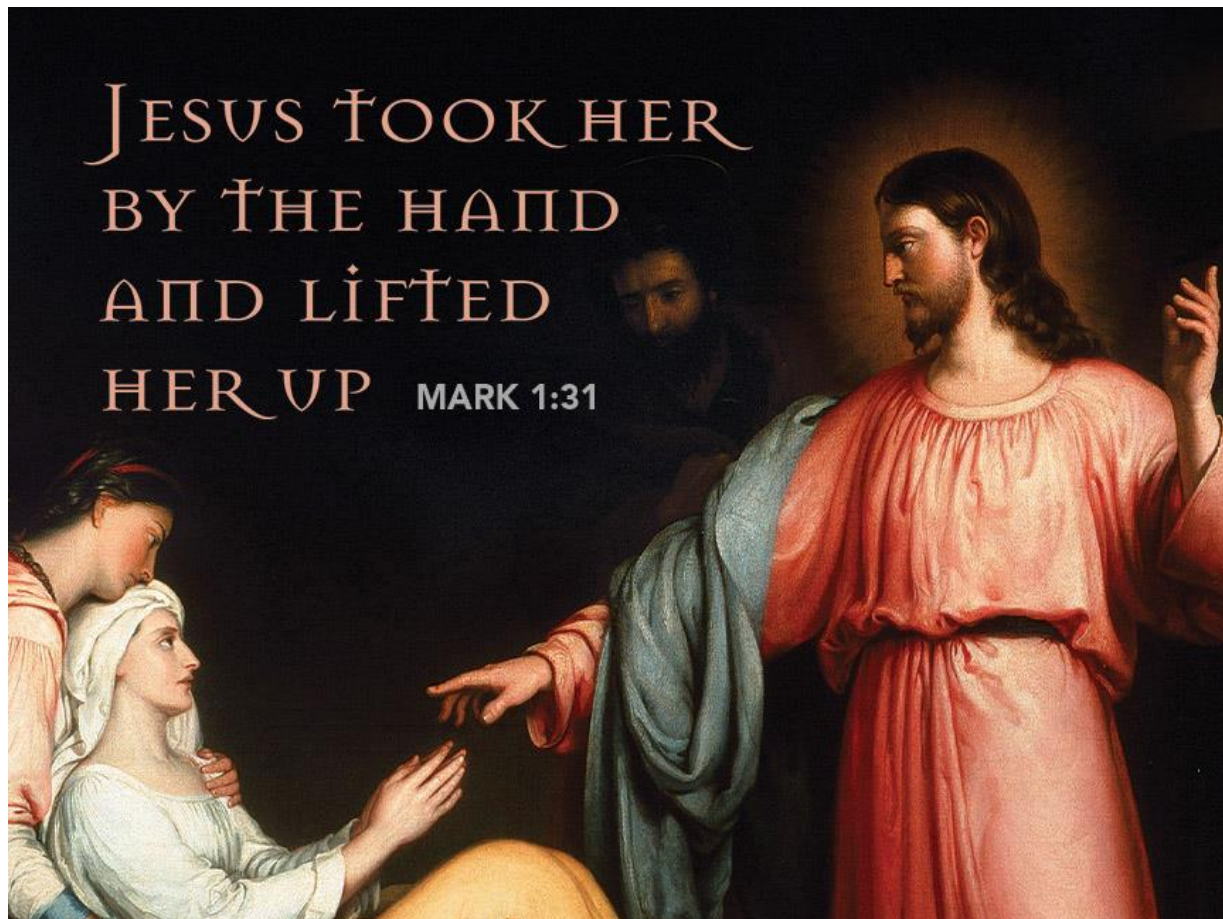


THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 4, 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

“MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN”

Epiphany means “to make known!” Christ has been made known to us today in our worship.
Will you “make yourself known” to those in worship with you today?

Wear your name tag!

Welcome visitors

Introduce ourselves to those we do not know

Seek out those who need a Christian friend

Encourage those in worship with us

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.

ENTRANCE HYMN

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

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!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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

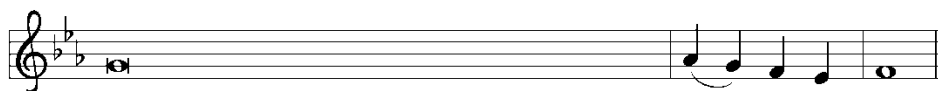
Kyrie, eleison means "O Lord, have mercy." It is an ancient and all-inclusive prayer. When we have God's mercy we have everything we need.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



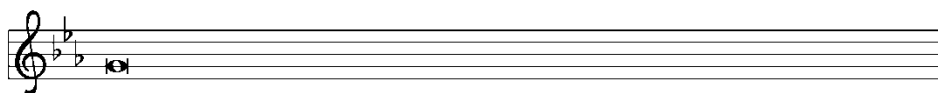
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



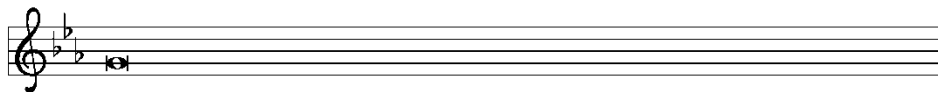
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



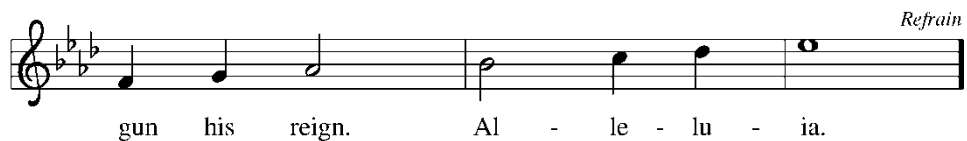
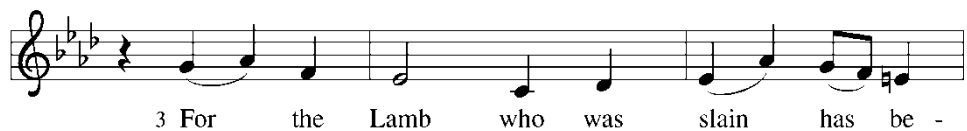
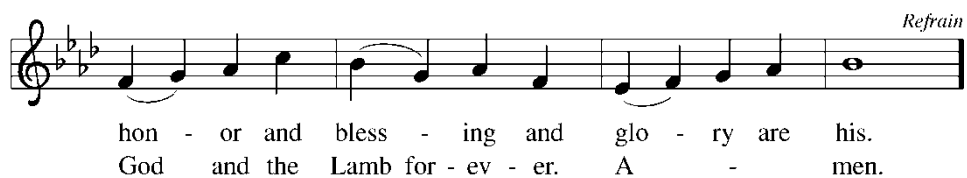
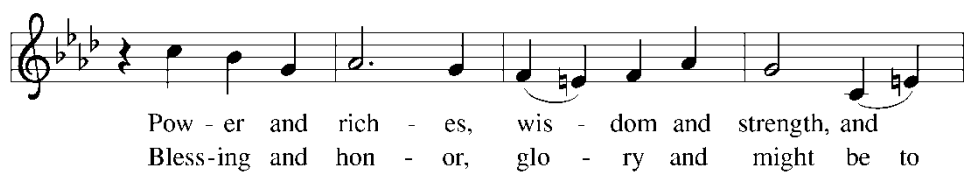
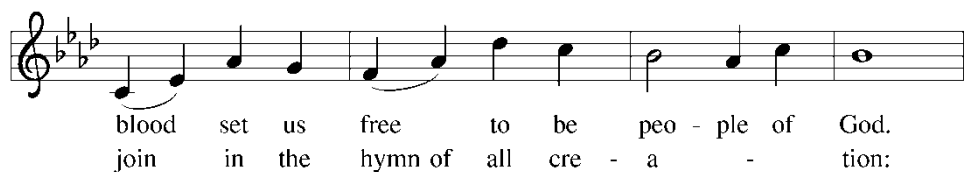
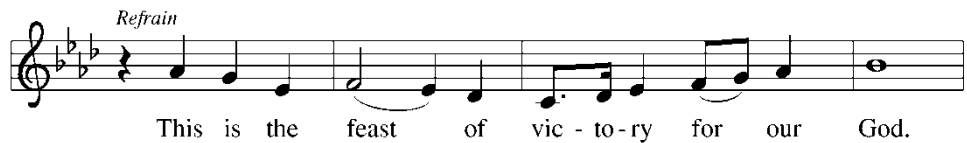
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

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.

C **Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through 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 40:21 -31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It 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 live in;

²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have 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.

²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those 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.

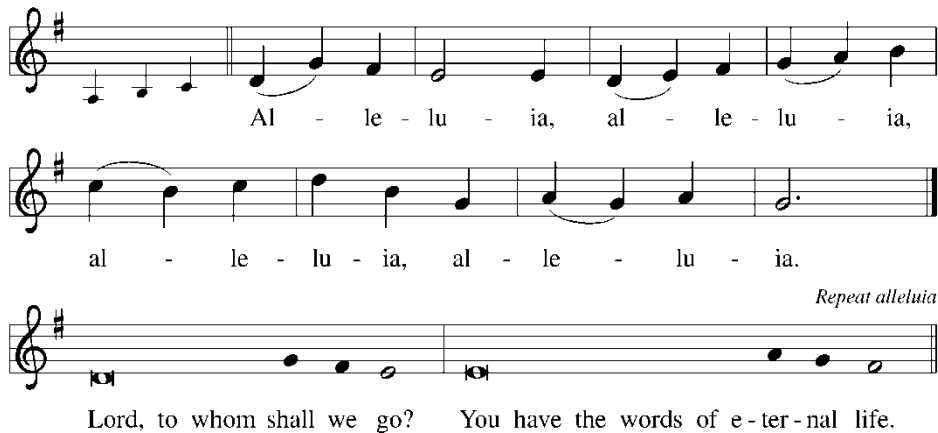
L Word of God, Word of Life.

A **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 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured 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.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

JESUS TOOK HER
BY THE HAND
AND LIFTED
HER UP.

MARK 1:31



HYMN

We Come to You, for Healing, Lord



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

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,
A **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
G **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.

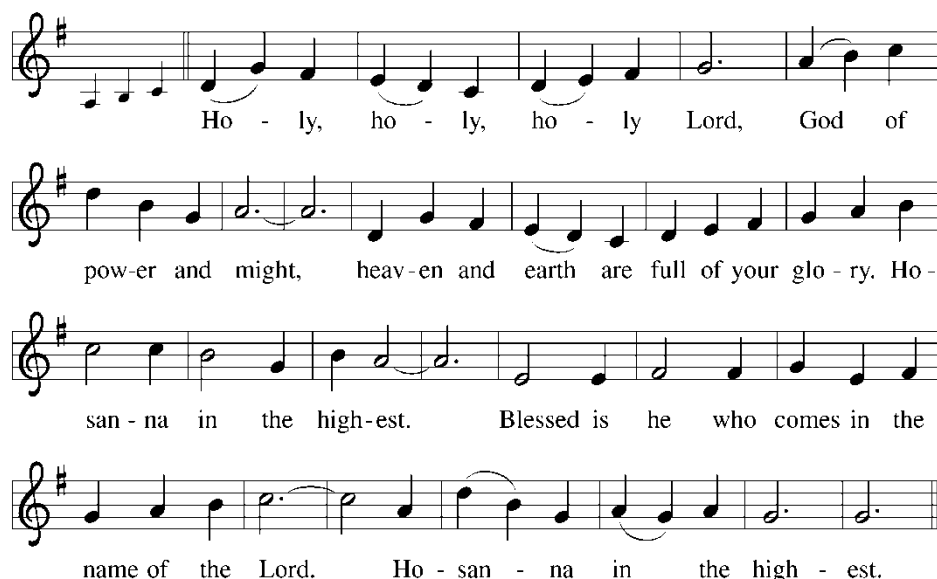
PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.
G **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
G **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
G **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.



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

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All



P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

All



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.

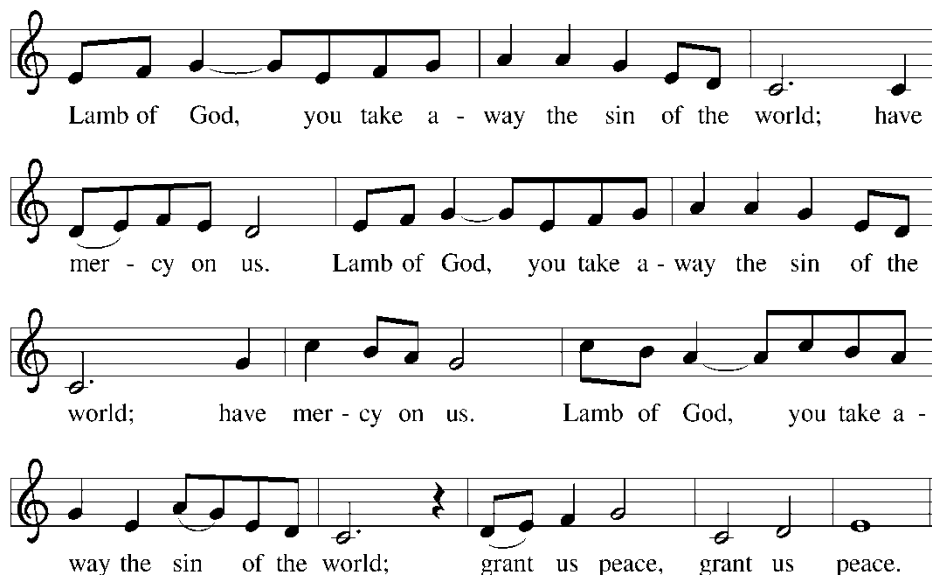
All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

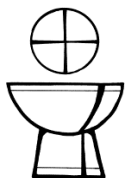
P Welcome to the Lord's Table.

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.



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

On Eagles' Wings

Leader or All



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!"

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.

Leader or All



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




Refrain

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

Leader or All



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.

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.

G Amen

P Go in peace. Christ lives in you.

G Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

May You Run and Not Grow Weary

(Leader alone first time; all sing together second time)

May you run and not be weary. May your
heart be filled with song. And may the
love of God con - tin - ue to
give you hope and keep you strong. And may you
run and not be weary. May your
life be filled with joy. And may the
road you trav - el al - ways lead you home.

Text: Handt Hanson

Music: JOURNEY BLESSING, Handt Hanson

**ALL ARE INVITED FOR COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS
AFTER WORSHIP**

THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

AT

 GRACE OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

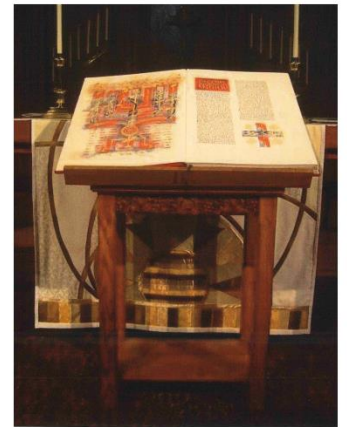


SPECIAL EVENT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13
at 7:00 pm

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

February 4 - 11, 2024

Sunday, February 4 _____

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

Tuesday, February 6 _____

7:00 pm GriefShare

Wednesday, February 7 _____

7:00 pm Choir practice

Thursday, February 8 _____

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Sunday, February 11 _____

9:00 am WORSHIP – TRANSFIGURATION
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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651.730.4900 ♦ www.graceofgodlutheran.com
Jon Marxhausen, Pastor