

*Baptism of the Lord*

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

10:00 AM

*<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.*

Psalm 29:1-2

**PRELUDE**

Debbe Picerno

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

**P: Darkness has been banished!**

L: God's light of hope floods the earth.

**P: God's light comes to us all.**

L: Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

**P: Prepare our hearts to receive this Light. AMEN.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN**

“We Three Kings”

No. 288

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, we confess we often do not trust You fully. We admit we often fail to obey You. Instead, we live according to our own priorities. We have not grown into Your call to follow Jesus Christ as Lord. We have not worshiped You with everything we are and everything we have. We have not esteemed others nearly to the level we esteem ourselves. We have forsaken Your assignment to go and make disciples of all peoples. Forgive us, O Lord. Bring us back to complete trust in You and joyful obedience. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Silent Confession)

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Believe the good news of the Gospel

**P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*CONFESSION RESPONSE:**

“Behold the Lamb”

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE:**

“Doxology”

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**

James 1:13-18

**ANTHEM**

“I Consider It a Joy”

Choir

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Job 1:1-22

**SERMON**

“Blessing or a Curse?”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**\*HYMN**

“Behold the Lamb (Around the Table of the King)”

**COMMUNION**

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN**

“Be Still My Soul”

No. 712

**POSTLUDE**

Debbe Picerno

**\*Those who are able please stand.**

*Altar Flowers- Happy New Year to the best family ever - all who are reading this.*

*Love, Lori McCann*

**Ushers:** Deacons

**Welcome Desk:** Linda Smith

**Liturgist:** Mike Barton

**Greeters:** Pam Greb

**Fellowship Hour:** Katie Schultz

**Child Care:** Sarah Murtha

<b><u>THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR</u></b>		
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
	<b>12-2 PM</b>	<b>Club 35 @ Tokens Arcade</b>
	<b>6-8 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>1 PM</b>	<b>Quilting</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Deacon/Trustee Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Conversation</b>
	<b>7 PM</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast @ Mac's Cafe</b>
<b>January 14<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
	<b>6-8 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>

**CHRISTMAS CLEANUP-** If anyone would like to stay after church today and help the Deacons put the Christmas decorations away it would be greatly appreciated.

**YEAR END GIVING STATEMENTS-** Are available in the Library for pickup. Please call the office with any questions or concerns. Please let us know if we need to mail your statement.

**CLUB 35-** Will meet today at Tokens Arcade in Lyndora from 12-2 PM.

**YOUTH GROUP-** Youth Group will meet at the church tonight from 6-8 PM.

**GAME NIGHT-** We will have a game night for all ages on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Childcare and popcorn will be provided. Feel free to bring your favorite game.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST-** All men are invited to breakfast at Mac's Café on Jan 13<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM.

**CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE-** Reminder to pickup your Christmas cards in the Library.



# Meridian Presbyterian Church

[www.meridianpres.org](http://www.meridianpres.org)

724-482-2630



**January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**“Blessing or a Curse?”**  
**Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin**