



Welcome to

## Grace Lutheran Church and School

Bring in, build up, and send  
out disciples for Jesus Christ.



### Visitors

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

Read more about worship on the inside  
cover of this worship folder.

Fill out the form on the back cover to tell us  
more about you.

### Worship at Grace

The service is printed in this worship folder.

Hymns are ordinarily in the green LBW and  
blue WOV hymnals.

Information is printed on the next page about  
additional resources for worship.

### Learn More

Today's insert contains announcements  
about ministries of Grace Church and School.

Learn more about Grace by visiting us online  
at [graceriverforest.org](http://graceriverforest.org).

### The Holy Communion

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 8, 2026

10:00 a.m.

## Welcome to Grace

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence, just as you are. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome God's people of all races, social statuses, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to be together in Christ—to love, to grow, and to serve. Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Grace. We encourage you to fill out the perforated page on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

## Children's Resources

Activity bags, worship bulletins, and booster seats are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

## Nursery Care

The nursery is open and staffed at most worship services for children ages 4 and under. The nursery is located across from Fellowship Hall. From the atrium, go through the Lamb Door by the elevator, up half a flight of stairs and turn right. From the sanctuary, go through the door by the stone baptismal font, up the stairs and turn left. A silent paging system allows the nursery staff to contact parents when needed.

## Holy Communion

The crucified and risen Christ is present in the bread and wine of Communion, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to one of the pastors.

## Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated. Contact an usher if you would like Holy Communion to be brought to you. Sound enhancement units are available in the back of the church. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers in the back of the church and at the Division Street door.

## Electronic Devices

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices during worship. Thank you.

## Grace Council Statement on Racism

Racism, manifested in individual acts and present throughout systems, continues to prevent us from being the beloved community that God intends. Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ compels us to speak. We speak against the sin of racism. We speak in solidarity with Black people and all people of color, each of whom is precious to God. We stand with and for Black people within our church and school and in the larger community.

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ into the world in the hope that, by the Spirit's power, God's Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. We look with hope and anticipation to a season of growth and change as Grace becomes a more faithful witness to God's wide welcome in Christ. We see this as the beginning, not the end, of the conversation. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us, and for the courage to follow.

## **Altar Flowers**

Flowers may be sponsored to celebrate a special occasion or to honor the memory of a loved one. Please see the front desk for details.

## **As We Gather**

The Sermon on the Mount continues with some of Jesus' most well-known words. You are the salt of the earth, he tells us. You are the light of the world. Jesus is not inviting or encouraging us to become salt and light. He is telling us what we are. The Word makes it so. Jesus has come into the world to fulfill the Law on our behalf, granting us his righteousness. Our work now is to be the salt and light that we are. Salt by itself isn't very exciting; it exists to make other things better. Light doesn't reveal itself so much as it lets us see other things clearly. We go forth, together, as salt for this world, bringing grace and mercy in the midst of this world's brokenness. We do good works not to shine a light on ourselves, but to reveal the glory of God.



## ✠ GATHERING ✠

**PRELUDE:** Accolade

Kathleen Wissinger

*We stand.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**C Amen.**

**P** God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

**P** Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,  
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,  
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.  
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

## ENTRANCE HYMN: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

(green) **LBW #265**

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;  
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest

The musical score is written on nine staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high-est and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fath-er, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fath-er, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fath-er: re-ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God in the high-est and'.

Glo - ry to God in the high-est and  
peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly  
king, al-might-y God and Fath-er, we wor-ship you, we give you  
thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Glo - ry to God in the  
high-est and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fath-er, Lord God, Lamb of  
God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fath - er: re -  
ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the high-est and

peace to God's peo-ple on earth. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of

God - the Fath - er. A - - - men. Glo - ry to

God in the high-est and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

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.

*We sit.*

## **ANTHEM: I Am the Light**

Terry D. Taylor

I am the Light, I am the True Light,  
I am the Light of the world.  
I am the Light, I am the True Light,  
I am the world's True Light.

Those who choose to follow me will never walk in darkness.  
Those who choose to follow me will never walk alone.

John 8:12

## **✠ WORD ✠**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1–12**

Shout 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.  
<sup>2</sup>Yet 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.  
<sup>3</sup>"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.  
<sup>4</sup>Look, 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.  
<sup>5</sup>Is 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?  
<sup>6</sup>Is 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?



<sup>7</sup>Is 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?  
<sup>8</sup>Then 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.  
<sup>9</sup>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,  
<sup>10</sup>if 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.  
<sup>11</sup>The 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.  
<sup>12</sup>Your 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.

**L** The Word of the Lord

**G Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 112:1–9

Ronald A. Nelson

ANTIPHON: Light shines in the darkness for the upright.

- L** Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the Lord\*  
 and have great delight in | his commandments!
- G** **Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;\***  
**the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**
- L** Wealth and riches will be | in their house,\*  
 and their righteousness will | last forever.
- G** **Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;\***  
**the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.**

- ℒ It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending\*  
 and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.
- ☞ **For they will nev- | er be shaken;\***  
**the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**
- ℒ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;\*  
 their heart is right; they put their trust | in the Lord.
- ☞ **Their heart is established and | will not shrink,\***  
**until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**
- ℒ They have given freely | to the poor,\*  
 and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
 they will hold up their | head with honor.

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1–16

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

<sup>6</sup>Yet 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. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, 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" —

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For 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. <sup>12</sup>Now 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. <sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord  
 so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

ℒ The Word of the Lord

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL VERSE:** John 8:12

John Ferguson

**Choir** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**G** **REFRAIN** (*below*)



**Choir** Jesus says, "I am the light of the world;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life."

**G** **REFRAIN**

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 5:13–20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] "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.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In 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.

<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For 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. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, 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. <sup>20</sup>For 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.

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

*We sit.*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON:** Salt and Light

Pastor David R. Lyle  
Matthew 5:13–20

*We stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Lord of Light

*(green)* **LBW #405**

*Stanza three will be sung by the choir in a setting by Michael D. Costello.*



- C** 1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
**C** 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
**Choir** 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
**C** 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -  
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -  
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions  
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.  
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:  
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:  
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C** **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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each petition concludes:*

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,  
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

# ✠ MEAL ✠

## PEACE OF CHRIST

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*We sit.*

**OFFERING/VOLUNTARY:** Siyahamba

Tammy Waldrop

*We stand as the gifts are presented.*

**OFFERTORY VERSE:** Matthew 5:3–6

David N. Johnson

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

**A** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**C** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—  
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

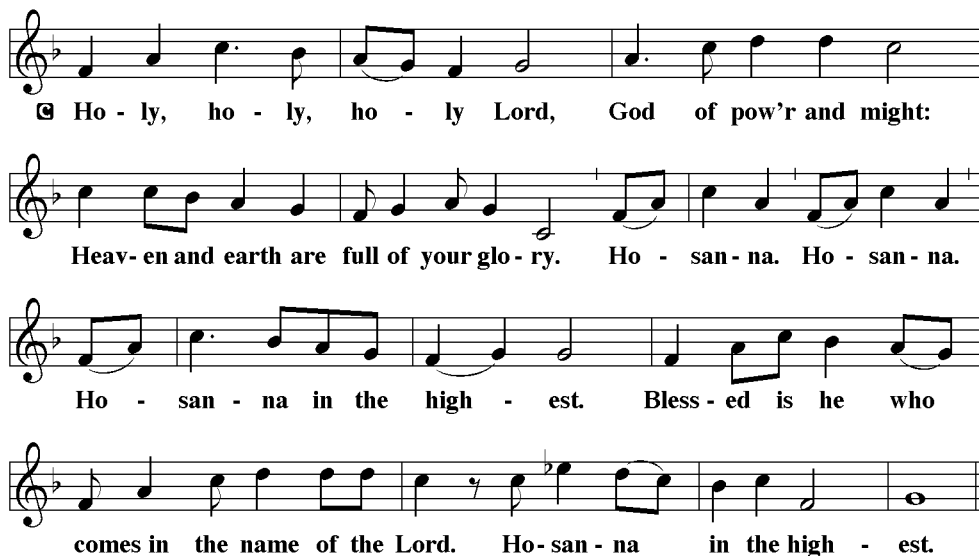


**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- ¶ It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
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.

- ¶ Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.  
By your powerful word you created all things.  
Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.  
Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.  
He is your Light, shining in our darkness  
and revealing to us your mercy and might.  
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his preaching and healing,  
his dying and rising,  
and his promise to come again,  
we await that day when all the universe  
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

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

**☩ 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.**



**P** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Come, for all is now ready.

*We sit.*

## AGNUS DEI



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.

## COMMUNION

*Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized.*

*The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper,  
giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.*

*We receive communion at the head of the center aisle, receiving the consecrated bread  
and then drinking directly from the chalice or dipping the bread into the wine (intinction).*

*Those choosing individual cups will find non-alcoholic wine in the center of the tray.  
Those with a gluten allergy may ask the pastor for a gluten-free host.*

**ANTHEM:** God is Light

Paul Bouman

God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness,  
we lie and do not do what is true;  
but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:5–7

## ANTHEM: Walk as Children of Light

Terry D. Taylor

Who will shine in the darkness?  
Who will shine in the night?  
Who will shine in the darkness?  
Who will walk as children of light?

Once we were lost in the night.  
Now in the Lord, we are light.  
Let our light bear the fruit  
Of all that's right and true.

Come now, shine in the darkness.  
Come now, shine in the night.  
Come now, shine in the darkness.  
Come now, let's walk as children of light!

Terry D. Taylor, based on Ephesians 5:8–9

## HYMN: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

(green) **LBW #423**



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:  
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.  
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.  
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.  
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

*We stand.*

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen.**

**A** Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,  
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life;  
and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift,  
in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

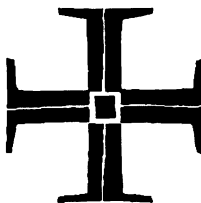
**C Amen.**

### **✠ SENDING ✠**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** Almighty God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

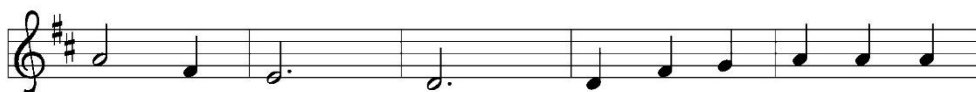


# SENDING HYMN: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

(blue) **WOV #649**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

## DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE: Salvation Unto Us Has Come, BWV 638

J. S. Bach

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. David R. Lyle, presiding minister

Elyssa Salinas Lazarski, assisting minister

Jo-Ellyn Dorsey Swanson, deacon

Thomas Schmidt, organist/choir director

Grace Parish Choir, choir

Grace 3–4 Choir, choir

Johanna Johnson, director

Strike Team

Gwen Gotsch, director

Eunice Eifert, Eileen Maggio, lectors

Sarah Jones, Norah Lewis, crucifer/Book bearer

Donna Serpico, Al Swanson, gift bearers

Eliza Grahne, Matthew Huffman,

Dan Lehmann, Tom Maxwell, Susan Scherer, ushers

Marilyn Moehlenkamp, Donna Serpico, altar guild

Kathryn Jandeska, Julie Lehmann, Ruth Reko, greeters

Liz Hanson, Michael Starrick, livestream audio/video

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## LET US PRAY...

Ann Bresnen	Yvonne Daniels	Karen Kress	Mike Rollheiser
Miriam Bretscher	Louis Elia	Mary Beth Logas	Ron Rott
MaryBeth Buschmann	Susan Franzone	Mark Lucht	Gick Schmidt
Larry Caponigri	Susan Hammon	Joe Modrich	Linda Schwab
Mike Carioscio	Bob Hale	Katarina Modrich	Rhea Sprecher
Dan Cattau	Phyllis Kersten	Dave Moeller	Virginia Walker

Coletta and Ty Ali ( <i>friends of Pat Anderson</i> )	Sarah Marohl ( <i>friend of Bob and Bonnie Shaner and Art Gustafson</i> )
Anne Bartoc ( <i>relative of John and Harriet Roberts</i> )	Lauren Marshall ( <i>friend of Carol Ewald</i> )
Fran Benson ( <i>sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat</i> )	Drake Martinez ( <i>student of Deb Maxwell</i> )
Jack Berg ( <i>friend of Art Gustafson</i> )	John McGinness ( <i>cousin of Cathy Schnittker</i> )
Stan Birnbaum ( <i>friend of Sandy and David Lentz</i> )	Connie Melvin ( <i>cousin of Stephanie Wilkening</i> )
Khadija Boudim ( <i>friend of Pat Anderson</i> )	Lavonne Millard ( <i>sister of Irmgard Swanson</i> )
Russ Bradley ( <i>son-in-law of Robert and Bonnie Shaner</i> )	Linda Muraski ( <i>relative of John and Carol Stanger</i> )
Lois Cornils ( <i>friend of many at Grace</i> )	Monika Nash ( <i>daughter of Verna Offermann</i> )
James Crawford ( <i>nephew of Eunice Spurgat</i> )	Dwight and Betty Nelson ( <i>parents of Annalise Nelson Balock</i> )
David De Jong ( <i>brother-in-law of Mary Beth Logas</i> )	Karen Nelson ( <i>niece of Eunice Spurgat</i> )
Patti Enslin ( <i>friend of Marilyn Heppner</i> )	Gloria Nuechterlein ( <i>sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat</i> )
Randy Ernst ( <i>friend of Valerie Spiller</i> )	James Powers ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )
Julia Friend ( <i>friend of Susan Franzone</i> )	Susan Prather ( <i>cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott</i> )
Barbara Gehring ( <i>mother of Stephanie Wilkening</i> )	Diane Raschal ( <i>cousin of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Linda Allen Gotsch ( <i>friend of Roberta Gillespie</i> )	Leona Riley ( <i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i> )
Peter H. ( <i>friend of Barbara Hofmaier and David Heim</i> )	Debra Samuelson ( <i>friend of John and Harriet Roberts</i> )
Erma Jean Haas ( <i>grandmother of Hannah Langhoff</i> )	Gretchen Sonstroem ( <i>friend of Liz and John Rudy</i> )
Elizabeth Hammon ( <i>daughter-in-law of Susan Hammon</i> )	Stacy and Mark ( <i>friends of Case and Pat Hoogendoorn</i> )
Joe Hammon ( <i>husband of Susan Hammon</i> )	Nancy Stelling ( <i>friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten</i> )
Sara Heiserman ( <i>relative of Carol Prinz</i> )	Randy Stueve ( <i>friend of Lance Wilkening</i> )
Charlene Helmer ( <i>sister of Carol Stanger</i> )	Jennifer Sylvester ( <i>daughter of Janet Sylvester</i> )
Harry Heppner ( <i>brother-in-law of Marilyn Heppner</i> )	Eleanor Teglia ( <i>granddaughter of Art Gustafson</i> )
Jose Hernandez ( <i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i> )	Chris Thannum ( <i>cousin of Chrissy Nelson</i> )
Ruth M. Hughes ( <i>mother of Ruth Hughes-McElravey</i> )	Gaylord Thomas ( <i>friend of Ruth and Karl Reko</i> )
Maureen Jordan ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )	Al Toepfer ( <i>friend of Larry and Carolyn Garber</i> )
Garrett Klein ( <i>friend of Janet Sylvester</i> )	Mary Lou Wagoner ( <i>sister-in-law of Stan Reddel</i> )
Elizabeth Kottle ( <i>friend of Bonnie and Bob Shaner</i> )	Bob Weaver ( <i>husband of Gretchen Weaver</i> )
Arnold Krubsack ( <i>brother of Irmgard Swanson</i> )	Linda West ( <i>relative of John and Carol Stanger</i> )
Kathryn Krubsack ( <i>niece of Irmgard Swanson</i> )	Dave Wick ( <i>friend of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Diane Larsen ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )	Michael Wilson ( <i>friend of Larry and Carolyn Garber</i> )
Christine Larson ( <i>mother-in-law of Jennifer Staples</i> )	Tara Zinger ( <i>friend of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Bill Lowry ( <i>friend of Bonnie and Bob Shaner</i> )	

## Benevolence ministries

Concordia University

### In thanksgiving for

The 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday of **Judy Mengel**

### Those serving in the armed services

Kevin Buss (*nephew of Christa Krout*)

Josh Espinosa (*cousin of Jenny Luebbe*)

Matthew Garmatz (*grandson of Margaret Garmatz*)

Zachery Grosz (*great-nephew of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)

Zachary Larsen (*grandson of Karen and Richard McMahon*)

Joshua Nelson (*son-in-law of Ted and Maja Anton*)

Miles Powell (*grandson of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)

Sonny Putman (*nephew of Susan Franzone*)

Rusty Robb (*grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/Roberta Gillespie*)

Christopher W. Sylvester (*grandson of Janet Sylvester*)

### Those studying abroad

Isabella Staples (*The Netherlands*)

### Those who are homebound

Jayne Chilton

Bruce Cordes

Christopher Davis

David Franzone

Patricia Herendeen

Joan Koerber

Karen McMahon

Susan Messerli

Dave Moeller

Carol Prinz

Tim Sandvoss

Kathleen Wrobel

### Those who need encouragement

Cheryl Luchetta (*friend of Joan Koerber*) in Logan Correctional Center

*Prayer requests can be made through the church office. Contact Esther Armstrong (earmstrong@graceriverforest.org) to be included in the weekly prayers. For more private prayer concerns, please contact Kathy Lucht (kathy.lucht@gmail.com) to be added to the confidential prayer chain.*

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## Electronic giving

*Your financial gifts support the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church and School.*

**On Venmo** Search for Grace Lutheran Church/School or @graceriverforest.

**By text** Text a dollar amount to 833-471-1346. If you're a first-time giver, you'll receive a link with instructions about how to complete your donation.

**Online donation** Go to [GraceRiverForest.org](http://GraceRiverForest.org) and look for Donate on the home page menu. Or use the QR code.



2/8/26

# Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

- ☐ I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace Church.
- ☐ I am interested in a path toward membership.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace School.
- ☐ I would like to receive Grace's weekly e-mail, *Sunday Is Coming*.
- ☐ I would like one of the pastors to contact me via (check one) ☐ Phone or ☐ E-mail.

**GRACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
& SCHOOL**

7300 Division Street  
River Forest, Illinois 60305  
Phone: (708) 366-6900  
Fax: (708) 366-0966  
[www.graceriverforest.org](http://www.graceriverforest.org)  
[gracechurch@graceriverforest.org](mailto:gracechurch@graceriverforest.org)

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ.

# THIS WEEK AT GRACE

## TODAY, FEBRUARY 8

Library Open (self-service) ..... **9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
Sunday School, PK-SK (Nursery) ..... **9:00 a.m.**  
Sunday School, Grades 1-6 (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Commons) ..... **9:00 a.m.**  
Confirmation, Grades 7-8 (Youth Center) ..... **9:00 a.m.**  
**Worship – Holy Communion** ..... **10:00 a.m.**  
Slovakia Mission Trip Meeting (Conference Room) ..... **11:15 a.m.**

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Finance Committee (Virtual)..... **7:00 p.m.**

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Faith Forum (Church Library) ..... **10:00 a.m.**  
Library Committee (Church Library)..... **1:00 p.m.**  
Elementary Education Committee (1902 Room) ..... **7:00 p.m.**

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

**School Chapel Service**..... **8:25 a.m.**  
Cornerstones (Church Library)..... **10:00 a.m.**  
Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Bell Room) ..... **6:15 p.m.**  
Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room) ..... **7:30 p.m.**

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Grief Share (Church Library) ..... **10:00 a.m.**  
Yoga (Fellowship Hall) ..... **6:30 p.m.**  
Board of Discipleship (Conference Room)..... **7:30 p.m.**

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Finding Hope (Church Library) ..... **10:00 a.m.**

**David R. Lyle**, Senior Pastor  
**Troy E. Medlin**, Associate Pastor  
**F. Dean Lueking**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Michael D. Costello**, Cantor  
**Taylor-Imani Gates**, Principal  
**Julie Modrich**, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
**Amanda Smith**, Communications Coordinator  
**Jim McClanahan**, Director of Administration & Finance  
**David Pfeiffer**, Facilities Manager  
**José Meza**, Technology Manager