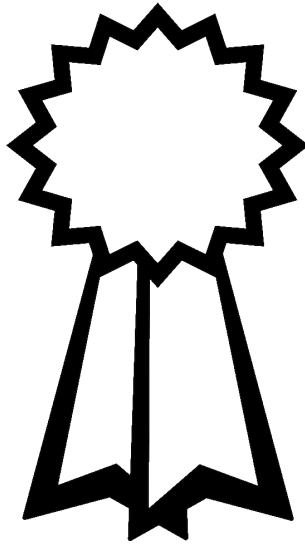


5th Sunday After the Epiphany



February 4, 2024

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, please complete a visitor information sheet and/or record your visit in the red attendance book found in each aisle. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor or an usher.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Quiet Books for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available in the info kiosk, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The NALC embraces four core values: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused. The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the NALC at www.thenalc.org!

PRELUDE

Linda Hoch

"I Love to Tell the Story" - arr. Wilbur Held

"On Eagle's Wings" - arr. John Carter

Parish Concerns

Please stand and face the baptismal font.

The Entrance Rite

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!

Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.

join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

The Liturgy of The Word

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:14*)
- C** **And also with you!**

KYRIE (*Mark 10: 47*)

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

GLORY TO GOD (Luke 2: 14, John 1: 29)



▣ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



▣ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY



☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ And al - so with you.

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God, you sent your only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see
and our ears to hear. Help us to believe with joy what the Scriptures
proclaim, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Please be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

Nothing escapes God's notice. He who sits on high watches over the whole creation, the prophet wrote. Though the young grow tired and weary, the Lord never wearies. He is always present, giving strength to those who need it and restoring power to the powerless. The prophet cried out, "Have you not heard? Do you not know?"

- ²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
²³ who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows on them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
- ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might
and because he is strong in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-12

Refrain



Psalm
Tone



L ¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises ¹to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor ¹him with praise!

C ²**The LORD re- ¹builds Jerusalem;
he gathers the ex- ¹iles of Israel.**

L ³He heals the ¹brokenhearted
and binds ¹up their wounds.

C ⁴**He counts the number ¹of the stars
and calls them all ¹by their names. Refrain**

L ⁵Great is our LORD and might- ¹y in power;
there is no limit ¹to his wisdom.

C ⁶**The LORD lifts^l up the lowly,
but casts the wicked^l to the ground.**

L ⁷Sing to the LORD^l with thanksgiving;
make music to our God up-^l on the harp.

C ⁸**He covers the heav-^lens with clouds
and prepares rain^l for the earth; Refrain**

L ⁹he makes grass to grow up-^l on the mountains
and green plants to^l serve mankind.

C ¹⁰**He provides food for^l flocks and herds
and for the young ravens^l when they cry.**

L ¹¹He is not impressed by the might^l of a horse;
he has no pleasure in the strength^l of a man;

C ¹²**but the LORD has pleasure in^l those who fear him,
in those who await his^l gracious favor. Refrain**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

Paul discussed his duty to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. He said he must do it, even though he may be free not to. It was his compulsion to proclaim Christ so that all people might know this saving grace, and yet it was not his will, but Christ's. Paul urged believers to run the race in such a way as to win, with discipline and purpose, striving for the heavenly prize.

¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

L The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*John 6: 68*)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

Soon after Jesus called his disciples to come and follow him, he healed Peter's mother-in-law of a severe fever. After sunset many came to find him, bringing loved ones who were ill or demon possessed to be healed by Jesus. Jesus forbade any of the demons to speak to his true identity.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

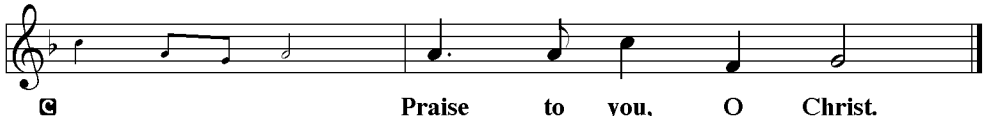
²⁹ And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you."

³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"On Eagle's Wings"



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by

Refrain

day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All

4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain
All

And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS

A Rejoicing in God's gift of grace, let us pray for the Church,
the world, and all on whom the Light of Christ shines.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;

C Hear our prayer.

P Hear our prayers, gracious God, as we live in the light of
your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

***You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.***

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

SPECIAL MUSIC

8:30 "Norwegian Melody" - *Edvard Greig*

11:00 "The Lord is My Light" - *arr. Craig Courtney*

**Robin Buser - Piano
Grace Singers Chancel Choir**

Please stand as the offering and First Fruits are brought forward.

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL, LORD (*Psalm 104:14-15; Isaiah 25:6; 1 Corinthians 5:7*)

⊕ 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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(*2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136*)

⊕ 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 him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS *(Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9)*

☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san- na. Ho - san- na.

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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
 In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
 that all those who believe in him should not perish,
 but have eternal life.
 We give thanks to you
 for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
 Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
 that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
 as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (*John 1:29*)

C Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!
(*Revelation 19:9*)

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Please be seated.



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper, and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are welcome to commune this evening.

Children who do not commune are invited forward to receive a blessing.

You may receive the Communion Wine by taking a communion glass from the tray as it is offered to you.

As always, the common cup is offered for those who desire to use it. If you desire the common cup, please point to it as the individual cups pass by you.

Grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray.

After you have received, please place the empty communion glass in the basket provided

(Gluten-free hosts are available by telling the person giving the host.)

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion:

O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood.

Amen.

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion:

Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (John 1: 29)

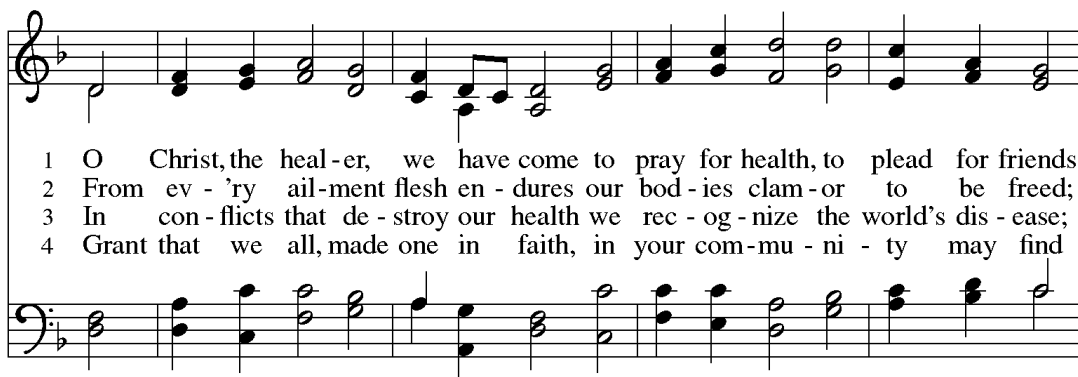
☪ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"The Lord is My Light" - arr. Craig Courtney

Robin Buser - Piano

COMMUNION HYMN "O Christ the Healer, We Have Come"



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

After all have communed, please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace!
C Amen.

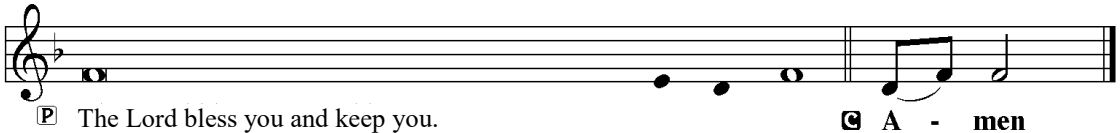
SENDING OF OUR CARE TEAM

- P** Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your Word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound.
May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ,
all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

THE BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.
In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit †

RECESSIONAL HYMN "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; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry

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

THE RITE OF SENDING

- A Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. (John 8:12)
- C **The light no darkness can overcome!** (John 1:5)

Children Go in peace, serve the Lord!
C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"Praise to the Lord" - arr. David Cherwien

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Remember in our prayers... Evelyn Boughton, Rella Kehl, Nicole Rowley, Tami Stone, Chris Troutman, Carol Schlea, Ron Kerlee, Diane Boone, Betty Lou Miliner, Grace Sima, Rod Rice, Don Slemmer, Jan Perry, John Moffett, Rick Arreguin, Bob Bower, Janice Hardick, Joan Hassler, the family of Tom Rothmann



Beginning NEXT Sunday, February 11 the first service will begin at 8:15am rather than 8:30am.

Notes & News

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the **WELCOME** Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and sign the Pew Pad to let us know you were worshipping with us today.

Service Recording: The recorded 8:30am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.

2023 Financial Giving statements were emailed out January 25 to the main email address we have on file. Check your spam/junk mail folder in your email if you did not see it in your inbox. If an email address was not on file, printed statements were mailed the same day and should have arrived this past week. If you have not received your giving statement or have questions, please contact Debbie Yoho, Finance Manager, 614-882-3026 or d.yoho@grace43081.org.



Flowers for 2024: Flowers at Grace can honor a special event, remember a loved one or simply give glory to God. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line or call the office. The actual cost of flowers has increased to \$75.00 a Sunday. The suggested donation will now be \$30. Since that does not cover the cost, this donation is not to purchase flowers for your own, but contribute for the enjoyment of all. After the service, the arrangement is moved to the welcome center for the following week to enhance our space even longer.





Shrove Tuesday- Pancake Supper, February 13th at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The pancakes will be made by the men of Grace coordinated by Tom Seamon and the Middle school kids will be helping set up, serve and clean up. The pancake supper ends at 7:00 for a brief worship service in the sanctuary.

Congregational Visitation by Pastor Wendel: Upon the beginning of his ministry at Grace in early December, Pastor Wendel has been focused on visiting every home to become better acquainted with all who are involved at Grace Lutheran Church. Council member, Becky Seifert, is scheduling and coordinating these visits. You may contact Becky at



seifertbecky@yahoo.com or 614-378-6023. Should you need to contact

Pastor Wendel for a last minute change, feel free to call or text him at 719-650-8171. For anyone who may prefer to meet in pastor's office, please let Becky know when scheduling!

Upcoming Events

Feb. 4	5:30 pm- High Schoolers Pizza and a Movie! (more info under "Christian Growth")
Feb. 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15am Start time begins for 1st service • Super Bowl Kettle Collection and Soup Collection • 12:30pm– A Joyful Noise! Community Concert presents Aaron Schwartz, violinist
Feb. 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper • 7:00pm Worship
Feb. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30am Worship: Simple spoken service of confession with imposition of ashes • 12:15pm Worship: Simple spoken service of Word and Sacrament with sermon, Holy Communion and imposition of ashes • 7:00pm Worship: Ash Wednesday service of Word and Sacrament with imposition of ashes, sermon, music and Holy Communion
Feb. 16	11am-8pm, Westerville Habitat Partnership fundraiser at City BBQ, Westerville (mention Fund A for your purchase to benefit WHP)
Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, and 20	Mid-Week Lenten observance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:00pm Soup Supper • 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer Service
March 24:	Palm Sunday, 8:15am and 11:00am
March 28:	Maundy Thursday, The Lord's Supper, 7pm
March 29:	Good Friday Tenebrae, 7pm
March 31	Easter, 8:15am and 11:00am (9:30am Easter Breakfast)

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rice Bowls: During Lent we will be collecting loose change in rice bowls. You can get a rice bowl starting February 13th in the gathering space. The rice bowls are due back March 24th (Palm Sunday). The Rice Bowl organization partners with loving children's homes around the world to help provide delicious, locally sourced meals. Their mission is to feed orphaned children around the world.



FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS *Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

February Shopping List:

*Dishwasher detergent; Cooking oil; Unsweetened cereal; Mixed veggies; Canned pineapple; Salsa; Juices (fruit/tomato); Pasta Noodles (short, preferably); Granulated sugar; Pancake mix; Hand/soft soap; Shampoo Toothpaste/Toothbrushes Diapers Paper towels and **Plastic shopping bags are needed.** We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date.*



WARM
Westerville Area Resource Ministry

Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to WARM. Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

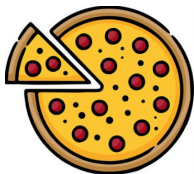


Super Bowl Sunday is NEXT Sunday, February 11! We will continue to have the kettles out to collect monetary donations. Donate towards your favorite team or "I don't care." Who will win? We are also collecting cans of soup on Super Bowl Sunday. The cans of soup and kettle collection will be donated to WARM. There will be a bin to put the cans in for donations.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

High Schoolers Pizza and a Movie! We will meet TONIGHT, Sunday evening, Feb. 4, 5:30 PM at the home of Molly King, 130 Big Run Road, Delaware. We hope to have a monthly high schoolers gathering, rotating between Molly's home and the home of Pastor Wendel. Friends are invited and encouraged! The intention is to develop and strengthen relationships in a relaxing environment. Sign-up at the church! Questions? Call or text Pastor Wendel (719-650-8171) or Molly.



Changes to Sunday School- Starting Sunday, February 18, Sunday School music opening and Youth Choir will be combined. The opening will go from 9:30 to 9:50 each Sunday and take place in the Sunday School elementary classroom with the keyboard. After the Sunday School opening the youth will proceed to their Sunday School classes which end at 10:45am. Questions? Jeff Daubenmire or Molly King



Adult Bible Class: “That the World May Know” – How do you live in a culture



where the world view conflicts with Christianity? Learn from Paul as he presents his beliefs to the most powerful court in Athens and settles among the Greco-Romans of Corinth, among those who valued wealth and class, worshiped multiple gods, and decadent pleasures above all else. Discover how to live in your own Athens or Corinth – an increasingly secular Western world – in a way that glorifies God.

Renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan guides you through the lands of the Bible. In each lesson, Vander Laan illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures. Filmed on location in the Middle East, the” film series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus.

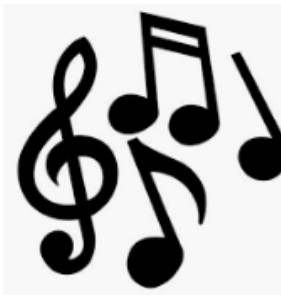
This session will begin on February 11th. This class meets in fellowship hall between services beginning at 9:45 and is facilitated by Bill Kulju.

The Women’s Bible Study: We are studying The Gospel of John: Part 1 by Tony



Evans. Description: Where do you turn when the world around you grows dark? In this study of the Gospel of John, Dr. Tony Evans encourages us to turn to Christ by reminding us of the two purposes for the beloved disciples book- that we would believe in Jesus and find life in his name. Despite what our culture may argue, there is only one hope that is truly trustworthy and that is our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you don't already have a RightNow Media account contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org.

Choirs at Grace:



- **Grace Youth Choir** rehearsals are Sundays 9:30-9:45 AM. Contact Jeff Daubenmire, Director of Music Ministries. Starting Feb. 18 Sunday School opening and Youth Choir will be combined. (See announcement under “Christian Growth.”)
- **Grace Chancel Choir** rehearsals are 7:00-8:15 PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jeff Daubenmire with questions or interest in singing.
- **Grace Ringers Bell Choir** rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:15-7PM. Contact Maria Laderman with questions or interest in ringing.

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grace Supper Club had a wonderful evening at Lucky House Chinese Restaurant last month. For February, we have a reservation at Bru Burger Bar on Thursday, February 15 at 6:15 p.m. Bru Burger is located at 691 North Cleveland Avenue, Westerville 43082. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!**



Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.

NURSERY is OPEN! The Nursery is open Sunday mornings during both services and the Sunday School hour. Trained, professional sitters are present every week to care for your children, ages 6 and younger. Questions? Molly King, 614-882-3026 or m.king@grace43081.org.



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Vanessa Stewart, 614-588-2712 with any questions or concerns.



Dartball's 2023-2024 season is here! Contact Robert Bassett at 419.236.4293 or rgbassettiii@gmail.com with any questions. Upcoming matches:

2/8 at FBGC 2

2/15 Grace of God 2

FROM PASTOR WENDEL'S DESK

Ash Wednesday and Lent at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church!

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ; by grace you have been saved... Ephesians 2:4-5

Christians have long described Ash Wednesday as the “door” through which we enter the season of Lent! Ash Wednesday calls to mind the words of the Lord God to Adam and Eve, after they had sinned. As the Lord was speaking to them words of judgement as the consequence of their disobedience, he reminded them, “you are dust and to dust you shall return.” It was (and is!) a stark and sobering word to us as the Lord God calls to mind our mortality and the result of sin is death. At the same time, it is a call to repentance, renewal and transformation as we journey through the season of Lent, on our way to Holy Week and Easter.

Often, Lent can be misunderstood. Folks think of Lent as dark, depressing, negative as the focus is thought to be on our sinfulness. While Lent is a season for reflection upon our sin, that reflection is always for the sake of absolution and new beginnings! Our brief order for confession at the beginning of each worship service is always, always for the sake of forgiveness, so that we may worship and live anew as the redeemed people we are!

For this reason, to be reminded that Ash Wednesday and Lent are first and foremost about “grace,” our theme for our journey to Holy Week and Easter will be **“Amazing Grace!”** with our theme verse from Ephesians, “By grace you have been saved!” In our services, we will focus on and emphasize that the ashen crosses we receive on Ash

Wednesday, the reflection and renewal we seek during Lent are all possible only because of God's "Amazing Grace!" I will be preaching on Sundays during Lent and Molly will offer homilies on the theme at Wednesday midweek Lenten services. Please join with our congregational community for our Lenten observance, and consider inviting others to come, share God's amazing grace with us!

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14:

7:30 AM: Simple spoken service of confession with imposition of ashes. This service will be approx. 20 minutes in length, providing those who desire to receive the imposition of ashes at the beginning of the day. It will not be a preaching service, nor will there be Holy Communion.

12:15 PM: Simple spoken service of Word and Sacrament with sermon, Holy Communion and imposition of ashes. This midday service is provided for those who may be unable to attend the full evening service. It may be especially helpful for those who would like to worship on Ash Wednesday but prefer not to drive or leave home in the evening.

7:00 PM Ash Wednesday service of Word and Sacrament with imposition of ashes, sermon, music and Holy Communion.

Wednesday Mid-week Lenten observance:

6 PM Soup Suppers

7:00 PM Holden Evening Prayer

As a final note this month, I would like to share my cell phone number, 719-650-8171 and encourage you to call or text my cell phone! This is the most expeditious and timely way to reach me. You may also email me at d.wendel@grace43081.org, however, cell phone or text is quickest. At the same time, given the volume of messages we sometimes receive, if you don't receive a response from a phone call or text within 24 hours, feel free to reach out again. My goal is always to respond to you as quickly as possible. However, it is possible to miss a particular call, text or email at times! Thanks for your help!

In Christ,

Pastor Wendel

MUSIC NOTES

"I Love to Tell the Story" – arr. Wilbur Held

This hymn is part of a long poem of fifty stanzas in two parts by Arabella Catherine Hankey (also called Katherine Hankey) and was written during a long period of convalescence following a serious illness. Part 1, dated January 29, 1866, is entitled "The Story Wanted" and is the source of the song "Tell me the old, old story." Part 2, dated November 18, 1866, is called "The Story

Told” and contained these lines, which were published in *The Old, Old Story* that same year.

“On Eagle’s Wings” – arr. John Carter

This song – both its text and its music – was written by Michael Joncas (b. 1951) in 1978. The refrain is a setting of Exodus 19:4, and the stanzas are adapted from Psalm 91. Joncas comments about it this way: “The refrain is actually a pastiche of phrases: ‘And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings’ is from Exodus 19:4; ‘bear you on the breath of dawn’ is quite circuitously inspired from ‘take the wings of the morning’ in Psalm 139; ‘make you to shine like the sun’ is reminiscent of the white robes of the redeemed in scenes from the Book of Revelation; and ‘hold you in the palm of God’s hand’ is Isaiah 49:16, which I read through a Christian patristic optic as a *sensus plenior* reference to the crucifixion.”

“Norwegian Melody” – Edvard Grieg

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) was a Norwegian composer and pianist. He is considered one of the leading composers of the Romantic era, and his use of Norwegian folk music in his compositions brought the music of Norway to fame.

“The Lord is My Light” – arr. Craig Courtney

This exuberant choral arrangement by Craig Courtney (b. 1954) is based on Psalm 27:1-6. A native of Indiana, Courtney began playing piano at age 3 and the cello at age 11. He received a Bachelors and Masters Degree in piano performance at the University of Cincinnati. He currently lives in Columbus, and is staff composer and editor at Beckenhorst Press where he writes music for choir, voice and piano, plus extended works for choir and orchestra.

“How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely” – arr. Maureen Howell

Arlo Duba (1929-2023) composed this metrical paraphrase of Psalm 84. This psalm expresses the longing of an outcast believer or a pilgrim for sweet communion with God at the temple. Faint with longing, the psalmist yearns for the courts of the Lord, where faithful worshipers of all times and places are blessed and even birds find safe haven (stanza 1). Just the thought of being in God’s presence invigorates those who are on pilgrimage to God’s holy place. Pleading to be restored to the temple – if only to a humble place of service (stanza 2) – the psalmist confidently declares that God is gracious to those who trust and serve the Lord (stanza 3).

“Praise to the Lord” – arr. David Cherwien

The text for this hymn, based on Psalms 103 and 150, is one of about 60 hymns written by Joachim Neander (1650-1680) during his short life. Neander is widely regarded as the best poet of the Reformed Church in Germany and this is his best-known hymn, published in his *Glaub-und Liebesübung* (1680). The present translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) appeared in her *Chorale Book for England* (1863). The tune LOBE DEN HERREN (“Praise the Lord”) is an adaptation of a melody which appeared in *Stralsund Gesangbuch* (1665) and is thought to be an old secular air. Neander chose it for his words in their first printing.



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This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace’s online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Melissa Hodek, at melissa.hodek@gmail.com and it will be emailed to you.

4th Sunday After the Epiphany: 8:30am: 91; 11:00am: 119; Total: 210

The Season of Lent at Grace – 2024

Come join us for the Wednesday evening services during Lent. There will be a light meal starting at 6:00 pm and the service starts at 7:00 pm. The light meals begin February 21. This year's services will center around Holden Evening Prayer. The suppers' freewill offering will support our Vacation Bible School.

Lenten Journey Schedule

February 13 Shrove Tuesday at Grace

Pancake Supper 5:30pm; Worship at 7pm

February 14 Ash Wednesday:

- 7:30am: Simple spoken service of confession with imposition of ashes
- 12:15pm: Simple spoken service of Word and Sacrament with sermon, Holy Communion and imposition of ashes
- 7:00pm: Ash Wednesday service of Word and Sacrament with imposition of ashes, sermon, music and Holy Communion

Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday: Light Meal at 6 PM, Worship at 7 PM

Mid-week Lenten services will take place: February 21, 28, March 6, 13, and 20.

Holy Week Schedule

March 24 – *Palm Sunday, 8:15am and 11:00am*

March 28 – *Maundy Thursday, The Lord's Supper, 7pm*

March 29 – *Good Friday Tenebrae, 7pm*

March 31 – *Easter, 8:15am and 11:00am (9:30am Easter Breakfast)*

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/ PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel
ASSISTING MINISTER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Jeff Daubenmire
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CANTOR	Larry Schaller
LECTOR	8:30 Bob Ayers 11:00 Heather Bush
ACOLYTE	8:30 Molly Young 11:00 Charlie Nickoli
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	8:30 Ted Ray 11:00 Tami Stone
GREETERS	8:30 Marcella Barr 11:00 Shirley and Robert Klingensmith
FIRST FRUITS	8:30 Steve and Julie Young Family 11:00 Kevin and Rebecca Young Family
USHERS	8:30 Lisa Kuhar, Kathy Haegele, Vanessa Stewart 11:00 Aaron Bally, Jim Monroe, Eric Bush
CARE TEAM	Joanne Figge, Susan Miller, Janet Breen, Tami Stone, Coleen Wooster, Vanessa Stewart, Cindy Odum, Christine Troutman, Sue Monroe, Margery Zimmermann, Paul Whitacre, Peggy Jones, Marge Cepek, Eloise Collier, Donna Dettmann, Shirley Hodek, Charlotte Schaller
ALTAR GUILD <i>Team 1</i>	Linda Seamon, Cheryl Bush, Andrea Bush, Jean Clafin, Dorothy Crain, Cheryl Leiss, Twyla Ridder, Lou Swanson, Barbara Muller
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	Alma Lovins, Kailey Freeman



This Week at Grace: February 4-11, 2024

- Feb. 4 **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
PR. DAVID WENDEL
8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Youth Choir
9:45 am Adult Learning and Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:15 pm Youth and Family Meeting
2-4 pm Assemblée Chretienne La Parole
 (Christian Assembly of the Word) (Sanctuary)
5:30 pm High School pizza and a movie @ Molly's House
- MON 1:00 pm Katharine Circle (Rose Garden 2&3)
- TUES 3:00 pm Care Team Meeting (Loaves and Fishes Café)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- WED. 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
6:15pm Grace Ringers (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm Grace Singers (Sanctuary)
- THURS 9:00am Piano Tuning (Sanctuary)
6:30pm Dartball @ FBGC2
- FRI. 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- SAT 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
9:30 am Ohio Mission Region Ex. Council Planning Meeting (Rose
 Garden 4)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- Feb. 11 **TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND BAPTISM**
PR. DAVID WENDEL
8:15 am Worship Service
9:30 am Youth Choir
9:45 am Adult Learning and Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service and Baptism
12:30 pm A Joyful Noise! Community Concert with Arron Schwartz
 (Sanctuary)
2-4 pm Assemblée Chretienne La Parole
 (Christian Assembly of the Word) (Rose Garden 2 & 3)

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GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Westerville, Ohio

100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081

Phone: (614) 882-3026

Pr. David Wendel: (719) 650-8171

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

Website: www.grace43081.org

<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 108 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly meeting space for four AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.