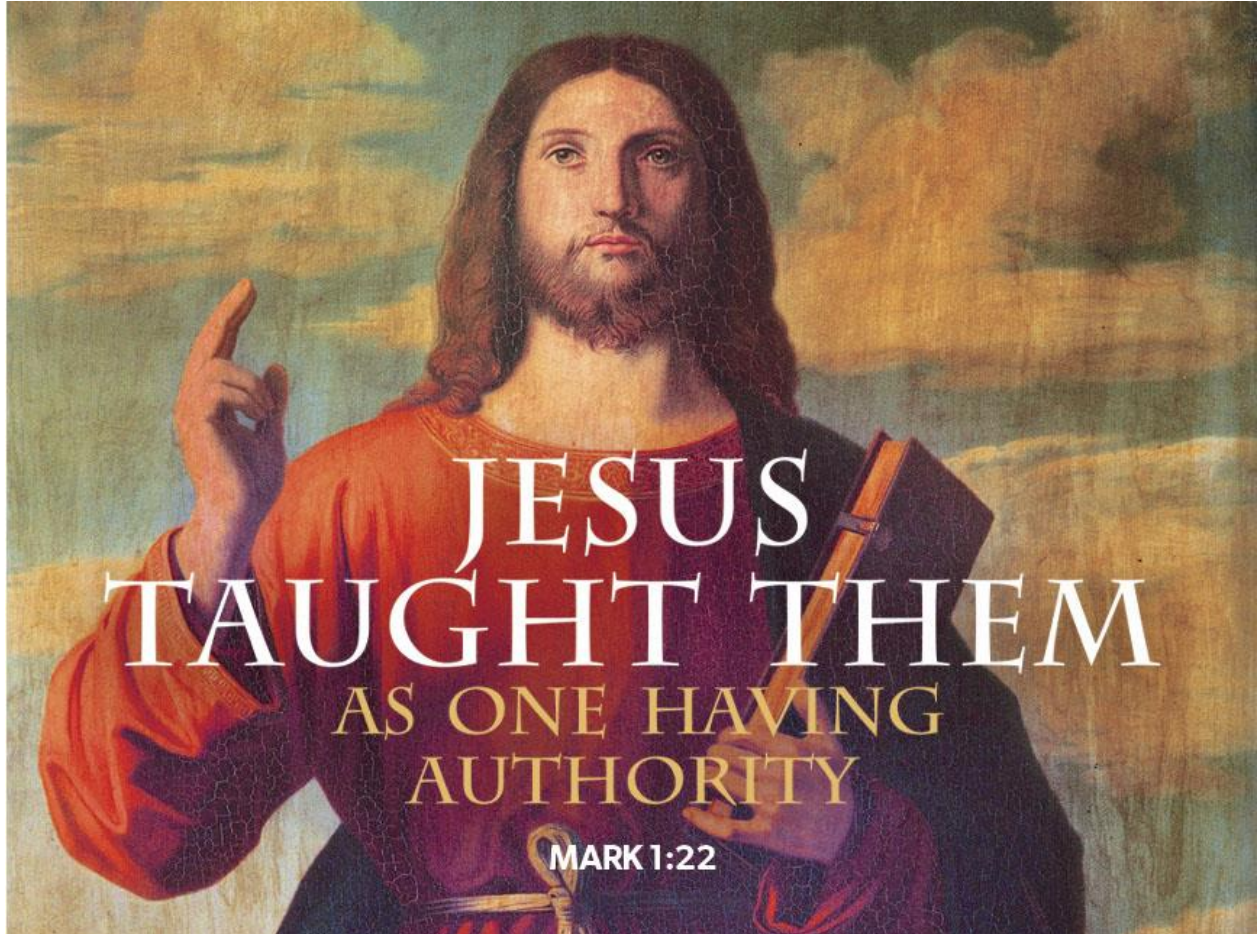


THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024 ♦ 9:00 am



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.



GRACE OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of peace,

C we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves.

We bring to you all that tears us apart:

discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you.

Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace,

our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace:

in the name of ☩ Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins.

Rise, shine, for your light has come.

C Amen.



“Come out of him!”

ENTRANCE HYMN

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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;

praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.

calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards

Music: NETTLETON, *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II

GREETING

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

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

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

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.



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

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.

C **Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know 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.

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

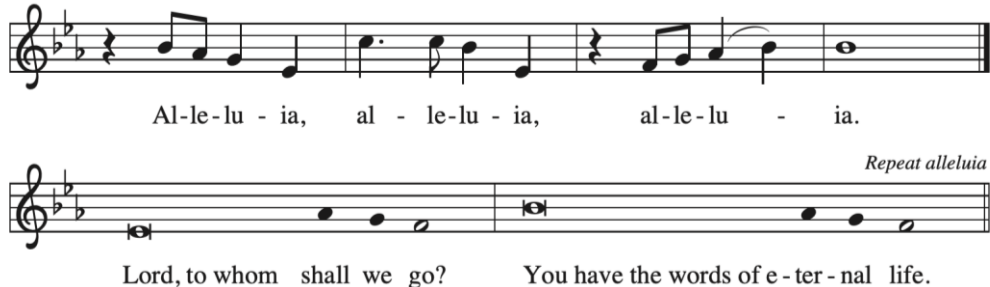
L Word of God, Word of Life.

All 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.



HOLY GOSPEL



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

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1:21-28

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

-  The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

Silence, Frenzied Unclean Spirit



1. "Si - lence! Fren - zied, un - clean spir - it,"
 2. Lord, the de - mons still are thriv - ing
 3. Si - lence, Lord, the un - clean spir - it,

Cried God's heal - ing, ho - ly One. "Cease your rant - ing!
 In the grey cells of the mind: Ty - rant voic - es
 In our mind and in our heart. Speak your word that,

Flesh can't bear it. Flee as night be -
 shrill and driv - ing, Twist - ed thoughts that
 when we hear it, All our de - mons

fore the sun." At Christ's voice the
 grip and bind, Doubts that stir the
 shall de - part. Clear our thought and

de - mon trem-bled, From its vic - tim mad - ly rushed,
 heart to pan - ic, Fears dis - tort - ing rea - son's sight,
 calm our feel - ing, Still the frac-tured, war - ring soul.

While the crowd that was as - sem - bled
 Guilt that makes our lov - ing fran - tic,
 By the pow - er of your heal - ing

Stood in won - der, stunned and hushed.
 Dreams that cloud the soul with fright.
 Make us faith - ful, true, and whole.

APOSTLES' CREED

The words "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." The Apostles' Creed is the oldest statement of faith based on the teachings of the apostles. The Nicene Creed was formulated in the fourth century at the Council of Nicea and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship among the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity.

AI 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.

C And also with you.

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 God our provider,

AI by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth.

Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

PRAYERS

(Response to each petition)

P Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great



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.
- C** **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**
- P** 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.

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

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

These are 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 pray. The link between our daily bread the spiritual food we receive in Holy Communion is an ancient connection.

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

P Welcome to the Lord's Table.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus 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.



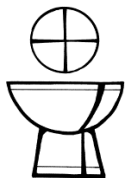
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION



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.)
- Maintain physical distance in line.
- Receive the bread (Gluten-free/dairy-free/nut-free wafers are offered)
- 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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Cast Out, O Christ



1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the



de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to




choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

There is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad to make the wound-ed whole;




there is a balm in Gil-e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

CHOIR **Day by Day** Martin How

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
follow thee more nearly, day by day

SENDING

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

DISMISSAL

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** God our redeemer,
All **you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us 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.

P God bless you and keep you, ✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C Amen

P Go in peace. Christ lives in you.

C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

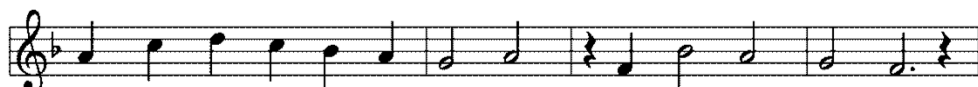
Rise, Shine, You People



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent his Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur-round-ed, with grace un - bound-ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion his new cre - a - tion.

ALL ARE INVITED FOR COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS AFTER WORSHIP



THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

AT

 GRACE OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

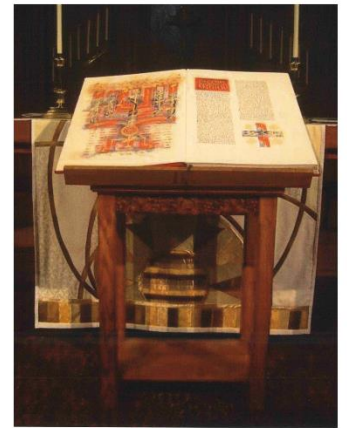


SPECIAL EVENT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13
at 7:00 pm

DAY RETREAT
THURSDAY, MARCH 14
from 9 am - 3:45 pm

PILGRIMAGE
OF THE BOOK

A full-size reproduction of Gospels and Acts
(NRSV TRANSLATION) from The Saint John's
Bible will be on loan at Grace of God during the
month of March



I AM

Illuminations of Christ for Lent

EVENING PRAYER FOR LENT

beginning **Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00 pm**

continuing on Wednesday evenings during Lent

(2/21, 2/28, 3/6 and 3/20)

grace happens

January 28 – February 4, 2024

Sunday, January 28 _____

9:00 am WORSHIP – EPIPHANY 4
10:15 am Fellowship time
11:30 am Hallelujah Tabernacle Worship

Tuesday, January 30 _____

7:00 pm GriefShare

Wednesday, January 31 _____

7:00 pm Choir practice

Thursday, February 1 _____

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Sunday, February 4 _____

9:00 am WORSHIP – EPIPHANY 5
10:15 am Fellowship time
11:30 am Hallelujah Tabernacle Worship

Hope for the Journey Home Service Week February 18-24

Sign up on the bulletin board or at graceofgodlutheran.com

wherever you are on your search, you are always welcome at



GRACE OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jon Marxhausen, Pastor