

Bouquet Caboodle



Highland Lectionary Series

January 25, 2026

“The Messiah’s Good News”

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1,4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18;
Matthew 4:12-23

Today's Big Idea

The season of Epiphany continues to revel in the revelation of the great light of the long-promised Messiah bearing the good news of the return of the King to His land with healing and salvation.

Short Meditation One: From Contempt to Glory: Isaiah 9:1-4

Zebulun and Naphtali: the northern region of Galilee

Most exposed to outside influences, warfare, and the destruction of Assyria

The place of contempt is honored as the place where the glory appears

Remembering the blessings of Jacob: Genesis 49

Zebulun: a safe harbor to ships: Genesis 49:13

Naphtali: a doe set loose to birth beautiful words: Genesis 49:21

The promised Messiah who would walk on water and rescue the floundering boat: Matthew 14:22-23

The promised Messiah whose words would bring life: John 6:63

The promised Messiah, the light of the world: John 8:12; 9:5; 12:46

Bible Project Video: The Biblical Theme of the Messiah

Short Meditation Two: Words with Power: Matthew 4:12-23

Proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom

The purpose for Jesus' coming: the great ransom: Mark 10:45; John 12:27

What is the connection between Jesus' teaching and His death/resurrection?

Not interesting preliminaries but foreshadowing embodiments

His teaching was light that healed, set people free from darkness and bondage: John 8:31-32

The cross was glory that healed the cosmos, broke the power of sin and darkness: Hebrews 2:14-15

Good news that promises and does not deliver is only teasing and torture: Proverbs 13:12

Good news that accomplishes what is proclaims is joy and life

Bible Project Video: The Biblical Theme of the Good News of the Kingdom

The Key Excerpts for This Week's Thematic Thread:

"The Messiah's Good News"

Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23
<p>1 But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. 3 You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4 For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.</p>	<p>The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. 6 Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! 8 "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek. 9 Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!</p>	<p>10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. 11 For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.</p> <p>17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. 18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.</p>	<p>12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. 13 He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:</p> <p>15 "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—</p> <p>16 the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."</p> <p>17 From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."</p> <p>23 Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.</p>

Next Week's Readings: What thread do you discern?

February 1, 2026 - Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12