



*Second Sunday After Epiphany*

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*January 14, 2024*

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
*(Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Four)*  
*Congregational responses are in bold print*

*We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of the Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.*

*We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card.*

*We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available.*

*Please inform Communion Assistant of your need.*

*Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.*

*During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are the parts you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so as you are able.*

*As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.*

**Gathering**



**Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Welcome and Announcements**

## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
creator of darkness and light,  
word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

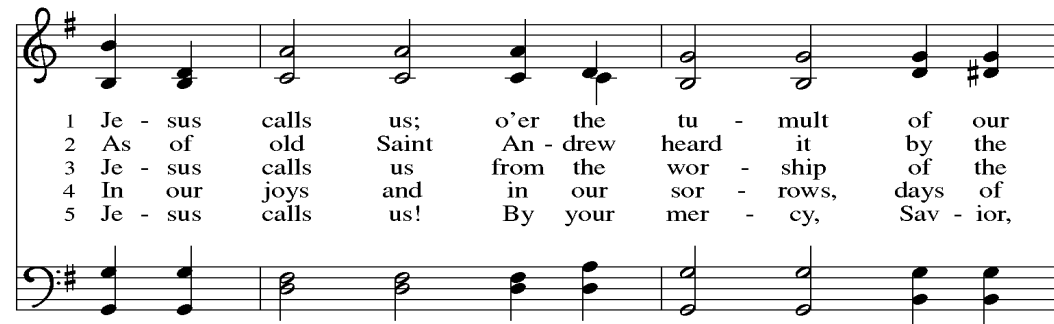
God, our rock and refuge,  
**we pour out our hearts before you.**  
**We have known you but have not always loved you.**  
**We have wounded one another**  
**and sinned against you.**  
**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit**  
**dwelling in each of us.**  
**Remember your covenant.**  
**Renew your creation.**  
**Restore us,**  
**that we might proclaim your good news to all.**  
**Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.  
God has spoken:  
The time of grace is now.  
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.  
By the authority of ✙ Jesus Christ,  
your sins are forgiven.  
You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**



### Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":  
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

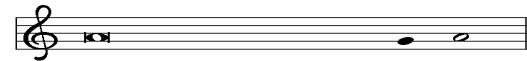
## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# Kyrie

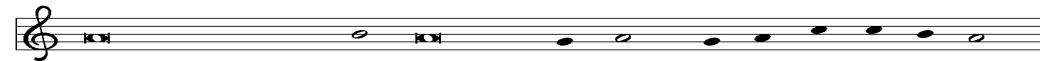
## Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



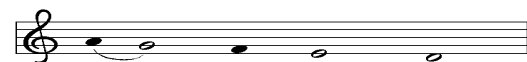
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



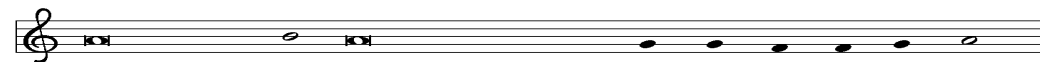
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

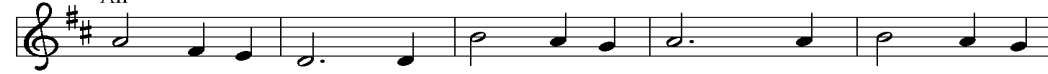
## Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

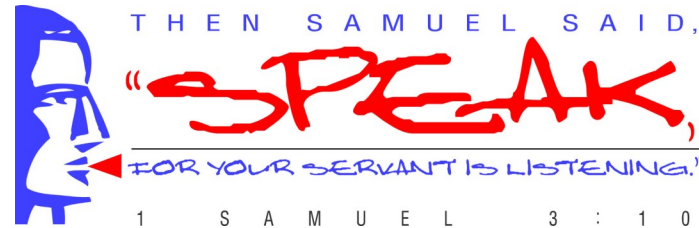
*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

**Word**



### **First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10**

A reading from 1 Samuel:

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

*We read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup>**You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**

<sup>3</sup>You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>**Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.**

<sup>5</sup>You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

<sup>13</sup>For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>**Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.**

**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.**

<sup>17</sup>How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>**I try to count them — they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end — I am still with you.**



**Marvelous**  
*are thy works;*  
*& that my soul*  
**knoweth**  
**right well.**

**Psalm 139:14**



**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

<sup>12</sup>“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

*The congregation stands to welcome the gospel.*

Gospel



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: John 1:43-51**

The holy gospel according to St. John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."  
<sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is seated.*

**Children's Worship**

**Pastor Pingel**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Pingel**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*The congregation stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Will You Come and Follow Me"

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# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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## Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

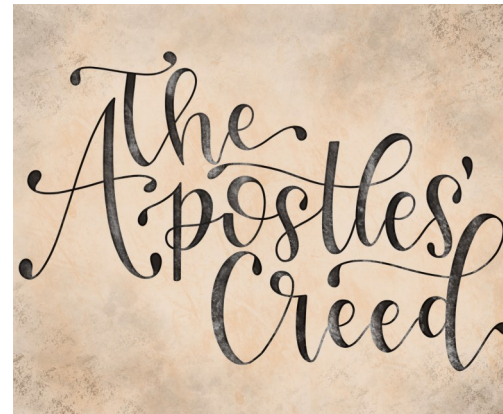
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,  
our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of  
the Father,  
and he will come to judge the  
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Ninamwamini Mungu, Baba Mwenyezi,  
Muumba wa mbingu na dunia;**

**Na Yesu Kristo, Mwana wake wa pekee,  
Bwana wetu, aliyetwaa mwili kwa tendo  
la R`oho Mutakatifu, akazaliwa na Bikira  
Maria. Akateswa zamani za Pontio  
Pilato, akasulibiwa, akafa, akazikwa,  
akashuka kuzimuni mwa wafu,  
akafufuka katika wafu siku ya tatu,  
akapanda mbinguni, anakaa kwa  
mukono wa kuume wa Mungu,  
Baba Mwenyezi, ndipo atakuja tena  
kuhukumu wazima na wafu.**

**Ninamwamini Roho Mutakatifu, Kanisa  
kikristo takatifu, ushirika wa watakatifu,  
ondoleo la zambi, ufufuko wa mwili, na  
uzima wa milele. Amina.**



### Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### **Meal**

#### Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

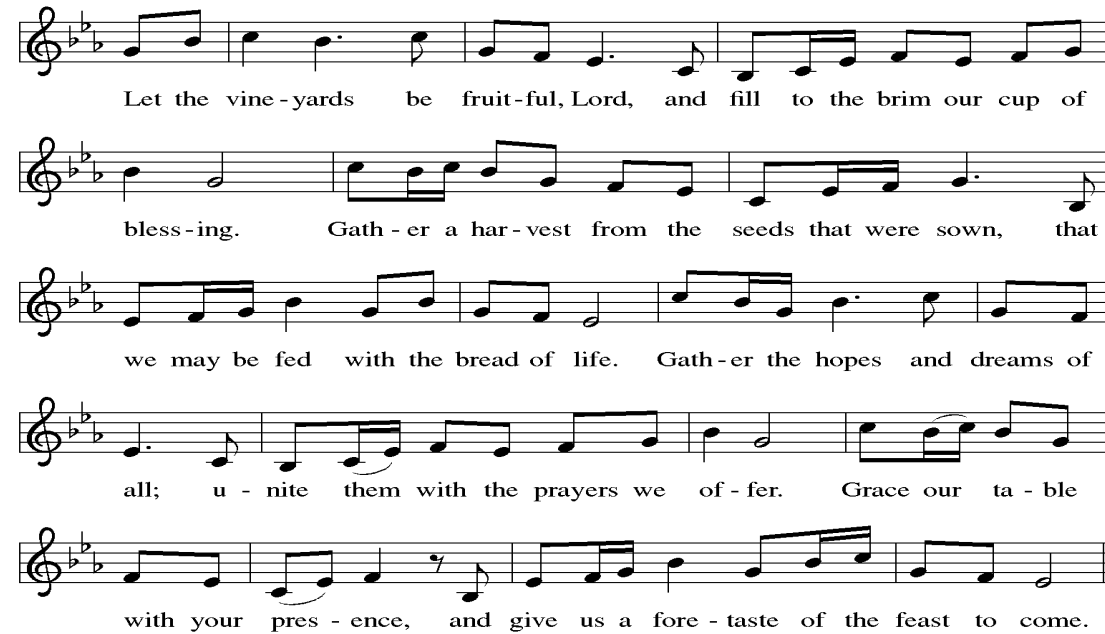
#### Offertory

*The congregation stands.*



Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful  
*Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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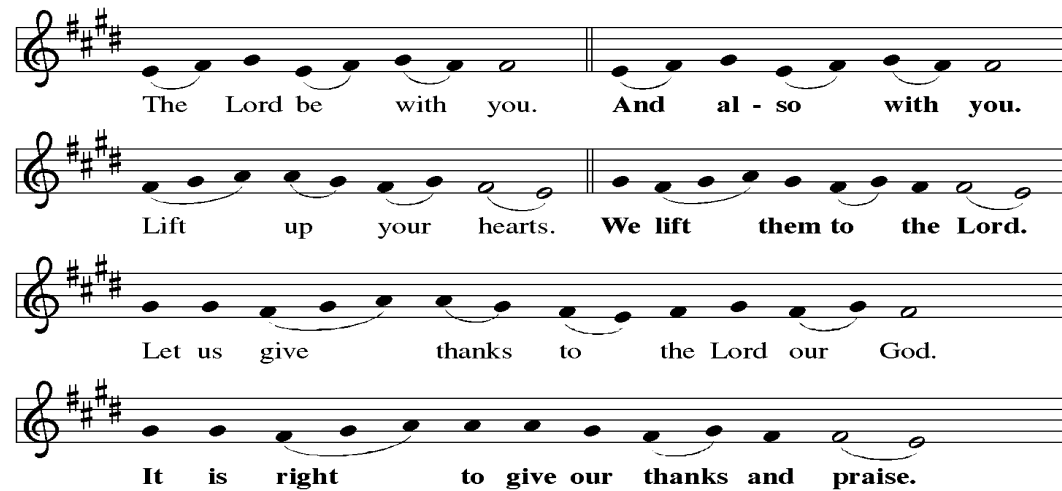


### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Holy One,  
for all good things come from you.  
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.  
Meet us at this table,  
that we receive what we seek  
and follow your Son, Jesus,  
in whose name we pray.  
Amen.

### Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

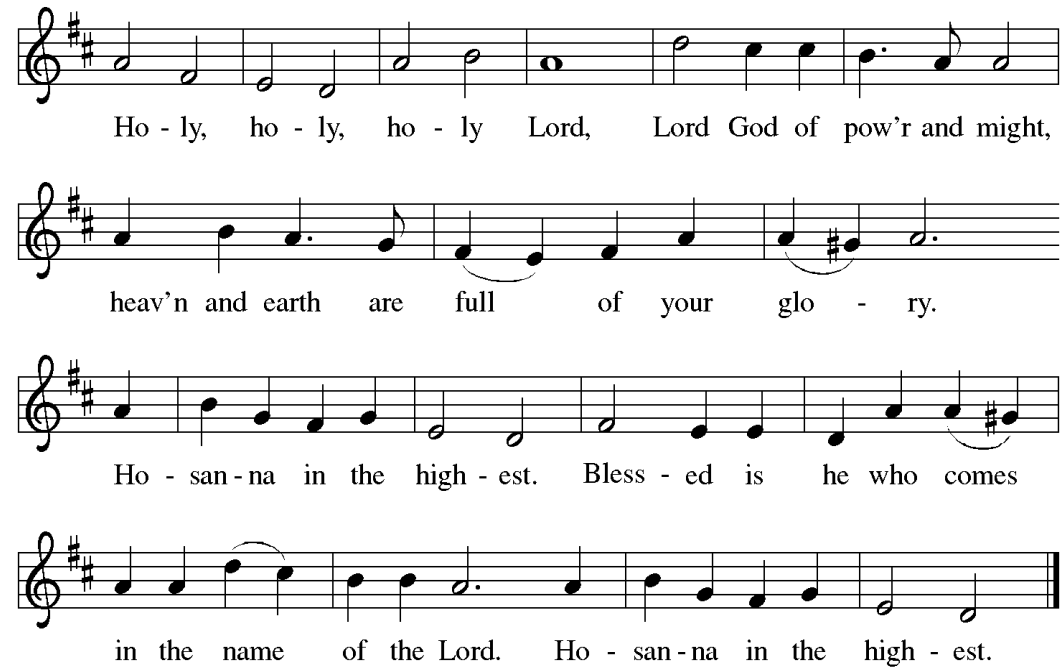
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
in great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples,  
saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his death, resurrection and ascension,  
we wait his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**



**Come to the  
Table**

### Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### Invitation to Communion

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.

Come and see.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

### Baba Yetu

**Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako  
litukuzwe;  
ufalme wako ufike,  
utakalo lifanyike  
duniani kama mbinguni.  
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,  
utusamehe makosa yetu,  
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.  
Usitutie katika kishawishi,  
lakini utuopoe maovuni.  
Amina.**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### The Holy Communion

*OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)*

***Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. Receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister, then turn to the side you have sat on, and receive the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant at the altar rail. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your pew via the side aisle.***

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

### The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

*After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands.*

### Prayer after Communion

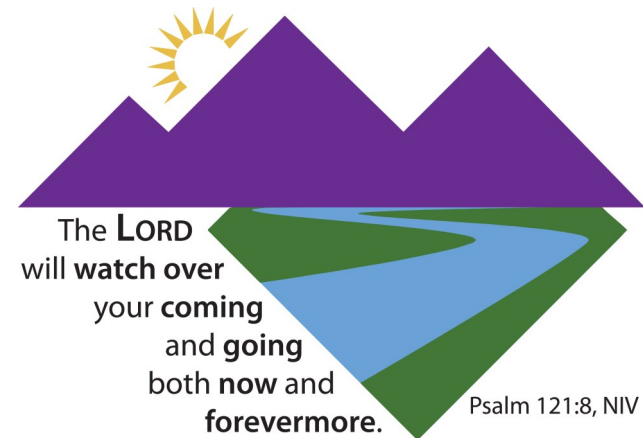
Let us pray.

**Giver of every gift,  
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

### **Sending**

#### Blessing

God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✠ bless you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**



**Sending Song:** *"Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"*

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#### Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### Postlude

## Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in  
 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the  
 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the  
 4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

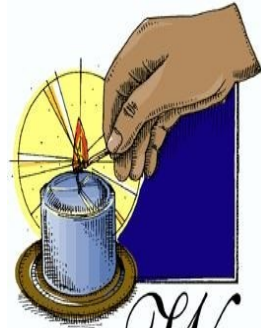


liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so  
 wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that  
 pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that  
 til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.  
 we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.  
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.  
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
 Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856



# Worship Assistants

## Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

- Altar Flowers:* *Open*
- Altar Guild:* *Lisa & Glen Gray*
- Assisting Minister:* *Gloria Nelson*
- Communion Assistants:* *Tami Radecke*  
*Karen Walck*
- Council Person of the Week:* *Allison Fink*
- Offering Stewards:* *Pat Brady*  
*Robin Crowder*
- Ushers:* *Pat Brady*  
*Linda Meyer*



Altar Flowers

*Chancel flowers are given this morning to the glory of our Lord*



## Next Sunday's schedule and Lessons

*Sunday, January 21, 2024*  
*Third Sunday After Epiphany*

*Service of Holy Communion and via You Tube*

*Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching*

- Jonah 3:1-5, 10*
- Psalms 62:5-12*
- 1 Corinthians 7:29-31*
- Mark 1:14-20*



**Please print** your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

**Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)**

**Berenice Archambeault**

**Gloria Nelson**

**Ron Knicely**

**Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)**

**Lanny Ballard**, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson

**Manny Cabasal**, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson

**Sharon Call**, Friend of the Almarodes

**Nick Gardner**, Nephew of Lisa Gray

**Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks\*)**

**Libby Caister—Beginning Virginia General Assembly Internship**

**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)**

**Emily Almarode**

**Genevieve Arneson**

**Marge Cloutier**

**Chuck Goodrich**

**Sandy Johnson**

**Phyllis Kite**

**Glenn Myers**

**Tom and Carol Varner**

**Sharon Vorel**

*Continued*

**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)**

**Sherry Aldinger**, Friend of Tami Radecke  
**Nina Crow**, Mother of Cathy Crowder  
**Neil Harris**, Friend of the Trauschts  
**Marcy Haywood**, Friend of the Trauschts  
**Joshua Horn**, Friend of the Trauschts  
**Joe Keesee**, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson  
**Melissa Oskrig**, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson  
**Ruth Phelke**, Mother of Lisa Edens and Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson

**Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks\*)**

**Family of Artie Campbell**, Friend of the Almarodes  
**Family of Lois Dettweiler**, Mother of Donna Marshall  
**The Family of Janet Long**, Mother of Cynthia Long  
**Family of Jan McCoy**, Friend of the Dolans

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays**

**Wendy Weller (1/14)**  
**Phyllis Kite (1/16)**

**Karla Rankin (1/16)**  
**Donna Gum (1/18)**





### Prayers for the World

**The Israeli and Palestine conflict - that ancient hatreds might be overcome by God's Grace, even and especially among those who invoke God's name in the conflict.**

Safety in travel: for transportation workers, postal and delivery company workers, those who work for airlines, airports

**Peace in the World—Those whose lives are shattered by war; those victimized by human trafficking**

For those with mental health problems

**Our elected officials, we pray for leadership to serve the common good**

Victims of earthquakes in Japan (over 200 dead)

### The Church

For the Southern Valley Conference of the Virginia Synod, ELCA (of which Grace is a part)

**For all our neighbors at Westminster Presbyterian in partnership with Refugees Ecumenical Youth Group**



**Words You Don't Want to Say, but We Must!** Those words are **COVID**, *flu*, *RSV* and *Winter Viruses*. We've had a number of members who have been sick in recent days and weeks. We are coming into a time when Health experts tell us to expect more cases. With this in mind please note the following:

1. If you have any symptoms, or have tested positive, please stay at home. YouTube worship services are available Live every Sunday for those who are sick.
2. If you have COVID, flu, fever or aches, please wait until you test negative - usually 5-10 days or until symptoms end - until you return to worship.
3. Please note that FREE test kits are available from **covid.gov**. Or you can find test kits at local pharmacies or grocery stores for about \$8 - \$10.



**All God's Children** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Grace conference room. Our January agenda includes the following:

- January 8<sup>th</sup> – We will conclude our discussion of *US: The Resurrection of American Terror* by Kenneth W. Wheeler, covering Chapters 9-10 and the Afterword. The author is a Black ELCA pastor who takes us through his seven-decade-long journey that lays bare the terror of being Black in America. The book offers a deeply vulnerable and piercing portrait of the human toll of white supremacy and points to the Cross as a place of hope and reconciliation.
- January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Start discussion of *A Fever in the Heartland – The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them* by Timothy Egan. The next book is a historical thriller by a Pulitzer and National Book Award-winning author that tells the riveting story of the Ku Klux Klan's rise to power in the 1920s, the cunning con man who drove that rise, and the woman who stopped them. *A Fever in the Heartland* is compelling, powerful, and profoundly resonant today. The book marries a propulsive drama to a powerful reckoning with one of the darkest threads in American history.



**Christmas Eve donation to HERO is a great blessing!** Grace's Christmas Eve offering to HERO (Housing Emergency Relief Organization of Waynesboro) was \$1268! Your gifts will make a real difference to many in Waynesboro who are facing eviction or utilities distress.



Special thanks to Maxine McKinney who is serving Grace as Organist during January and early February in Mike Myers' stead. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents Maxine.



Special thanks to Betty Karol Wilson who is leading Grace Choir during January and early February in Mike Myers' stead. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents Betty Karol.



**"First Sunday Fellowship is today!!"** Our time of Fellowship after worship to enjoy time together and hear about the Ministries of Grace is today after worship. We'll give thanks for 12 years of service of Sylvia Almarode on the Fellowship Committee, and share more information about our Fellowship Team and ways you can help!



**Get Ready for Bible Study**—In the New Year, you are invited to join Pastor Paul in looking at the readings for the following Sunday on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Come in person or by Zoom as we ask what God's Word has to say to us in our daily lives.

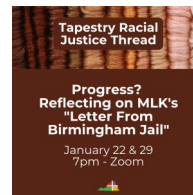


We will be starting our **Quarterly Community Support Info Ministry Fellowships** this month. Each quarter, two (2) to three (3) community volunteer groups will present their mission and work in Waynesboro. Grace members can introduce their volunteer organizations to our congregation, helping those interested in contributing to the community. Each group will provide a five (5) minute overview of their work, target audience, and volunteer tasks, followed by fellowship and light refreshments. To participate, sign up your organization on the sheet at the back of the church.

The first fellowship will be on January 21st after the service. Come learn about the LIFEworks Project Pantry & Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta. For questions, contact Donna Yobs or Karen Walck.



The **Virginia Synod** has two learning events that are great opportunities for participation and learning: **Midwinter Power in the Spirit**, February 5-7, from 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m., which will focus on a study of the stories and witness of three women from the New Testament, Dorcas, Lydia, and Phoebe; and include numerous workshops from Business and Ethics, to "Sacred Threads". Check out <https://vasynod.org/event/midwinter-power-in-the-spirit-2/> for more information and to register for this Zoom event.



The second Zoom event is a Virginia Synod Tapestry Event, **Progress? Reflecting on Martin Luther King's Letter from a Birmingham Jail**. This two day event, *January 22 and 29* starting at 7:00 p.m. will reflect on the progress of racial justice in our nation, using Dr. King's 1963 letter, asking about our progress over 60 years of history. Check out <https://vasynod.org/event/progress-reflecting-on-mlks-letter-from-birmingham-jail/> for more information and to register. ("Tapestry" is the Virginia Synod's team focusing on various areas of the need for Justice in our world: racial, environmental, disability, women's, and LGBTQIA justice.)



**Grace's Community Potluck Dinners** on Wednesday evenings are on Hiatus until Spring (we will resume when WARM closes for the season).



**Altar Flowers**—The 2024 Flower Chart has been put up in the Nave. Please consider signing up to provide Altar Flowers for Sunday services. You can either sign up on the flower chart in the Nave or call the church office.



| **WARM Cold Weather Shelter and Grace** - Thank you so much to everyone for your support of another successful CWS week at Grace (December 4 - 11)! We provided warm, safe shelter and food to 17 - 20 guests each night. And received so many blessings --

"This dinner is **so** good, thanks!"

"Thank you so much for wanting us."

"Your church has so many people who help us."

"I like coming here."

There's not enough room for me to thank everyone personally - we had about 57 Grace members/friends that volunteered in-person, many more who were behind the scenes! **Thank you** for your time/talents; **Thank you** for your financial support; but most of all, thank you for your prayers and for being such gracious hosts. "I like coming here." - that one makes my heart burst wide open. **Thank you Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church!**

If you're interested in assisting the CWS further, there are numerous opportunities. In particular, WARM is in need of assistance the week of February 5 - 12. If you are interested, please call Paula Johnson 304-963-1540 - she's with WARM.



**Donations for Nicaragua Mission Trip**—Our friends and partners at CICRIN, the Nicaraguan Christian Children's Center and School ([www.cicrinus.org](http://www.cicrinus.org)), have invited our mission team to bring certain items they need. Our airline baggage allowance this year enables us to respond positively to their request.

Here's what we are collecting in the box in the narthex.

- Children's and adult cough, cold, and flu medications (no liquids, please; tablets, pills and powders only)
- Children's and adult vitamins
- Pens, acrylic and permanent markers, colored paper, glue, color pencils, (things for office and school)
- New underwear for boys (8-15 years old) and girls (8-13 years old)
- Used but working laptop computers and portable tablets are useful for kids learning computation skills and/or headed off to university

Donations of money are highly portable and are used to buy items in country, benefiting the local merchants as well as CICRIN.



Valley Music Academy is offering a **special guitar class for adult beginners** on Thursdays, beginning January 11 at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$170 for six weeks. Guitars are available to rent for the class. If you've always wanted to give the guitar a try, this is your chance! Sign up at [valleymusicacademy.org](http://valleymusicacademy.org).



Valley Music Academy will present its **Winter Student Recitals** on Sunday, January 28, at 1:30 and 3:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the music.



**Use of Grace Facilities**—If you are planning a fellowship event, a meeting, a gathering, etc. at Grace for any time or purpose, please contact the church office to ensure that the space you would like to use is available and that it gets put on the Church calendar. As we again become social, the church facilities are being used much more frequently. All current and future Yoga Classes will be held in the Seminar Room as usage of the Fellowship Hall has increased tremendously. Thank you!



**Columbarium**—As you make your final plans, remember that Grace has a Columbarium on the North side of the building. Each niche will hold two (2) of our brass urns, which are included in the cost of \$2,250 per niche. There are also Memorial Bricks available for the patio, which can be engraved with the name of a loved one who may be buried elsewhere. For more information, contact Bradley Keefer at 540-942-4290 or the Church Office.

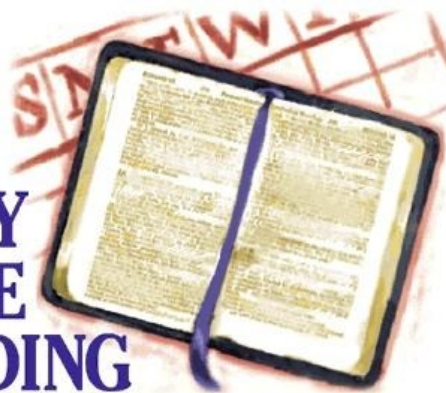


**Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need**—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food pantries. We have made ***thirty-eight*** deliveries thus far, sixteen to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty-two to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 4,005 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



**Sanitary Kits for Africa** - We continue to make these kits from 9x9 flannel squares at Grace! Please continue donating 9x9 Prewashed Flannel (no fleece, felt or plush) squares at the back of the Nave. Contact Gloria Nelson if you have questions

# DAILY BIBLE READING



## **Monday**

Genesis 8:6-22  
Hebrews 4:14—5:6  
John 2:23—3:15  
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 29

## **Tuesday**

Genesis 9:1-17  
Hebrews 5:7-14  
John 3:16-21  
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 133

## **Wednesday**

Genesis 9:18-29  
Hebrews 6:1-12  
John 3:22-36  
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 33

## **Thursday**

Genesis 11:1-9  
Hebrews 6:13-20  
John 4:1-15  
Morning Psalm 147:13-21,  
Evening 62

## **Friday**

Genesis 11:27—12:8  
Hebrews 7:1-17  
John 4:16-26  
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 65

## **Saturday**

Genesis 12:9—13:1  
Hebrews 7:18-28  
John 4:27-42  
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 98

	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	01/14	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  11:10 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	 <p><b>Adult Sunday School</b>  <b>Second Sunday After Epiphany</b>            Service of Holy Communion            In Person and via You Tube</p> <p><b>First Sunday Fellowship</b>  <b>Confirmation Class</b>  <b>K-5 Sunday School</b> (Sunday School Class-</p>
Monday	01/15		 <p><b>Church Office Closed</b>  <b>Martin Luther King Day</b></p>
Tuesday	01/16	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	<p><b>Southern Valley Conference Meeting</b> (Conference Room)  <b>Quilting</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>Council</b> (Conference Room and Zoom) </p>
Wednesday	01/17	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	 <p><b>School Backpacks</b>  <b>Prayer Group</b> (Chapel)  <b>Encircle</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>Grace Women's Book Group</b> (Stella, Bella &amp; Lucy)  <b>Yoga</b> (Seminar Room)  <b>Choir Practice</b></p>
Thursday	01/18	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	 <p><b>Newcomers</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>Grace Walkers</b>  <b>Bible Study</b> (Conference Room)  <b>Bridge Club</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>Virginia Organizing</b>  <b>Bible Study</b> (Conference Room) </p>
Saturday	01/20	11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Prayer Vigil</b> (North Park)  <b>Yoga</b> (Seminar Room)</p>
Sunday	01/21	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  11:10 a.m. 11:15 a.m.  3:00-5:00 p.m. 5:30-7:00 p.m.	 <p><b>Adult Sunday School</b>  <b>Third Sunday After Epiphany</b>            Service of Holy Communion            In Person and via You Tube</p> <p><b>Community Information Support Fellowship</b>  <b>Confirmation Class</b>  <b>K-5 Sunday School</b> (Sunday School Classroom)</p> <p><b>Ecumenical Youth Event for WARM</b>            Food Prep at First Baptist            Serving at Expo</p>



### **Grace Church Council 2023-24**

*Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)*  
*Allison Fink, Vice-President (540-448-0985)*  
*Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176)*  
*Jerry Kite (540-910-3372)*  
*Linda Meyer (540-256-2277)*  
*Jean Morgan (540-649-4422)*  
*Susan Myers (434-760-1660)*  
*Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772)*  
*Karen Walck (765-480-9920)*  
*Donna Yobs (650-248-4882)*  
*Cabell Caister, Youth Member*  
*Ron Almarode, Treasurer*  
*Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary*

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## **STAFF**

### **Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor**

*Email: [pastorpingel@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpingel@gmail.com)*

### **Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music**

*Email: [mickhdking@aol.com](mailto:mickhdking@aol.com)*

### **Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary**

*Email: [Grace.lc@comcast.net](mailto:Grace.lc@comcast.net)*

**Office Hours:** 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday **Closed Friday**

*[facebook.com/gelc.elca](https://facebook.com/gelc.elca)*

*[youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)*

*Internet: [www.gracewaynesboro.org](http://www.gracewaynesboro.org)*

**Telephone:** 540.949.6171