

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church



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



Jan. 8, 2023
Baptism of Our Lord
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

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children.

Prelude: Transeamus usque Bethlehem (On the way to Bethlehem)

Joseph Schnabel

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 may be 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. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

WORD



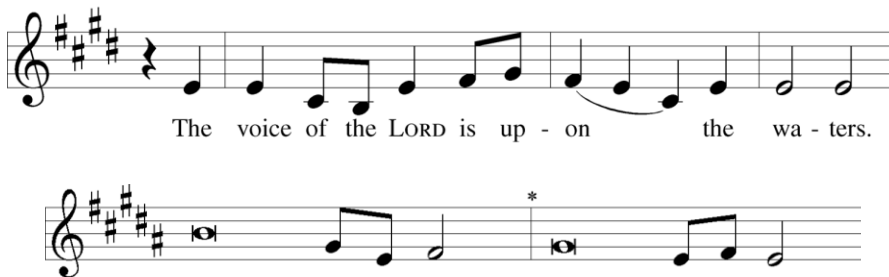
First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

- 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.

Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29



- ¹Ascribe to the ¹ LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- ¹ ry and strength.
- ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory ¹ due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- ¹ ty of holiness.**
- ³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of ¹ glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the ¹ mighty waters.
- ⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- ¹ erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a ¹ voice of splendor. R**
- ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the ¹ cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- ¹ dars of Lebanon;
- ⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip ¹ like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a ¹ young wild ox.**
- ⁷The voice ¹ of the LORD
bursts forth in ¹ lightning flashes.
- ⁸**The voice of the LORD ¹ shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- ¹ ness of Kadesh. R**
- ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the ¹ forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are ¹ crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- ¹ bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- ¹ evermore.**
- ¹¹O LORD, give strength ¹ to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- ¹ ings of peace. R

Psalm prayer

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.”

Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

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: Matthew 3:13-17

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C. Glory 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 the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

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

Sermon: Exile

Pastor Nancy Raabe

Silence for reflection

HYMN of the DAY: Baptized and Set Free

ELW 453

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.

Music at the Offering (Choir at 10:30): Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and treasure, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

C. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

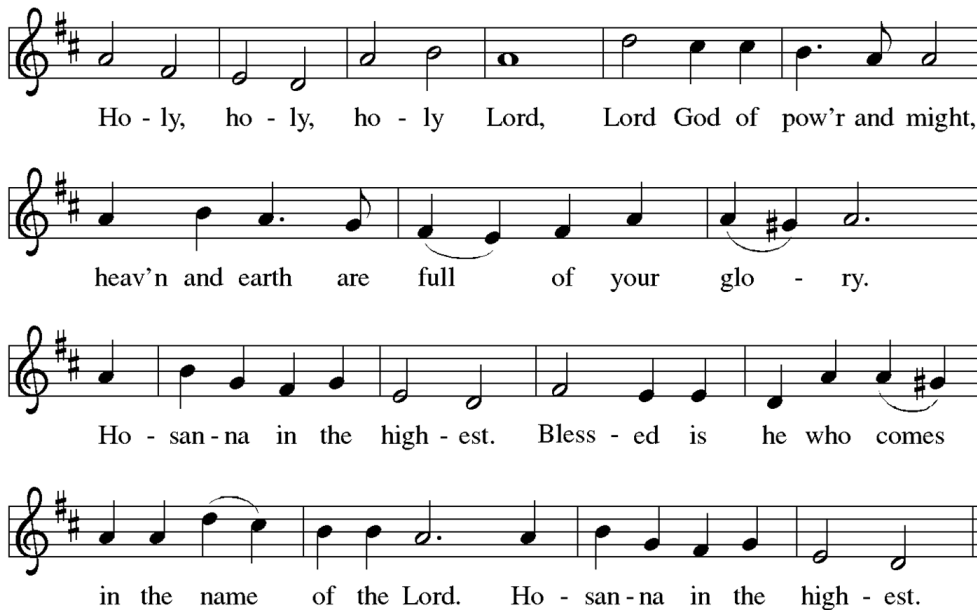
P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**
P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C. It is right to give God thanks and praise.



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. You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

In the night in which he was betrayed...

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.

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: Spirit of Gentleness

ELW 396

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **C. Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. Christ is near. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: March of the Kings

Clement Loret

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Prelude: Transeamus usque Bethlehem by Joseph Schnabel, Arrangement: Stefan Trenner, 2020
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Serving today – Thank You!

Preacher and presider: Rev. Nancy M. Raabe

Organist: Kevin Freaney

Lector: 8:00am, P.Schmidt; 10:30am, B. Krout

Ushers: 8:00am, D. Capanear & R. Smyrl; 10:30am,

J. Krout & K. Deussing

Communion Asst: 8:00am, B.Schmidt;

10:30am, K. Stawasz

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

E. Woltmann

Acolyte: 8:00am, Usher; 10:30am, E. Krout

Coffee Hour: Kay Stone

Council Offering & Lockup: 8:00am, P. Schmidt; 10:30am, J. Krout

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 49:1-7

The servant brings light to the nations

Psalm 40:1-11

I love to do your will, O my God.

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul's greeting to the church at Corinth

John 1:29-42

Revelation of Christ as the Lamb of God

We hope to see you back here today at 3 p.m. for a service celebrating The Epiphany of Our Lord with our sister ELCA congregations from the area. Bright hymns and carols of the season, the magi in costume and a large festival choir!

One Body, Many Members

T	R	S	N	I	E	S	A	T	T	T	T	H	O
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A	P	R	E	A	O	R	P	R	M	R	O	N	L
C	Z	E	I	S	P	A	I	R	E	E	N	O	B
H	E	E	T	R	L	P	K	A	M	J	G	R	A
E	P	L	E	O	S	N	P	N	B	O	U	A	S
R	E	T	C	I	W	E	T	G	E	I	E	B	N
S	N	A	H	R	E	B	P	E	R	C	S	L	E
I	T	M	N	E	A	S	F	D	S	E	I	E	P
T	E	O	M	F	K	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	S
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INFERIOR
 APOSTLES
 ARRANGED
 SPIRIT
 DISSENSION
 PROPHETS
 RESPECTABLE
 INTERPRET
 WEAKER
 SINGLE
 BAPTIZED
 INDISPENSABLE
 HONORABLE
 TONGUES
 REJOICE
 MEMBERS
 TEACHERS



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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.



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Grace Lutheran Church

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