

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church



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



February 5, 2023
Fifth 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

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

**Prelude: Religious Chorus
& I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

A. Guilmant

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.**

GATHERING HYMN: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

ELW 553

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 thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord to thee we raise;
Manifested by the star to the sages from afar.

Branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:

Anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Prayer of the Day

P. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs



of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

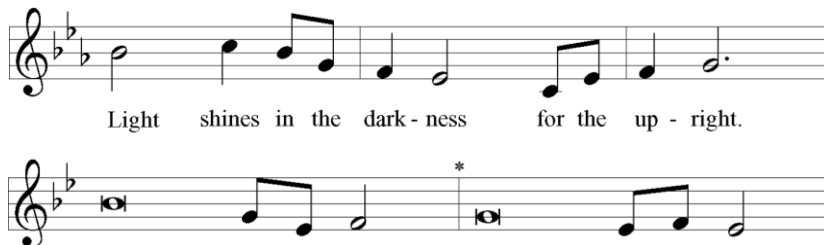
¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;

you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

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

Psalm 112:1-9



¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion. R

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor. **R**

Psalm prayer

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Word of God, word of life. **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: Matthew 5:13-20

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: A Gong Resounding

Pastor Nancy Raabe

Please stand after the hymn introduction.

HYMN of the DAY: This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677

Apostles' Creed

P. With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C. I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

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): Holy Manna Arr . Kenneth Lowenberg

Holy Manna. Brethren, we are met to worship and adore the Lord our God; will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word? All is vain unless the spirit of the Holy One come down. Brethren, pray, and holy Manna will be showered all around.

Holy Manna. Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other too. Let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all things new. Then he'll call us home to heaven, at his table we'll sit down. Christ will gird himself, and serve us with sweet manna all around. Holy Mana all around.

Please stand.

Offertory: Let the Vineyards



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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

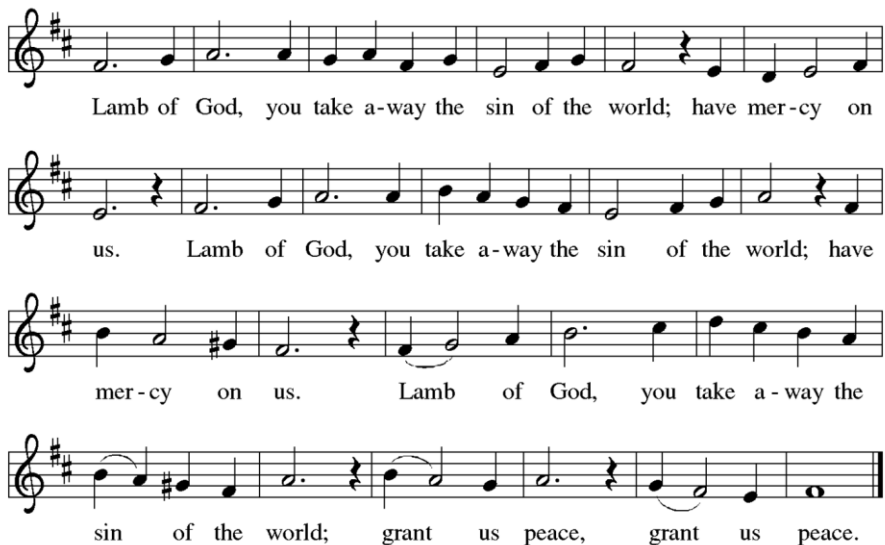
P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

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: When Peace Like a River

ELW 785

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

Please be seated.

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: Bring Forth the Kingdom

Worship & Praise 22

Verses: Leader / Choir



1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the king-dom of God!
2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the cit - y of God!
3 You are a seed of the word, O peo-ple: bring forth the king-dom of God!
4 We are a blest and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the king-dom of God!



Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: life in the king-dom of God!
Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: shine for the king-dom of God!
Seeds of mer - cy and seeds of jus - tice, grow in the king-dom of God!
Love our jour - ney and love our home-land: love is the king-dom of God!

Refrain: All



Bring forth the king - dom of mer - cy, bring forth the



king - dom of peace; bring forth the king - dom of jus - tice,



bring forth the cit - y of God!

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: Tuba Tune in D Major

C.S. Lang

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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, Pack 510 Scouts
Ushers: 8:00am, P. Schmidt & D. Ball;
10:30am, Pack 510 Scouts
Communion Asst: 8:00am, B.Schmidt;
10:30am, K.Stawasz
Altar Guild: 8:00am, J.Detweiler;
10:30am, M.J. Moyer & B. Hess
Acolyte: 8:00am, Usher;
10:30am, Pack 510 Scouts
Coffee Hour: Bruce Schmidt
Council Offering & Lockup: 8:00am,
P. Schmidt; 10:30am, J. Krout
Video Team: Harold Schaefer,
Dan & Tami Sarm

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