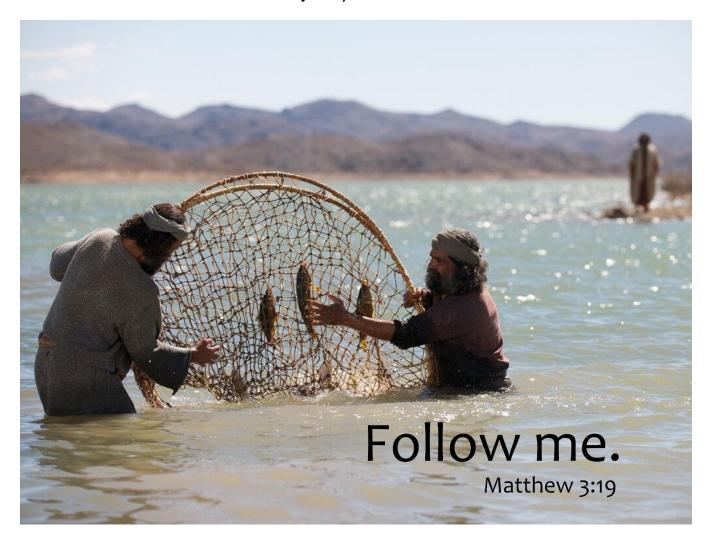
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 22, 2023



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE OF GOD

Whoever you are, wherever you have come from, whatever you believe, you are welcome here. God welcomes ALL to receive his love and know his grace. That is what we celebrate in our gathering together here at Grace of God. If you are new here, we invite you to participate in our worship that includes the singing of hymns and songs, the reading of Scripture, and hearing God's love proclaimed. We celebrate the Lord's Supper (Communion) every Sunday. We believe in this eating and drinking Christ is really present for us and we receive the gift of God's love in his body and blood.

We are glad you are with us today and look forward to meeting you and knowing you better.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request you would like included aloud in our prayers this morning, you may fill out a grey card and place it in the offering plate before worship.

The first part of our worship gathers us all together in Jesus' name for worship

WELCOME

We begin our worship acknowledging that we are broken sinners loved and forgiven by God. We confess our sins and receive God's grace and forgiveness because of what Jesus has done for us. We begin with the sign of the cross and the name of the Trinity that was placed on us in baptism.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism

- Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
- **G** Amen
- ▶ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Most merciful God,
- we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.
 We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected.
 We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves.
 We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.
 Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone.
 For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation.
- **P** Rejoice in this good news:

In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

G Amen

HYMN

We begin worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

"Thy Strong Word"



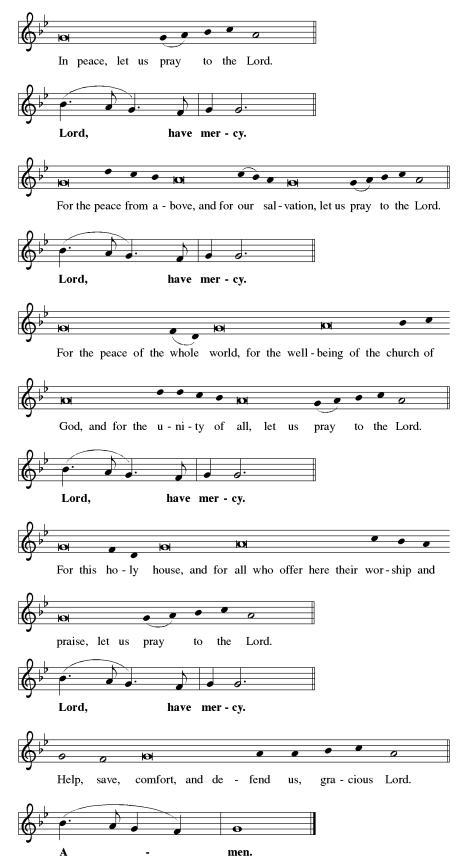
GREETING

This Trinitarian greeting is from one of Paul's letters to the early church.

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

KYRIE

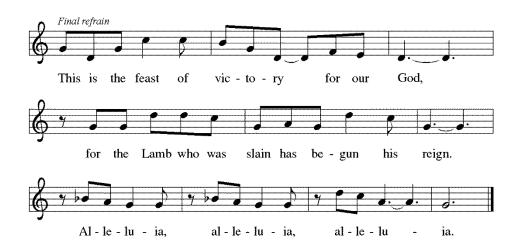
Kyrie, eleison means "O Lord, have mercy." It is an ancient and all-inclusive prayer. When we have God's mercy we have everything we need.



HYMN OF PRAISE

The hymn of praise, taken directly from the songs of angels in Scripture, centers our service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

The prayer or "collect" of the day, appointed for each Sunday, "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the character of God as revealed in the Scriptures for the day.

- **P** Let us pray.
- Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

SERVICE OF THE WORD _____

Now we listen to God's Word which reveals law and Gospel to us and ultimately leads us to Christ – the Word made flesh.

FIRST READING

The first reading is typically from the Old Testament (the Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted. This reading always connects in some way to the Gospel reading for the day.

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.
³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

- L Word of God. Word of life.
- Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

I Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

I Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ALLELUIA VERSE

This brief acclamation expresses our joy at hearing the words of Jesus who alone has words of life. We stand to honor Jesus' living presence among us.



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

HOLY GOSPEL

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) which depict the life, teachings dearth, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. This is the main reading of the day because of the primary importance of Jesus' words and actions

- ▶ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 4:12-23

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned."

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



APOSTLES' CREED

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

This ancient practice is a sign of our unity and reconciliation in Christ and prepares us to receive the Lord's Supper. "Peace be with you" are the words the Risen Jesus himself used when he greeted the disciples on the first Easter night. The gift of peace we receive from Christ we share with each other as we share a common life. Handshakes, hugs, kisses are all appropriate signs of peace. "No-contact" alternatives include putting put your hand on your heart and extending your hand to the other person as you say the words without physical contact.

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

OFFERTORY and PRESENTATION OF OUR PRAYERS AND OFFERINGS

Everything we have belongs to God and we give back to him a token of our thanks and praise. We present our gifts to God – those brought to worship today as well as offerings made online. We also present requests for prayers to be offered aloud in our prayers today. You may fill out a card and place it in the offering plate before worship.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- **P** Let us pray.
- with great joy we worship you and lay before you these gifts, which you have first given us. Let our lives serve you only, and lead us always to our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, the Bright and Morning Star. Amen

PRAYERS

Together we pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. We pray for global concerns and for our community of faith. Prayers from this community may be requested before the service. We are reminded in prayer of God's mercy and that we are part of a larger fellowship, the body of Christ.

(Response to each petition)

- P Merciful God,
- hear our prayer.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Having confessed our sins, listened to the Word of God and affirmed our faith, we are ready to experience the miracle of Holy Communion.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

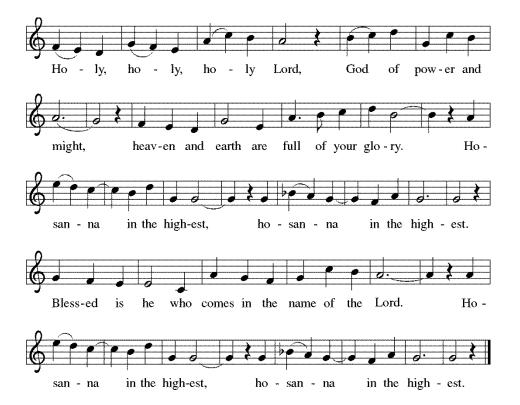
In this "Praise and Thanksgiving" we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: Thank God and recall what God has done for us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **•** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **I**t is right to give God thanks and praise.

▶ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks 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:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus ("Holy, holy, holy") is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3. This song is coupled with the song of praise of those in Jerusalem who waved palm branches to welcome Jesus into the city the week before he died.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We hear the words of Jesus when he gathered with his disciples the night before he died. In this, his last will and testament, he gives his own body and blood as a gift of love.

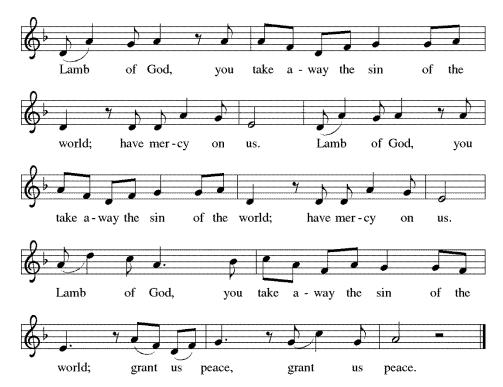
LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to prayer. The link between our daily bread the spiritual food we receive in Holy Communion is an ancient connection.

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

AGNUS DEI

Angus Dei means "Lamb of God." These are the words of John the Baptist who introduced Jesus to his disciples with these words. The imagery is from the Old Testament Passover lamb who was sacrificed for the life and freedom of God's people.



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

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Scripture says, "Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." Martin Luther's Small Catechism says, "Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink." All baptized Christians who desire to receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins are invited to the Lord's Table today. Children who have not received their first communion are invited to come to the table and receive a blessing.

- As you approach the altar down the aisle, receive an empty cup from the cart. (non-alcoholic wine is offered in pre-filled cups for those who cannot drink alcohol. These cups are marked in the rack. Gluten-free/dairy-free/nut-free wafers are offered in rack))
- Maintain physical distance in line.
- Receive the bread
- Proceed to the right to receive the wine.
- As you return to your seat, place your cup in the rack on the table to your right.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

"In This Feast of Love"





"Come and See" (Repeat ad. lib.)



Having been fed and nurtured at the Lord's Table, we are sent to be God's living presence in the world.

DISMISSAL

- ▶ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep us in his grace.
- Amen

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P Faithful God,
- you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation.
 Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

BLESSING

We receive the blessing of God who goes with us into the ordinary of daily life.

- The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- Amen
- P Go in peace. Christ lives in you.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

"We are Marching in the Light of God"



OFFERINGS

Your gifts in support of the ministry at Grace of God may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship space under the cross. You may also mail in your offering or make your offering online. Click on the DONATE link on the front page of our website to make a one-time or an ongoing contribution.

ALL ARE INVITED FOR COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS AFTER WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL PLAY SPACE

Open for kids of all ages after worship

grace happens January 22 – January 29, 2023		
Sunday, January 2	2	
9:00 am 10:30 am	WORSHIP – EPIPHANY 3 Fellowship time/Sunday School Play Space open	
Monday, January	23	
3:30 – 5:30 pm		
Wednesday, Janu	ary 25	
7:00 pm	Cantate Adult Choir	
Thursday, January	26	
9:30 am	Women's Bible Study	
Sunday, January 2	9	
9:00 am 10:30 am	WORSHIP – EPIPHANY 4 Fellowship time/Sunday School Play Space open	

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:

Last week's Offering	\$3,987.93
YTD Offering	\$10,656.36
YTD Budget	\$19,190.31
YTD Offering vs Budget	(\$8,533.95)

HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY HOME

Grace of God is serving the week of FEBRUARY 19 – 25 There are dinner and overnight shifts available. Sign up on the bulletin board in the entryway **OR** go to our website (graceofgodlutheran.com) for a link to the online sign-up page **OR** go directly to this sign-up page link: https://www.timetosignup.com/hjhshelter/sheet/1338088/





BOB ROSS PAINTING EVENT For all young adults (20-30 somethings) Saturday, February 18 at 3 pm

All supplies included! Contact Jenny Olofson (651-357-0557) for more information

BINGO IS COMING

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 at 6:00 pm



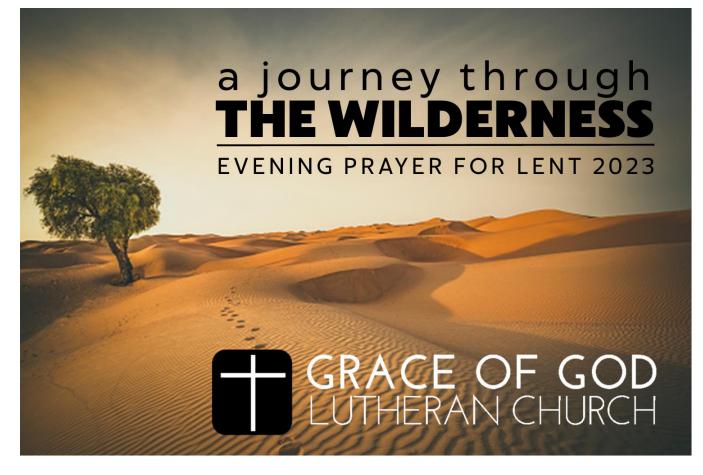


VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

is coming back and better than ever! Registration is OPEN for 2023 VBS. Spread the word!

Register kids at graceofgodlutheran.com

WE NEED YOU to make VBS great. Please consider volunteering at graceofgodlutheran.com



ASH WEDNEDAY is WEDNESDAY, February 22 Worship is at 7:00 pm with fellowship afterwards

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER will continue on Wednesdays during Lent at 7:00 pm with fellowship afterwards

