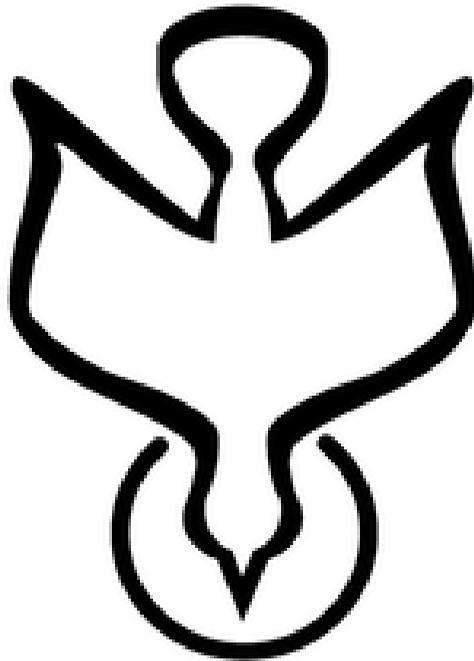


Baptism of Our Lord



**January 8, 2023
8:30 am**

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to Grace to worship in God's house.

To our guests — We invite you to worship with us often and consider our family of faith yours.

Everything you need for worship is printed in this bulletin. Large Print Bulletins and Quiet Books (for our very young worshipers) are available from the ushers.

Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician for a receiver.

Please turn off or silence your personal communication device.
We also ask that you not bring food or drink into our worship space.

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 and the NALC.

Baptism of Our Lord

The voice of the Father from heaven brings fear and trembling, but also the assurance that Jesus is the chosen and beloved Son of God. The Son speaks and acts in the world, pointing the way to a new life lived in the fullness of the presence of God. Through the waters of Baptism each of us are called God's "beloved" and sent out into the world God loves to proclaim the holy reign of God.

PRELUDE

"Crashing Waters at Creation" - arr. David McCarthy
"God, Whose Almighty Word" - arr. Richard Proulx

Linda Hoch

Parish Concerns

Please stand as you are able and face the Baptismal Font.

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 is kept for reflection.

P Merciful Father,

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.**

GATHERING HYMN

"God, Whose Almighty Word"



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray,
in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

The Gathering

GREETING

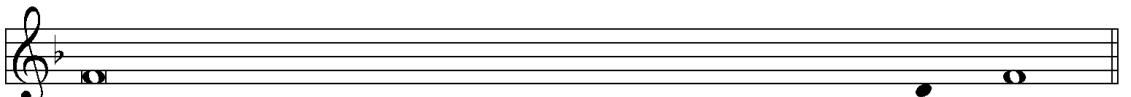
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you!**

KYRIE



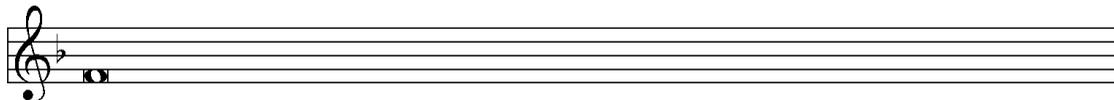
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



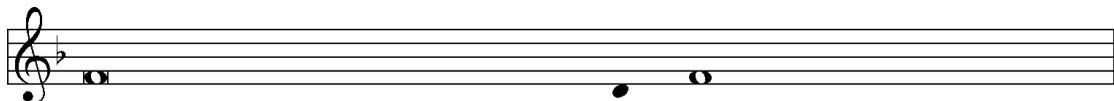
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



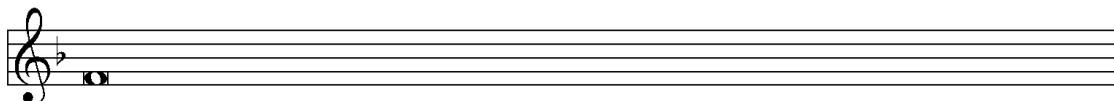
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



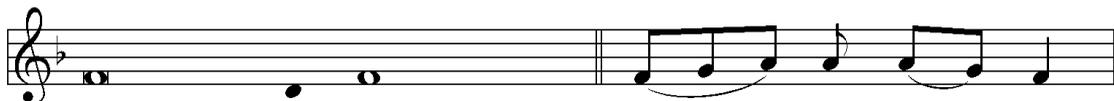
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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



A 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.

C Heavenly Father, in Jesus' baptism you declared him to be your beloved Son and set him apart as your agent of grace for your creation. May we who are baptized into his life also be sent as agents of grace in your world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated.

The Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

The prophet Isaiah promised that God's Spirit shall bring justice to the nations through his servant Israel. This shall be accomplished not through the means of violence or arrogance, but through steadfast attention to God's ways and faithful guidance. Through Israel, God's light shall be revealed to all nations.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

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

Psalm 29

Refrain



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

Psalm
Tone



L ¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo-ry and strength.
C ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
L ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
C ⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. Refrain**
L ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
C ⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
L ⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
C ⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. Refrain**
L ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
C ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
L ¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. Refrain

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus

of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

Please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus' public ministry began with his baptism by John the Baptist at the River Jordan. His ministry is launched following the anointing of the Holy Spirit and God's public declaration of Jesus' identity as his beloved Son. All who hear should understand that throughout his ministry, Jesus speaks and acts for God because he is One with God.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw

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 OF THE CHURCH

A Let us pray in the name of Jesus, to our heavenly Father for the Church,
the world and one another.

A brief silence

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
your mercy; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

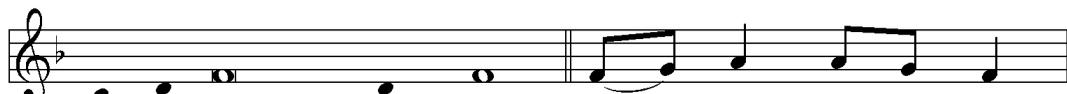
"Cradle Songs" - arr. Michael Akers

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" - arr. Laura R. Lamb

Please stand.

Grace Ringers Bell Choir

PREFACE



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



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C 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:



C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he also took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and said, "Take and drink it all of you. This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

P Together we pray.

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.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

♩ 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.



All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

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, everyone is also welcome to use the individual cups. 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)

COMMUNION MUSIC

Jeff Daubenmire

Special Selection by Jeff Daubenmire

After communion is finished, 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.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Sending

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ grant you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"We Know that Christ Is Raised"



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

DISMISSAL

Children Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"Postlude on *Engelburg*" - arr. Charles W. Ore

Offering: A basket will be placed by the baptismal font for offering. Offerings can be placed in the basket before or after the service.



Today at the 11:00 am service we celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Grace Marie Patterson, daughter of Markus Wilson Patterson and Sarah May Patterson. This child of God is sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross for Christ forever.



Emily Odum completed preparation for First Communion and expressed a desire to join us as we gather around the Lord's table. Today we celebrate with her and her family during this special time.

Flowers are given by...

Jenny Blankenship, David and Sarah Odum in celebration of the baptism of our Goddaughter Grace Patterson and Emily's first communion.
Pam and Dennis Cooper in celebration of the blessing of their new granddaughter Ellianna Ruth Cooper.
Ann Korb in celebration of Lisa Kuhar's birthday.

Remember in our prayers... Call Committee, future senior pastor, Pam Grover, Tyler Edgell, Charles Dettmann, Bob Bower, Stephanie Foos, Eloise Collier, Barbara Muller, John Moffett, Will Stoll, Shawn Turnbull, Mary Ross, Judi Milligan, Will Stoll, Clarence Clapham, Janice Hardick, Joan Hassler, the family of James Adcock

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 Desk to learn more about Grace and sign the Pew Pad to let us know you were worshipping with us today.

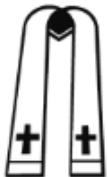
Service Recording: The recorded 8:30am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.

This morning the 2023 Church Council will be installed at the 11am service: Tami Banks, Jim Caldwell, Lisa Kuhar, Melissa Hodek, Andy Laderman, Ted Ray, Becky Seifert, Julie Young



The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 16.

The Call Committee Update: The Call Committee Update: The Call Committee has been busy during November and December completing and polishing our Congregational Sr Pastor Call Profile. The next step is to add the 2023 President of Council's information after their January 8th election of officers. The completed profile is then submitted to the NALC by January 19th to be published January 23d on the NALC website for viewing by 700+ Pastors and others worldwide. We ask you to continue in prayer for the Pastor God is calling to Grace to see and respond to God's calling, and that the call committee will have God's direction for that response! Grace Call Committee members are: Karen Bale, Chris Hoch, Regina Place, Gregg Rearick, Abby Reynolds, and Vanessa Stewart.



We are excited that Grace Supper Club is back this month after our hiatus in December. Supper Club has a reservation at Lucky House Chinese Restaurant on Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 pm. Lucky House is located at 56 East Schrock Road, Westerville 43081. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE WELCOME!** Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.



Flowers for 2023: Dates for 2023 have been added to the binder. 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.



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



Dartball: The 2022-2023 dartball season is underway. Seasoned veterans of the sport and all potential newcomers are welcome to join us. The formal schedule has not been announced yet, but we do know the date of the first game. Robert Bassett (419.236.4293 or rgbassettiii@gmail.com) is happy to answer any questions anyone may have.



1/12 vs. FBGC 2	1/26 @ Ephiphany	2/9 vs. Obetz
1/19 vs. FBGC 1	2/2 @ Grace	2/16 @ Reynoldsburg

YOUTH & FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Confirmation and Sunday School classes meet from 9:45 to 10:45. The High School class will be back to meeting in the Youth Room in the basement.

LAST day to sign up: In 2023, Secret Sisters will begin in January and end in January 2024. In the Secret Sister program at Grace, you will be matched up with another woman in the congregation. You are to pray, give little gifts, and send notes of encouragement and/or surprises to her once a month January through December. Each woman doesn't know who their "sister" is because, shhh...it's a secret!!



In January 2024 there will be a Secret Sister Reveal Celebration!! Not only is it great to see who your encourager was throughout the year, but there is usually a special bond formed between the two of you. It's such a blessed experience to know your "sister"

is lifting you up in prayer or remembering you with a little "gift", but even more of a blessing that you are the encourager to a member of Grace.

You may get to know someone you wouldn't normally get to know at all! This is a great opportunity for fellowship and to form new friendships.

Guidelines and an "All About Me" sheets are available at the Welcome Center. To sign up, complete the "All About Me" sheet and turn it to the box at the Welcome Center. Deadline to turn in your sheet is January 8. A kick-off event is being planned for January 15 following the second service.

For more information contact Martha Crist, Lisa Kuhar or the Grace Office.



OWL Ministry: Don't forget to check the OWL cart when you are here on Sunday.

REACHING OUT TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Blood Drive SAVE the DATE: Our next Blood Drive is Tuesday, January 10, noon-6pm. To schedule an appointment call 1800-RED CROSS or visit



Blood Drive

RedCrossBlood.org, sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville See the Red Cross website for donor eligibility information. Jan. 10, Mar 7, May 16, July 11, Sept. 5, Nov. 14 - all are spaced to allow donors to give the maximum amount of times each year all at Grace. Scheduling is now available on-line for the January drive. Direct any questions/concerns to Vanessa Stewart.

Attention Sewers!! Please join us on Tuesday, January 17 at 1pm for a meeting in the fellowship hall to explore interest in the Samaritan's purse sewing project-Little Dresses for Africa. I will be reviewing the instructions, pattern, and watching a video on this simple sundress construction and sharing some examples. We are welcoming donations of 44" side cotton material in lengths of at least 5/8 yard to 1 1/2 yard, double fold bias tape, 1/4 inch wide elastic and misc trim and buttons to decorate the dresses. Now may be the perfect time to pass on those sewing items you will no longer use! There will be a plastic labeled tub at the Welcome Center for any conations or bring them with you to the meeting! Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart 614-588-2712 or vschpn55@gmail.com.



Yarn Matters has taken a month off for the holidays, but will be back together, creating, on Tuesday, January 24th, at 6:30 in Rose Garden 1. Please come out and learn a new hobby in the new year! During 2022 we made many hats for both WARM and disaster relief, cross bookmarks, cactus decorations for vacation bible school, hearts to include in the Christmas shoe boxes, and even a few prayer shawls for those in need of prayer and comfort. We look forward to sharing our craft with others in 2023! Please contact Jodie Arreguin with questions.



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

Grocery List:

Body Lotion; Body Wash; Coffee; Conditioner; Deodorant; Dishwasher Detergent; Fabric



WARM
Westerville Area Resource Ministry

Softener; Helpers - Various; Mandarin Oranges; Oatmeal; Pasta Sides; Pears; Pizza Sauce; Raisins; Razors; Rice Sides; Salad Dressing; Shampoo; Soap, Dish; Soap, Hand/Soft; and Applesauce - Unsweetened.

We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Grace Singers Chancel Choir Rehearsal are Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in the sanctuary. Contact Jeff Daubenmire, Director of Music Ministries.

Grace Ringers Bell Choir meets on Wednesday for rehearsals from 6:15 - 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Contact Maria Laderman.

Youth Choir: We welcome grades 1-8 and hope you will also consider having them participate in Sunday School immediately following rehearsal. The group will sing every few weeks for the 11:00 service. This is a meaningful musical experience for young people and we hope you consider supporting your children in this effort. Join us for rehearsals, Sunday at 9:30am. If you have any questions, contact Jeff Daubenmire.



TEACHING THE FAITH... ENCOURAGING DISCIPLESHIP

ADULT EDUCATION – “That the World May Know”: How badly do you want to be like Jesus as disciples of Jesus? We have discovered that following Jesus demands an intense commitment to the text and complete devotion to Christian community. But there’s more, come discover the fierce passion of early Christian brothers and sisters to walk like Jesus even when the path became treacherous. Join the adult learning class for volume 7, “Walk as Jesus Walked” at 9:45 in the fellowship hall for the next installment of That the World May Know!



Women’s Bible Study— The Women's Bible Study meets Wednesday at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

Ruth Circle: The ladies of Ruth Circle Ruth enjoyed a luncheon together at Brio’s Restaurant in December. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 9th, 2023. Our usual meeting time is 1:00 pm. Start 2023 with Ruth Circle.

Men of Grace (M.O.G.) had a Christmas Tradition discussion and sharing time in December. Good stuff. MOG will take up our study of Judges again on January 21st. The

men will be discussing the third in the series of 11 studies on this interesting old testament book. All men, high school age and above, are welcome. Join us in January for breakfast, fellowship and study.

MUSIC NOTES

“Crashing Waters at Creation” – arr. David McCarthy

Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993) wrote this hymn to accompany the blessing for water she had written for the baptismal rites of the United Church of Canada. She conceived it as “calling to mind the richness of salvation history.”

“God, Whose Almighty Word” – arr. Richard Proulx

This hymn takes the first three verses of the Bible, Genesis 1:1-3, as its starting point. It was written around 1813 by John Marriot (1780-1825) but was not published then. Six weeks after Marriot's death it was quoted by Thomas Mortimer at a London Missionary Society meeting on May 12, 1825 and then published the following month in the *Evangelical Magazine* as “Thou whose eternal word.”

“Cradle Songs” – arr. Michael E. Akers

This arrangement combines two tunes: CRADLE SONG and COVENTRY CAROL. CRADLE SONG is one of the most popular tunes used with the hymn “Away in the Manger” in Great Britain. The text has long been attributed to Martin Luther. However, the text was probably written by an anonymous author in Pennsylvania during the 19th century. The music of the COVENTRY CAROL dates from the 16th century and was taken from a pageant put on by shear-men and tailors of Coventry, England, on the steps of the city's cathedral between 1534 and 1584. This in turn was based on a much older morality play that tradesmen mounted for the entertainment of their monarchs and town officials. The song's minor tune and gently lulling words were sung in the play by the women of Bethlehem shortly before King Herod's men came to slaughter their infant sons in an attempt to kill the newborn “King of the Jews.”

“It Came Upon A Midnight Clear” – arr. Laura R. Lamb

This hymn by Unitarian minister Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) is one of the first carol-hymns written in America. Sears was deeply involved in the “social gospel,” and his hymn is the first to include the social dimensions of what it means to work for “peace on earth and good will towards men.” Based on Luke 2:13-14, it is a call for us to respond to the song of the angels and to send back to heaven the message that we will make peace on earth.

“Postlude on *Engelburg*” - arr. Charles Ore

ENGELBURG is the tune for the hymn “We Know That Christ is Raised.” This hymn was written by John B. Geyer (b. 1932) and is based on Romans 6. Of this hymn, he writes: “We know that Christ was raised’ was written in 1967, when I was tutor at Chestnut College, Cambridge, U.K. At that time a good deal of work was going on round the corner (involving a number of American research students) producing living cells (“the baby in the test tube”). The hymn attempted to illustrate the Christian doctrine of baptism in relation to those experiments. Originally intended as a hymn for the Sacrament of Baptism, it has become popular as an Easter hymn.”



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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.

Weekly Worship Attendance:

- Christmas Eve, Dec. 24:** 5pm: cancelled due to weather, 8pm: 139
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25:** 10am: 54
- First Sunday after Christmas, Jan. 1:** 10am: 113



The staff of Grace would like to express their sincere gratitude to the congregation for the generous staff Christmas gift! It is greatly appreciated by all and heartfelt! We look forward to serving the Grace family in

the New Year and wish you blessings in 2023!

Thank you!

Pastor Matt Cox Jeff Daubenmire
Linda Hoch Maria Laderman
Molly King Sarah Odum
Jon Sweet Debbie Yoho



Serving Today

OFFICIATING/ PREACHER	Pastor Matt Cox
ASSISTING MINISTER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Jeff Daubenmire
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CANTOR	Fred Pfanz
LECTOR	Aaron Singleton
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Bill Kulju
GREETER	Ellen and George Paulus
USHERS	Steve Miller, Ande Ucubagabriel, Vanessa Stewart, Sue Miller
ALTAR GUILD <i>Team 2</i>	Phyllis Drakulich, Janis Boughton, Karen Bale, Tami Banks, Sue Miller, Julie Hartfelder, Bonnie Sawyer, Carolyn Rearick
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush



This Week at Grace: January 8-15, 2023

- Jan. 8 **BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**
PASTOR MATT COX
8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Youth Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am Adult Learning and Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service, Council Installation, and Baptism
12:00 pm Council Meeting
- MON 1:00 pm Ruth Circle
- TUES 12:00 pm Blood Drive (Gathering Space)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- WED. 10:30 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
6:15 pm Grace Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm Grace Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- THURS 6:30 pm Dartball vs. FBGC2
7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- FRI. 10:00 am Ohio Mission District Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- SAT 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- Jan. 15 **2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
PASTOR MATT COX
8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Youth Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am Adult Learning and Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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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 Boy Scout Troop 007 and 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.