



# Transfiguration SUNDAY

## *TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD*

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
February 19, 2023*

*“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant  
congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other,  
the community, and the world.”*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*(Based on Bread of Life, Jay Beach Setting)  
(Available via You Tube and Zoom Remotely)  
Congregational responses are in bold print*

*We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of 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.*

*We have 4 assisted listening units that are simple to operate. They consist of a small unit with an earpiece and volume control, each unit is replaced after each use. See the ushers to use one today.*

*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 parts the 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 Spirit, ✝ one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.



*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,  
and cannot free ourselves.  
We have not practiced your righteousness.  
Our hearts have turned away from you.  
For the sake of the world you so love,  
forgive us,  
that we may be reconciled to one another  
for the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.**

Thus says our God:  
“The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare.”  
God's mercy makes us new.  
We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

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## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

## 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.**

## Hymn of Praise

### Let Us Go to the House of the Lord

*I Was Glad*

The musical score is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words split across lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us  
go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they  
said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
Called from ev - 'ry na - tion, called from ev - 'ry race,  
Here the poor are wel - comed, here the lost are claimed,  
Words that must be spo - ken, grace that must be heard,  
gath - ered here for wor - ship in this ho - ly place;  
Bro - ken lives are mend - ed, deep - est fears are named;  
Mer - cy and for - give - ness from God's ho - ly Word,  
God is here a - mong us, lift your hearts and sing,  
Here the wise are child - ren and the weak are strong,  
Here, will be re - peat - ed; Peace! to all pro - claimed,  
make the walls and raf - ters ring.  
Here, in Christ, we all be - long.  
Shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.

*Text and music written by Jay Beech, ©1997. Used by permission.*

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### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

**Word**

### **First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18**

A reading from Exodus:

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm: Psalm 2**

*We read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>2</sup>**The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying,**

<sup>3</sup>"Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us."

<sup>4</sup>**He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.**

<sup>5</sup>Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,

<sup>6</sup>**"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."**

<sup>7</sup>I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you.

<sup>8</sup>**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.**

<sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

<sup>10</sup>**Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling

<sup>12</sup>**kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly kindled. Happy are all who take refuge in him.**

## **Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21**

A reading from 2 Peter:

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.


<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Celtic Alleluia**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. admin. OCP Publications

### Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



**Children's Message**

Pastor Pingel

**Sermon**

Pastor Pingel

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Shine Jesus, Shine"

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*We stand*

**Apostles' Creed**

**Apostle's Creed in Swahili**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

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

**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.**

**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.**

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

## Shine, Jesus, Shine

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*Refrain*



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me:  
Shine on me, shine on me:

## Prayers of Intercession

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayers end with these words*

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

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**  
**Amen.**

**Meal**

## Peace

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

*Please greet those around you, offer a sign of peace to one another.*

*We sit.*

## Offering

*We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.*

*(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate)*

*We stand.*

PEACE  
BE WITH  
you

Offertory Song

Verses 1, 4

We Give Thee but Thine Own

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.  
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Liberating God,  
you break the bonds of injustice  
and let the oppressed go free.  
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving  
for all your works of merciful power,  
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.  
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,  
Amen.



## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also 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:

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**



### 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

Come and taste the joy of God!  
Thanks be to God!

*We sit.*

### Baba Yetu (Lord's Prayer in Swahili)

**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.**

The  
LORD'S  
Prayer

### For the Healing of the World



Des-per - ate peo - ple are mak - ing their way to see  
Sure - ly he's borne all our griefs and col - lect - ed our  
Still in our world we see peo - ple con - tin - ue to



Je - sus; Wound - ed and bro - ken we  
sor - rows; Here, in the sha - dow of  
suf - fer: So man - y hun - gry and



come for we've no - where to turn;  
death, he's no strang - er to tears;  
so man - y liv - ing in pain.



Long - ing for free - dom from de - mons and all our dis -  
Si - lent, he goes like a lamb as our weak - ness he  
Now we must go with God's heal - ing and jus - tice to



eas - es, He's mak - ing us whole and  
bor - rows; He's tak - ing the cup and  
of - fer, For this is the call, he



free - ing our souls and we owe him our lives.  
drink - ing it up, then he pours out his life.  
asks for it all; Will you lay down your life?



For the heal - ing of the world, Je - sus came,  
 Je - sus lived; For the heal - ing of the world,  
 Je - sus died and rose a - gain. In his  
 sac - ri - fi - cial life God was mak - ing all things right,  
 Mer - cy flow - ing for the heal - ing of the world.

*Text and music by Jay Beech, ©2003. Used by permission.*

### 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)*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

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

### The Communion Blessing

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

**Amen**

**Post Communion Canticle** “For the Healing of the World”

Verse 3, Pages 17-18

**Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray.

Holy One,

**We thank you for the healing  
that springs forth abundantly from this table.**

**Renew our strength to do justice,  
love kindness,  
and journey humbly with you.  
Amen.**



**Sending**

**Benediction**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor’s rod  
✚ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song:** “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

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**Benediction**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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## Alleluia, Song of Gladness

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;  
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,

al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;  
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;  
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;  
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.  
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.  
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

## *Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today*

*Altar Flowers:*

*Jim & Gloria Nelson*

*Altar Guild:*

*Kathy Meicke*

*Assisting Minister:*

*Donna Gum*

*Communion Assistants:*

*Gloria Nelson*

*Jim Nelson*

*Council Person of the Week:*

*Jean Morgan*

*Offering Stewards:*

*Pat Brady*

*David Proctor*

*Ushers:*

*Ron Almarode*

*Lee Lynch*





*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of our God*

*Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons*

*February 26, 2023  
First Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m.*

*Pastor Paul Pingel  
Presiding and Preaching*

*Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11*



**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 4 weeks\*)**

**Ellen Moyer**

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

**Judy Drayer**, Mother of Peggy Caister  
**Steven Eckstrom**, Son of Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom  
**Russell Goff**, Family Member of Gloria and Jim Nelson  
**Bruce Joleaud**, Brother-in-Law of Mike Trauscht  
**Carolyn Moser**, Sister of David Schwiesow  
**Arta Smith**, Friend of Rick and Kathy Bump

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

**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Please advise of status changes)**

**Emily Almarode**  
**Sandra Hoy**  
**Bill Lucas**  
**Janet Parmer**

**Liz Ann Binns**  
**Kathryn Johnson**  
**Glenn Myers**  
**Ingrid Sevigny**

**Fred Brower**  
**Phyllis Kite**  
**Jimmy Owens**

**Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends** *(Please advise of status changes)*

**Timothy Bradford**, Friend from Christ Tabernacle  
**Janice Collins**, Friend of Grace  
**Beth Hausrath Crickenberger**, Friend to Many at Grace  
**Nina Crowe**, Mother of Cathy Crowder  
**Natalie and Nicole Dodge**, Friends of Ron and Sylvia Almarode  
**Kyle Getler**, Member Relative  
**Darren Graf**, Son of Woody and Irma Graf  
**Regan Grant**, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump  
**Kathy Hale**, Friend of Charlie and Bette Karol Wilson  
**Sandy Higgs**, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow  
**Rosalind Holt**, Friend of Gail Johnson  
**Joshua Horn**, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht  
**Jen Kearney**, Friend to Many at Grace  
**Dot Metz**, Sister of Marge Cloutier  
**Ken & Letty Rosen**, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow  
**Judy Simpson**, Sister of Sharon Lynch  
**Larry Spoon**, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many  
**Liz Stone**, Aunt of Betty Karol Wilson  
**Kay Truslow**, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht  
**Douglas Williams**, Friend of Sylvia Almarode, deployed to Kuwait for one year  
**Toretta Wyatt**, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

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

**Family of Annette Boyette**, Grandmother of Adrienne Carper  
**Family of Kathryn Buchanan**, Former VP and Treasurer of the VA Synod  
**Family of Debbie Caldwell**, Friend of Gail Johnson  
**Family of Cecil Layman**  
**Family of George Savage**, Friend of Gail Johnson  
**Family of Jim Wise**  
**Family of Carl Wondersek**, Father of Marlene Shaw

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

**Carol Bowers (2/26)**



IN OUR



# Thoughts and Prayers

## The Needs of the World

**The family of Tyre Nichols and the continued discussion of police training and accountability in our nation**

U.S. Congress and our representatives, as they seek to begin their work of governance in 2023

**Racial reconciliation, justice and equity in our community, and in our nation**

Winter Storms and Tornadoes' continuing impact across our nation

**For peace on earth: The Ukraine, Republic of Congo, Syria, Ethiopia, Yemen, Somalia**

Earthquakes and flooding in California

**Continued mass casualties from gun violence; three shootings in three days: 18 dead in California; two killed in Des Moines, Iowa; two killed in Chicago, Illinois.**

## The Church

### **Grace's Strategic Planning**

Our friends in Christ at St. John Episcopal, as they offer Godspeed to their rector, Benjamin Badgett at the end of February

### Our Neighbors

Our neighbors in the Wenonah area





## The Season of Lent

The ancient practice of Lent was preparing candidates for Holy Baptism, by walking them through the life of Jesus, from Ash Wednesday through Easter. This preparation reviewed Jesus' life, his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, followed by his death on the cross, and his rising to new life. It anticipates our life in Christ, where each day we die to sin, and rise to the new life the Risen Christ has for us.

Come and take part in this ancient practice, and find your journey of faith renewed during the Season of Lent!

### **Ash Wednesday – February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- **10:00 a.m.** - Grace Chapel - Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion
- **7:00 p.m.** - Grace, shared with First Baptist and St. John Episcopal - Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

### **Sundays during the Season of Lent - February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 a.m.** - Worship with Holy Communion

### **Wednesdays in Lent - "The Apocrypha - The Story of You"**

Apocrypha is considered a part of Holy Scripture in the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, but we know little of it in the Lutheran and other Protestant Churches. During this Lenten Season, we'll take a look at our Faith Story - "The Story of You" - through the lens of the Apocrypha. The books of the Apocrypha were written in the period of history between the Old and New Testament. They contain Prayers, Wisdom Literature, Short (and sometimes wild!) Stories, as well as "straight up" History. We'll discover that this collection of sacred documents "off the beaten path" can be a strong aid to our own baptismal journeys of faith; "the story of you" on the way to the cross, the tomb, and the resurrection of our Lord.

### **6:00 p.m. - Soup Suppers**

### **7:00 p.m. – The Apocrypha**

- **March 1** - *Zion Lutheran Church* - An Overview of the Apocrypha and finding God's Grace there.
- **March 8** - *Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church* - The Wisdom of the Apocrypha - God in all things.
- **March 15** - *St. James Lutheran Church* - The short and surprising stories of the Apocrypha - Finding God - and the very human - in this world.
- **March 22** - *Bethlehem Lutheran Church* - The history of the Apocrypha - revealing the origins of a familiar holiday and the expectations of a Messiah.
- **March 29** - *Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church* - The Story of You - and finding God in your prayer, wisdom, stories, and history.



**Called Congregation Meeting TODAY** - Following Worship, we will have our Annual Congregation Meeting, with a presentation of our 2022 Annual Report. Please plan on coming to this important meeting in the life of our congregation!



**Shrove Pancake Supper**—Bethlehem will be having their traditional pancake supper again! Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Free-will offering requested.



**Ash Wednesday begins Lent on February 22nd** - The Season of Lent is a time to (re)consider WHO WE ARE in our daily lives - baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection - and what that means for how we live them, and how we see the World.

***Here's our Ash Wednesday Schedule:***

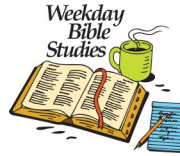
- 10:00 a.m. - in the Chapel - Ash Wednesday Worship with Ashes and Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. - We are joined - here at Grace - by our brothers and sisters from First Baptist and St. John Episcopal - Ashes and Holy Communion are a part of worship



**Wednesday Morning Prayer Group**—The group meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. They pray for the people on the Grace prayer list and for the concerns of both members and our community, nation and world. There is no need to lead or pray out loud, you can join in the group prayers or sit quietly. The session only lasts 20-30 minutes and is not a commitment for every week. We invite you to join us whenever you can.



**Mission Group Returns**—We give thanks to God for a safe return of our CICRIN Nicaragua Mission Group. We look forward to hearing about their experiences at a date soon to come.



**Weekday Bible Study of I Corinthians**—Our final class is Thursday the 23rd.



**Grace Photo Directory**—Jack Eckstrom will be our photographer for the Grace Pictorial Directory. Pictures should take approximately 10 minutes per family, if that. Our schedule for the photos is the following Sundays after the service: Today, February 19<sup>th</sup>, and February 26<sup>th</sup>. Pictures will be taken immediately after each service. Sign up sheets for each date will be located in the back of the church. For those unable to take part, you can provide a photo of yourself and/or family. Cell phones are great for taking pictures. If you have questions, please contact Carolyn Hite, 540-292-0977, or the church office.



The **“First Sunday Fellowships”** have begun! Each “first Sunday” of the month, one of our volunteer groups at Grace will hold a gathering in the Fellowship Hall after worship. There will be the opportunity for the groups to explain what their group does, who is involved, answer questions, and have fellowship and a few light refreshments. Please sign up your group so the congregation can learn more about what goes on in the life of our church! A sign- up sheet has been placed in the back of the church with enough dates for all of the groups at Grace, which are listed! Please see Sylvia Almarode if you have any questions.



Let mutual love continue.  
Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:1-2

**HOSPITALITY AND GRACE:** Are you interested in learning more about Christianity and hospitality? Join us for a book/study group! We will read *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* by Christine D. Pohl (9 chapters, 187 pages). Grace member Eric Hilker, PhD in Religion and Ethics, will lead our group as we learn the history of hospitality, how it has evolved, what it means today, and talk about our own experiences. What does “hospitality” mean to us, to Grace church? How do we continue to evolve our “hospitality-ministry”? If interested, please meet with us immediately after church on February 26<sup>th</sup> - we’ll answer questions and organize when/where to get started! Or, contact Erik Hilker 978-793-9845, Pastor Paul Pingel, 540-216-4454, or Susan Myers, 434-760-1660.



**3Rs - Raising Resources for Readers** will hold our NINTH annual Celebration/Fundraiser at Basic City Beer Co. on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. All Grace Church members are invited to attend and we encourage you to invite others. So many of you have been long-time and generous supporters - THANK YOU! Please join us on the 26<sup>th</sup> for a good cause and let us celebrate 9 years of providing books to our local, Waynesboro students!



**Grace - WARM Cold Weather Shelter:** As Christians, we are called to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked and care for the sick.

Thanks to all the volunteers for providing such gracious and humble hospitality to our homeless neighbors January 23 - 30. We received wonderful feedback from numerous guests:

- "We are so glad to be back here!" (returning from the December 5-12 week)
- "I'm FULL!" "It was so delicious!" "Can I have seconds?" (one guest had SEVEN helpings one night!)
- "Is there any way I can get a shower tonight?" (so we opened 14-15 slots instead of just 12)
- "Do you have any more socks?" (and more were brought in)
- "Thank you for letting us have Sunday School with you."
- "We felt so welcome. It felt like YOU WANTED US to be here!"

Thank you to everyone that contributed: prayers, finances, greeting, cooking, staying overnight, shopping, cleaning! We had just under 80 different volunteers for the week which included 46 different members of Grace who invited 3 friends to join us, 13 volunteers from Waynesboro-Kiwanis, 11 from Zion Lutheran Church, 4 from St. John's Episcopal Church, plus one intern, Hannah! These volunteers put in over 425 hours of work from set-up to break-down, not counting a lot of shopping and cooking hours. At the last minute, Karen Van Stee brought our Adult Sunday School class downstairs; we had about 4 Grace members and 6-8 guests fully participating; then 13 guests joined us for our Service of Holy Communion!

Thank you Grace church for your generosity, your warmth, your willingness to be hands-on. *Susan Myers*



**What is happening at Grace?**—If you would like to know when/if there is a meeting, if a room is available, who is preaching, when a service is being held, when yoga is taking place, etc., all you need to do is go to our website ([gracewaynesboro.org](http://gracewaynesboro.org)) and click on the “Calendar” at the top of the page. The calendar for the current month will come up. You can scroll through the months on the top left of the calendar. We make every effort to keep this calendar up to date. If you would like to add an event, etc., please call the Church Office.



**Altar Flowers**—Please consider signing up to provide Altar Flowers for Sunday services. You can either sign up on flower chart in the Nave or call 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-one deliveries thus far, fifteen to Main Street United Methodist, and sixteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,248 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



**Covid Policy at Grace**

- Masking is optional during worship.
- We will continue to post the CDC "risk" color (green [low], yellow [medium] or orange [high risk] in the narthex
- There is a "social distance" section available in the front of the worship space
- Holy Communion will continue to be offered by coming up front and receiving bread and individual cups of wine; pastor and assistants will
- mask when the CDC "risk" color is orange (high)
- Masks and hand sanitizer continue to be available in the narthex.

**We continue to encourage:**

- Vaccination and keeping up-to-date with current shots
- Staying home when not feeling well, especially with flu and other infections on the rise this time of year
- Masking if you have not been vaccinated for Covid or Flu



**Life of Grace Church**  
**February 19-26, 2023**

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY— SUNDAY	02/19	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  10:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Adult Bible Class—Matthew</b>  <b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> <b>Pastor Paul Pingel</b> Presiding and Preaching <b>Congregational Meeting</b>  <b>Coffee Fellowship Zoom</b>  <b>Confirmation Class</b>
Monday	02/20	7:00 p.m.	<b>Presidents' Day</b>  <b>All God's Children's Book Study</b> (Conference Room)
Tuesday	02/21	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>Quilting</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>Council Meeting</b> (Conference Room)
Wednesday		10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>Ash Wednesday Service</b> (Chapel)  <b>Yoga</b> (Seminar Room)  <b>Ash Wednesday Service</b>
Thursday	02/23	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>Grace Walkers</b> (Meet in Parking Lot)  <b>Bridge Club</b> (Fellowship Hall)  <b>CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting</b>
Saturday	02/25	9:00 a.m.—Noon 11:00 a.m.	<b>Pre-Lenten Retreat—Bethlehem Lutheran</b>  <b>Yoga</b> (Seminar Room)
Sunday	02/26	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  10:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Adult Bible Class—Matthew</b>  <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> <b>Pastor Paul Pingel</b> Presiding and Preaching  <b>Coffee Fellowship Zoom</b>  <b>Confirmation Class</b>

**Monday**  
Ruth 1:1-14  
2 Corinthians 1:1-11  
Matthew 5:1-12  
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 9



**Tuesday**  
Ruth 1:15-22  
2 Corinthians 1:12-22  
Matthew 5:13-20  
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 7

**Wednesday**  
Ruth 2:1-13  
2 Corinthians 1:23—2:17  
Matthew 5:21-26  
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 134

**Thursday**  
Ruth 2:14-23  
2 Corinthians 3:1-18  
Matthew 5:27-37  
Morning Psalm 147;13-21, Evening 130

**Friday**  
Ruth 3:1-18  
2 Corinthians 4:1-12  
Matthew 5:38-48  
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 40

**Saturday**  
Ruth 4:1-22  
2 Corinthians 4:13—5:10  
Matthew 6:1-6  
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 90





Members of Grace  
Congregational Council



*Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)*  
*Nancy Schwiesow, Vice-President (301-943-0888)*  
*Bob Barrette (434-760-4419), Fred Biggers (434-981-1954),*  
*Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176), Jean Morgan (540-649-4422),*  
*Susan Myers (434-760-1660), Andrew Sell (612-695-8361),*  
*Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772), Karen Walck (765-480-9920)*  
*Ron Almarode, Treasurer*  
*Vivian Proctor, Secretary*  
*Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer*  
*Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary*

*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*