



Third Sunday After Epiphany

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 21, 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 Father, the Son and 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.



I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it - best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain
 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911
 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

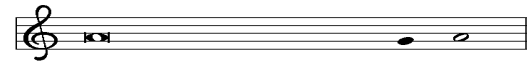
Greeting

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

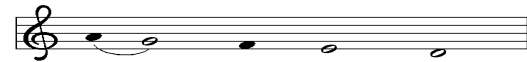
And also with you.

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.



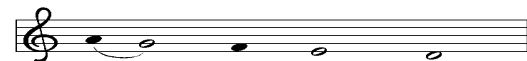
Lord, have mer - cy.



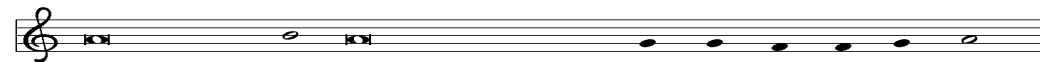
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.**

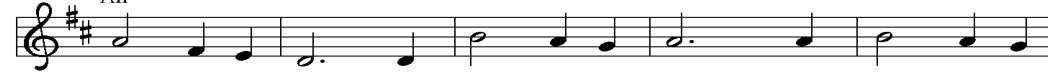
Canticle of Praise

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.

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Word

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

A reading from Jonah

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 62:5-12

We read responsively.

⁵For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

⁶He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

**⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.**

⁹Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

**¹⁰Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.**

¹¹Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

**¹²and steadfast love belongs to you, O LORD. For you repay to all
according to their work.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The congregation stands to welcome the 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: Mark 1:14-20

The holy gospel according to St. Mark:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,
¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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: *"Light Shone in Darkness"*

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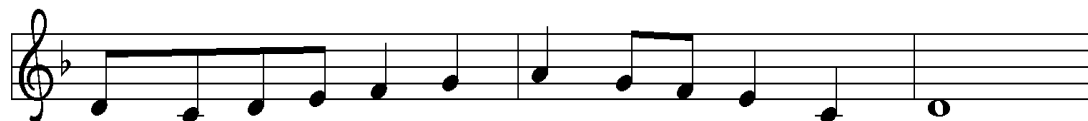
Light Shone in Darkness



- 1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,
- 2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;
- 3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, "Praise for the light. A - men!"
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: LUX IN TENEBRIS, Mark Sedio, b. 1954
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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 Roho 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.

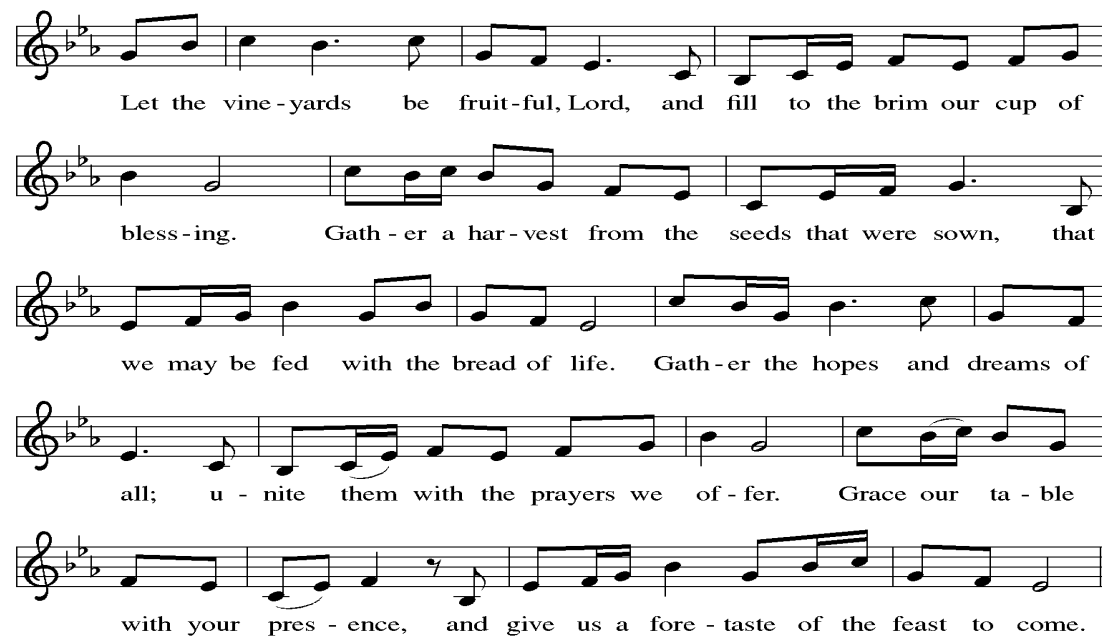
Offertory

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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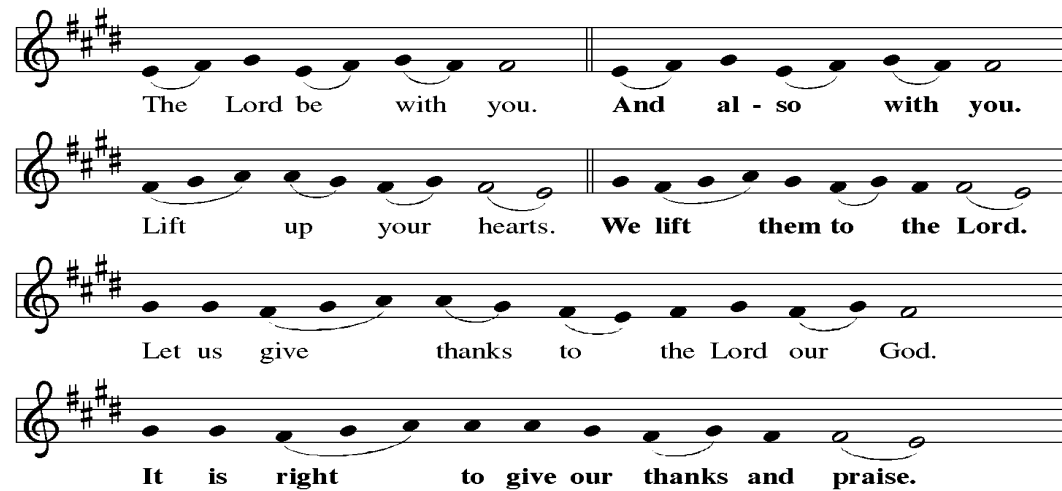


Offering Prayer

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.

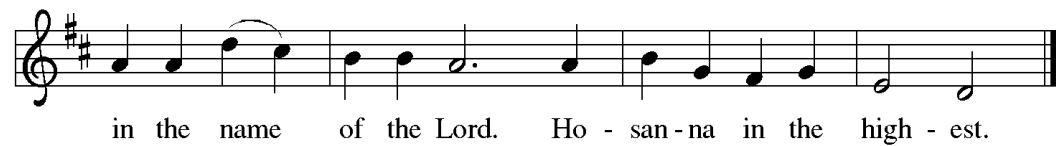
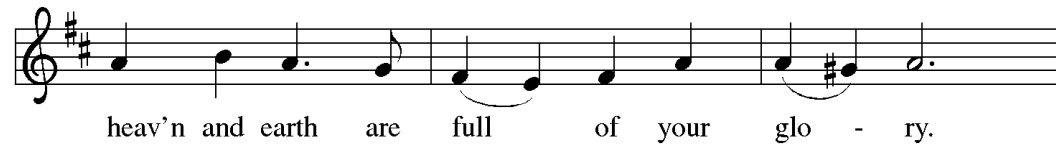
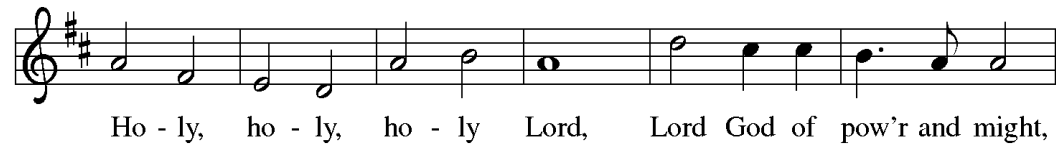
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



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.

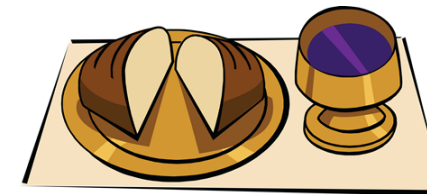
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

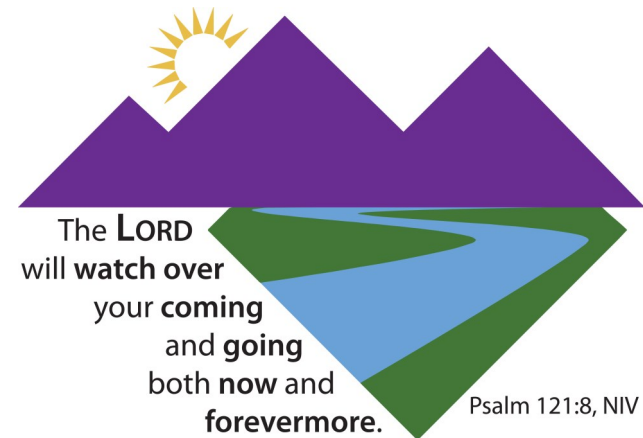
Let us pray.

**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: *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

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Dismissal

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

Postlude

O Jesus, I Have Promised

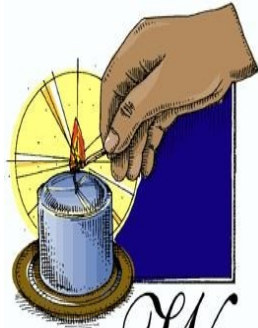
1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693



Worship Assistants

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

- Altar Flowers:* Open
- Altar Guild:* Cathy Firkin
Jane Stein
- Assisting Minister:* Linda Meyer
- Communion Assistants:* Cathy Crowder
Robin Crowder
- Council Person of the Week:* Jerry Kite
- Offering Stewards:* Pat Brady
David Proctor
- Ushers:* Karen Walck
Rex Walck



Altar Flowers

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



Next Sunday's schedule and Lessons

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Service of Holy Communion and via
You Tube

Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and
Preaching

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28



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)

Caroline Biggers

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

Phoenix Oberg, Friend of Sarah Kite

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

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

Emily Almarode

Chuck Goodrich

Phyllis Kite

Sharon Vorel

Genevieve Arneson

Kathy Johnson

Glenn Myers

Marge Cloutier

Sandy Johnson

Tom and Carol Varner

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
Natalie Dodge, Friend of the Almarodes and Amy Warren
Joshua Horn, Friend of the Trauschts
Joe Keesee, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson
Melissa Oskrig, Friend of Betty Karol Wilson

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

Family of Emma Lou Artz, Relative of Gloria Nelson
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

Rudolph Yobs (1/22)
Susan Myers (1/23)
Joe Ranzini (1/26)
Fami Denis (1/26)

Emily Almarode (1/22)
Amaya Cooper (1/24)
Lily Pingel (1/26)
Dennis Barnes (1/27)



Prayers for the World

As Followers of Christ, we begin early this year to pray for our Nation in what has already shown itself to be a difficult campaign, and that God would guide US, as faithful people, not in our fears, but by our faith in the One who creates, the One who has saved us for life that really is life, and the One who guides us daily from within our hearts *in this United States of America.*

We bring before God areas of war and tension—The Red Sea and shipping lanes attacked by Houthi Rebels; border clashes in Pakistan vs. Iran; Chinese tensions with Taiwan; Ukraine/Russia’s continuing war; Israeli war in Gaza and Middle East tensions.

Victims of earthquakes in Japan (over 200 dead)

The Church

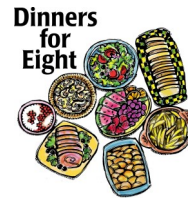
For the Southern Valley Conference of the Virginia Synod, ELCA (of which Grace is a part)

For the Ecumenical Service Youth Group partnership of First Baptist, Grace, St. John Episcopal, St. John Roman Catholic, and Westminster Presbyterian



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.



Dinners of Eight – 2024 - Members and friends of Grace are invited to join in the next round of Dinners of Eight – a monthly time of informal fellowship and getting to know each other better as a family of faith. Thirty-two members participated in the autumn gatherings. If you'd like to be part of the winter-spring gatherings, or for more information, contact the coordinator Mark Radecke at radecke@susqu.edu.



First Sunday Fellowships! These are wonderful opportunities for fellowship as well as a time to get a great “snapshot” of the ministries of Grace! **We need your ministry to sign up** to provide light refreshments, as well as make a brief presentation of your ministry. However familiar you think Grace is with what your ministry does, it's always important to share our ministries at Grace! See the **sign-up sheet** in the narthex and sign-up today!



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

- January 8th – 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 22nd – 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 Wilson!

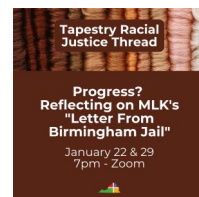


We will be starting our **Quarterly Community Support Info Ministry Fellowships** this month. Each quarter, two (2) to three (3) community volunteer groups will present their mission and work in Waynesboro. Grace members can introduce their volunteer organizations to our congregation, helping those interested 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 **today** after the service. Come learn about the LIFEworks Project Pantry & Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta. For questions, contact Donna Yobs or Karen Walck.



The Grace All God's Children and the Grace/Christ Tabernacle Christian Coalition for Equity and Justice groups will provide lunches for guests at the Expo Center WARM Shelter Tuesday, February 6th through Monday, February 12th. We will be packing up to 70 daily lunches at the Christ Tabernacle kitchen on Monday, February 5th, Wednesday, February 7th, and Saturday, February 10th. Other Grace members are welcome to participate in the packing. Donations to help defray the cost of the lunch provisions would also be greatly appreciated. They can be submitted to Grace with the notation they are for the "WARM Lunch Program". Contact Rick Bump, Donna Yobs or Nancy Schwiesow for further information or to volunteer.



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.)



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.



Donations for Nicaragua Mission Trip—Our friends and partners at CICRIN, the Nicaraguan Christian Children’s Center and School (www.cicrinus.org), have invited our mission team to bring certain items they need when we visit on **February 2**. 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 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.



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



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-nine*** deliveries thus far, sixteen to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty-three 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.



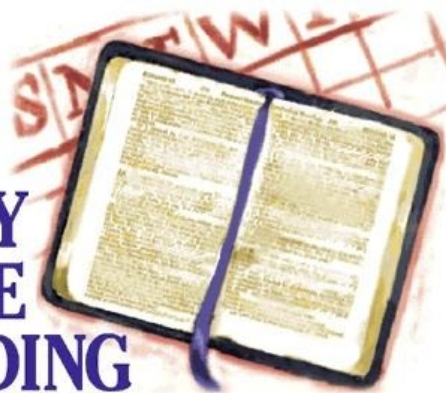
Sanitary Kits for Africa - We continue to make these kits from 9x9 flannel squares at Grace! Please continue donating 9x9 Prewashed Flannel (no fleece, felt or plush) squares at the back of the Nave. Contact Gloria Nelson if you have questions



January
21-28, 2024

	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	01/21	8:30 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School Third Sunday After Epiphany Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Quarterly Community Information Support Fellowship Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School (Sunday School Classroom) Ecumenical Youth Event for WARM Food Prep at First Baptist Serving at Expo
		10:00 a.m.	
		11:10 a.m.	
		11:15 a.m.	
		3:00-5:00 p.m. 5:30-7:00 p.m.	
Monday	01/22	7:00 p.m.	Pastor Out of Office All God's Children Book Study
Tuesday	01/23	9:30 a.m.	Pastor Out of Office Quilting (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	01/24	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room) Choir Practice
Thursday	01/25	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Grace Walkers Bible Study (Conference Room) Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) Bible Study (Conference Room)
Saturday	01/27	All Day 11:00 a.m.	Virginia Synod (Fellowship Hall) Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	01/28	8:30 a.m.	 Adult Sunday School Fourth Sunday After Epiphany Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube K-5 Sunday School (Sunday School Classroom) Confirmation Class VMA Recital
		10:00 a.m.	
		11:10 a.m.	
		11:15 a.m.	
		1:00—6:00	

DAILY BIBLE READING



Monday

Genesis 14:(1-7) 8-24
Hebrews 8:1-13
John 4:43-54
Morning Psalm 135, Evening 97

Tuesday

Genesis 15:1-11, 17-21
Hebrews 9:1-14
John 5:1-18
Morning Psalm 123, Evening 130

Wednesday

Genesis 16:1-14
Hebrews 9:15-28
John 5:19-29
Morning Psalm 15, Evening 48

Thursday

Genesis 16:15—17:14
Hebrews 10:1-10
John 5:30-47
Morning Psalm 36, Evening 80

Friday

Genesis 17:15-27
Hebrews 10:11-25
John 6:1-15
Morning Psalm 130, Evening 32

Saturday

Genesis 18:1-16
Hebrews 10:26-39
John 6:16-27
Morning Psalm 56, Evening 118



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

STAFF

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor

Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music

Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary

Email: 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

youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

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Telephone: 540.949.6171