Welcome Desk.

**Yes, I can't wait to attend!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



**# in my family/group:** \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel of Luke: Confidence about Jesus

[Luke 2:8-20](#)

“Bearing Fruit with Repentance” – January 18, 2026



## Introduction

If we were to fast forward to the end of Luke's gospel and see Jesus on trial, He was sentenced to death. Why did they choose capital punishment? Why did they choose to kill King Jesus? There are a lot of answers, but one of the driving reasons was envy. The governmental and religious leaders saw Jesus as a threat. Rather than seeing the evidence of who His is, they chose to kill Him. They wanted to silence Him. We see the same thing in [Romans chapter one](#). All of creation is shouting, “this didn't just ‘happen’;” “there is a Designer, a Creator - God!”

God is not hiding. The problem is that mankind, by their unrighteousness, suppresses the truth. That is true of all of us. Left to ourselves, we want to be in charge. Simeon prophesied that Jesus would be a light. Light exposes the darkness of sin in the hearts of man. We don't like that. We're okay with God being God when we need help, but when it comes to being accountable to God or to deny ourselves when it comes to money or sex, or when it comes to change in exchange for something better, we are prone to close our eyes and plug our ears and do what we want.

If Jesus is King, and He is, He demands obedience. Not just in parts of your life but in every nook and cranny of your life. That's a tall order! When you make an expensive purchase, you want some guarantee that you will get your money's worth. You want to be certain. How much more do you need to be sure if you are going to give your life to Jesus? How can you be sure that He is good and that He is the Son of God? Luke's purpose in writing this book is found in [chapter 1, verse 4](#). Luke wanted all to have certainty about Jesus. This text begins and ends with the **word of God**. The word came to John and after Jesus' baptism, God spoke.

## Sermon Outline

1. Believe God's word through John. Vs. 1-20
2. Believe God's word to His Son. Vs. 21-22

## Read & Discuss

### 1. Read Vs. 1-20

Verse one, begins with a historical marker. This reminds you that the record that Luke was putting together was based on truth. He listed several very important people - government and religious leaders. It was an impressive list. However, the main point of this text is at the end of [verse 2](#) - “The word of God came to John.” The text is a reminder that one of the most important things in our lives is the public address of God's word. We are commanded to gather, and in obedience we come together to sing, pray, hear, and preach God's word. Do you prioritize coming to church to hear the word of God every Sunday? Do you see this as an “I get to” or “I have to” opportunity? Is being in worship every Sunday a non-negotiable for you?

The main theme of this chapter is repentance. What is repentance? It is a changing of the mind and heart that leads to a change in our life. When you realize that you are going the wrong direction in life, repentance means a complete 180° - turning around and going the opposite directions. Repentance is NOT a good work that earns you favor with God. Repentance reminds you where you are looking. The object of your faith is not repentance - it is Jesus. Biblical repentance and biblical faith are two sides of the same coin. Without repentance, there is no salvation because you are still trusting the wrong thing. John's water baptism didn't wash away sins, it symbolized the change that was made in people's hearts.

John the Baptist was a fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah. ([Isaiah 40:3-5](#)) His job was to prepare the way of the Lord. ([Vs. 4-6](#)) After 700 years of waiting, Jesus shows up. The imagery here is illustrating John's message. He was getting the “road” ready. The spiritual highway that John was building was repentance. Repentance helps you see the salvation of God. You were going away from God, then you turn and see the salvation of God in Jesus. This call for repentance is individual - you must repent. However, It is also a collective call. It is a call for Israel and the church to repent. As the people of God repent, it opens the way for all flesh to see the salvation of God. History shows that revival begins with repentance.

When the people came to listen to John, what did he say? He called them a brood of vipers. Why did he do this? If you are speaking to someone who is hard of hearing, what do you do? You speak up. This was what John was doing. He was turning the volume up with his language. He knew that the people had a hard heart, and he didn't want them to miss the message. John understood that some of the people wanted forgiveness but didn't

want to give up their sin. This isn't something that just happens in the first century. Wanting forgiveness and not giving up your sin is NOT biblical repentance. There must be a change of mind and heart that leads to a change in direction and life. This is why John warned them to bear fruit in keeping with repentance. The mark of genuine repentance is the fruit of the Spirit. ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)) Do these mark your life? If you have repented they should - not perfectly - but it should be there.

If you have been raised in a Christian home, you should be thankful, but listen to John. Don't let that blessing lull you into coasting in your life. Coming to church, youth group, etc. will not save you. You must decide what to do with Jesus. There was a sense of urgency in John's message then, and it is still urgent now! ([vs. 9](#)) God's judgment is coming. When Jesus comes again, He will judge all people. How do you respond when you hear about God's wrath and judgment? The doctrine of Hell is difficult, but we can't ignore it. If you are a faithful Christian, you must say what scripture says. God's wrath is coming. God is holy. He is not indifferent to injustice, sin and wickedness. He is Judge and will judge all sin. "The ax is ready." Which trees are cut down and thrown into the fire? "Those that do not bear good fruit." Do you feel the weight of this text and take it seriously?

How DO you bear fruit? Well, you can't bear fruit in and of yourself. John's water baptism was symbolic of true repentance, but Jesus' baptism is with the Holy Spirit. This is evidence of God's regenerative work in the life of the believer. When you come to Christ, you are immersed into the body of Christ. This was prophesied in [Ezekiel 36:22-38](#). You can be cleansed of sin and filled with the Holy Spirit who will empower you to obey. John couldn't do this, but Jesus can! John's sermon here demands a response BEFORE the final day of judgment. When Jesus returns, you will be without excuse. God, in His love, is warning you now. Will you listen? Will you heed? Will you take it seriously? How will you respond? The people responded with urgency - "what shall we do?" Repent and obey God's word where you are - in everyday situations of life.

Luke then shows us the opposite of an unrepentant life - Herod. He divorced his wife to marry his sister-in-law. Later, he put John in prison (suppressing the truth) and killed him. God's word came to all. There are only two ways to respond - soft-hearted repentance or hard-hearted rejection. How will you respond to God's word? Will you ignore God's warning and live as you wish? Is it time for you to give up your sin? What sin is God, through the Holy Spirit, asking you to give up? You know what it is; will you repent and trust Christ? John preached good news. It is good news, because there IS still time to turn from sin to Christ.

Repentance is also applied to the believer. We repent of sin and trust every day. We can confess to each other because we know we are justified. We are a family. We can trust each other. Do you have a trusted Christian friend with whom you can share?

## 2. Read Vs. 25-39

Why was Jesus baptized when He had no sin? Luke was showing us that Jesus' baptism was Him identifying with and taking the place of the sinners He came to save. Luke's focus on Jesus' baptism was what happened after. Jesus is baptized, the Father is speaking, and the Spirit descends. We worship one God in three persons. How else could Jesus be praying to the Father in [vs. 21](#)? You may not understand the doctrine of the Trinity, but it is true, and you must believe it.

All three persons of the trinity show up to affirm Jesus' identity. God was well pleased with Him. What do you think God thinks about you? You can silence the nagging doubt about God's displeasure of your life by coming in repentance and faith in God. ([Luke 15](#)) When you come in repentance and faith, God's arms are open wide for you. He will receive you with joy. This is His heart toward you today. What He said of Jesus, He will say of you - He is well-pleased and delights in you. This is God's word to Jesus and God's word to us.

### Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I understand, believe, desire, or do?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at.

**Next week's sermon text:** [John 11:38-44](#) "Buried, Called, Alive

## Family Guide for week of January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

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## Bible Intake: (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Matthew 9:9-13  
Day 2 – Matthew 9:14-17  
Day 3 – Matthew 9:18-26  
Day 4 – Matthew 9:27-34  
Day 5 – Matthew 9:35-38

\*Read John 11:38-44 in preparation for church on Sunday, January 25, 2026

## Prayer: (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 2 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Pray for the community helpers and leaders who serve in your city. Pray specifically for the mayor, city council members, police, firefighters, and those who serve in less public ways. Ask God to protect them and give them wisdom as they lead the city.

## Sing together

“All I Have is Christ” – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

## Memory verses for the month

**Isaiah 25:9** “It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

(For families with younger children)

**Isaiah 25:9b** “This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

**Luke 2:52** “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.”

## Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>

**Question 27: Are all people, just as they were lost through Adam, saved through Christ?**

**Answer:** No, only those who are elected by God and united to Christ by faith.

<sup>1</sup> New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)