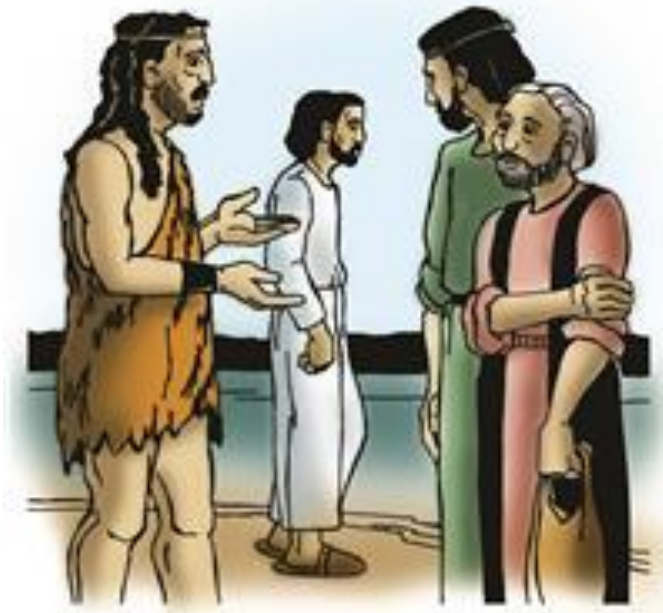


Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church



To glorify God, to grow in faith,
to give in service, together in Christ



Jan. 15, 2023
Second Sunday
after Epiphany
8:00 and 10:30 am

Rev. Nancy M. Raabe, Pastor
Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music
Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator
Jessica Moran, Stepping Stones Director

Please note that our Annual Meeting will be held
on January 29 immediately following the 10:30 service.
All active (voting) members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Prelude: Suite Breve on *Sursum Corda* **setting by Tom Trenney**
(Petit plein jeu; Andantino cantabile; Scherzetto; Benediction)

Please stand.

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. At Grace Lutheran Church, we gather:

C. To glorify God, to grow in faith, to give in service, together in Christ.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P. In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen.**

P. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.



Water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C. Amen.**

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.**

Hymn of Praise: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW 310 (stanza 1)



Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

Prayer of the Day

P. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— ⁶he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,

"Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 40:1-11

Kevin Freaney



- ¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.
- ²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**
- ³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the LORD.
- ⁴**Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!**
They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R
- ⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us,
none can be com- | pared with you!
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than | I
can count.
- ⁶**Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;**
**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have | not
required. R**
- ⁷And so I said, "Here I | am; I come.
In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:
- ⁸**I love to do your will, | O my God;**
your law is | deep within me.'"
- ⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;
I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.
- ¹⁰**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your
faithfulness and | your deliverance;**
**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the | great
assembly.**
- ¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe. **R**

Psalm prayer

Second Reading: An excerpt from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Letter from Birmingham Jail

I am in Birmingham because injustice is here. Just as the prophets of the eighth century B.C. left their villages and carried their "thus saith the Lord" far beyond the boundaries of their home towns, and just as the Apostle Paul left his village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to the far corners of the Greco Roman world, so am I compelled to carry the gospel of freedom beyond my own home town. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.

Moreover, I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states. I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.

P. The word of the prophet. C. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

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.

Gospel: John 1:29-42

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to John, the 1st chapter.

C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

P. The gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon: The Prophet of Our Age

Pastor Nancy Raabe

Please stand after the hymn introduction.

HYMN of the DAY: Precious Lord, Take my Hand

ELW 773

PRAYERS

To the petition “Merciful God,” please respond, “Receive our prayer.”



GREETING OF THE PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.

Please be seated.

Music at the Offering (Choir at 10:30): The Son of God, Our Christ ELW 584

Arrangement by Anne Krentz Organ to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the ordination of Nancy Elizabeth Miller Raabe

Please stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **C. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.



Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P. Holy One, the beginning and the end, giver of life,
Blessed are you for the birth of creation....

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

C. Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C. Our Father, who art in heaven.....

Invitation to Communion

P. Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

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, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill us With Your Love

ELW 708

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray.

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.

BLESSING

P. God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW 414

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **C. Thanks be to God.**

The service has ended and you may depart. The candles are extinguished during the postlude.

Postlude: Allegro Assai Vivace (Sonata 1)

Felix Mendelssohn

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Prelude: Suite Breve for Organ (Sursum Corda), setting by Tom Trenney. 2022 Augsburg Fortress

Postlude: Allegro Assai Vivace (Sonata 1) Felix Mendelssohn (Marcel Dupre, Paris, S. Bornemann ed)

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Serving today – Thank You!

Preacher and presider: Rev. Nancy M. Raabe

Organist: Kevin Freaney

Lector: 8:00am, K. Seiler; 10:30am, Slugg Family

Ushers: 8:00am, K. & K. Seiler; 10:30am, Slugg Family

Communion Asst: 8:00am, D. Kunkel;

10:30am, K. Stawasz

Altar Guild: 8:00am, J. Swartz; 10:30am, E. Woltmann

Acolyte: 8:00am, Usher; 10:30am, Usher

Coffee Hour: Don Capanear

Council Offering & Lockup: 8:00am, P. Schmidt;

10:30am, J. Krout

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 9:1-4

Light shines for those in darkness

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Appeal for unity in the gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

Revelation of Christ as a prophet



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Pastoral Care If you are ill, seeking pastoral care or need a helping hand for any reason, please contact Pastor Raabe through the office. Talk with her about prayer requests, illnesses, hospital stays, weddings, funerals, baptisms, and the joys in your life.



Save Paper! Early access! Receive your Grace Notes and Parish News by email! Add your address to the list by contacting Lynn in the office.



Grace Lutheran Church

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215-368-2052



1) **The Organ of the St. Etienne Abbey in Caen, France**, (a large Cathedral-style building). This pipe organ is a French Romantic style instrument built by Aristide Cavaillé-Coll, completed in 1885. Since 1975, the organ has been listed as a national cultural heritage. Every pipe of the organ was recorded in its large Cathedral-style building. The audio sample set represents a very live and grand acoustic. Many organ pieces such as Widor’s Toccata in F major, were written by French composers who played Cavaillé-Coll pipe organs.

2) **St. Emmeram’s Cathedral in Nitra, Slovakia**. The cathedral’s history goes back to the medieval times. The style of the building and the organ is that of the Baroque period. While the current organ is new, it incorporates around 200 of the historic, original organ pipes. This organ’s sound sample set was recorded and produced by Piotr Grabowski from Poland.