Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

January 4 & 5, 2025



## Watch worship online - connect through www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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## Grace Lutheran Church

## **Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement**

*"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."* 

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## WELCOME/PRELUDE

## GATHERING

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

#### Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: God of mercy,
- C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.
- P: God of might,
- C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.
- P: God in our midst,
- C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.
- P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.
- C: Amen.
- GATHERING HYMN "Shine, Jesus, Shine"







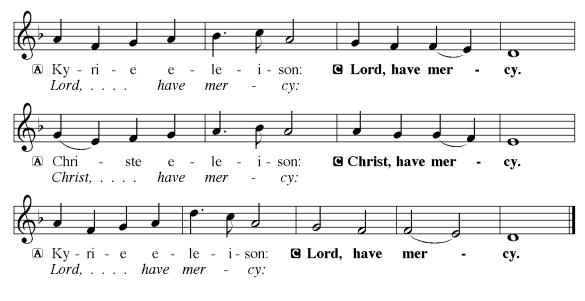
Words and Music: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music.

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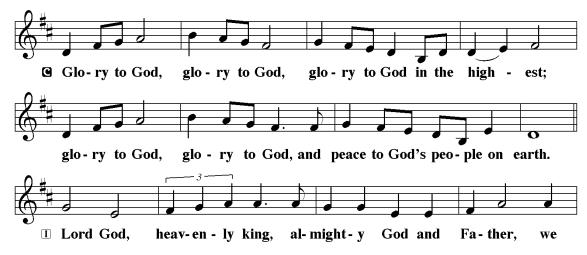
#### GREETING

- 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.

#### **KYRIE**



#### HYMN OF PRAISE







P: The Lord be with you.

#### C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### <u>WORD</u>

#### God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm: Luke 72:1-7, 10-14

All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)

<sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

#### <sup>2</sup> that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

- <sup>3</sup> that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

<sup>5</sup> May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

## <sup>6</sup> Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

<sup>7</sup> In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

#### <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

<sup>11</sup> May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

#### <sup>12</sup> For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

<sup>13</sup> He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

#### <sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

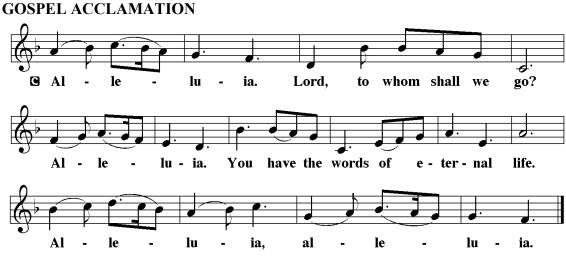
### Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

<sup>1</sup> This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.<sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.<sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- P: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)



**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

#### **Matthew 2:1-12**

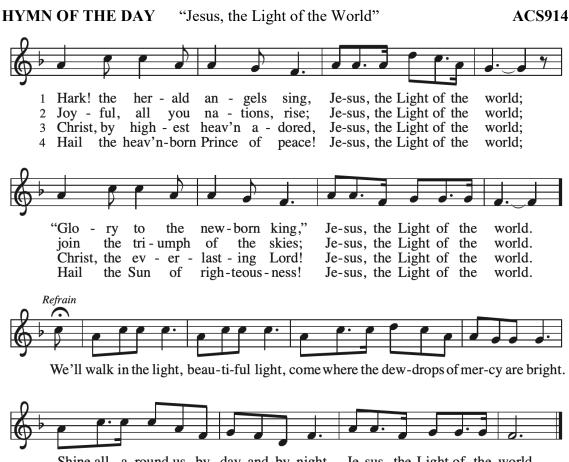
God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with iov. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#### HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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.

#### **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

(Response after each petition)

**P:** Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

#### <u>MEAL</u> God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### OFFERING

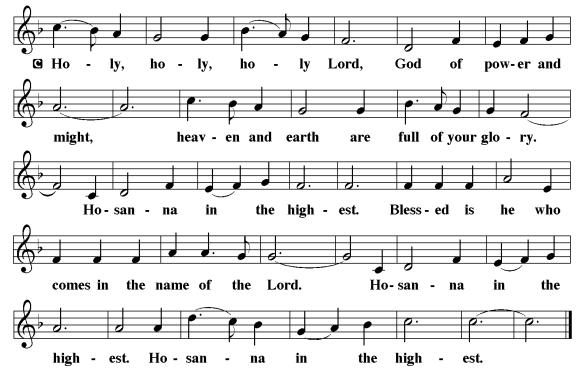
**OFFERTORY** (the assembly stands as they are comfortable and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



- P: Let us pray...Creator God,
- C: you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 our 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 and praise...(*concluding*)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
- C: Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

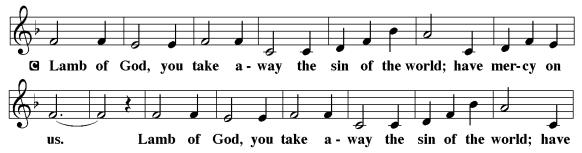
## LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray.
- C: 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: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

## HOLY COMMUNION

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)







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

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#### (the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray...Generous God,
- C: we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

- P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep us now and forever.
- C: Amen.



(Continued on next page)



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.C: Thanks be to God.



POSTLUDE

#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

#### **COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

#### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Kay Grove, Darlene Freel, Bill Whitscell, Gary Bettega, Don & Myra Cross, Adam Kamyszek, Kelly Pankey, Joanne Kindt, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Don Barnard, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry & Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Mychele Allmacher, Danielle Lawrence, Bishop Emeritus Gary Hansen, Deborah Al-Duwaisan, Julie Stafford, Daphne Flack, Dixie Crevier, Brenda Donajkowski, Rev. Sarah Samuelson, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, and Joseph Hansen.

*Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).* 

#### PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Church Leadership at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Trinity Lutheran Church/ Battle Creek, Rev. Kjersten Sullivan, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

#### THANK YOU TO ALL - WHO HELPED MAKE CHRISTMAS EVE & WEEKEND SERVICES HAPPEN

Without all of you, we could not have done it

From decorators, bell choir, chancel choir, altar guild, ushers, greeters, lectors, communion assistants, livestream team who did their part, THANK YOU. To those who stepped up and pitched in where needed. THANK YOU. To those who filled in at the last minute, THANK YOU. To the staff who also had extra work for the services on the weekend, THANK YOU. Pastor Tom

### **THANK YOU - FROM PASTOR TOM**

Thank you to the congregation for the Christmas gift that you gave me. Looking forward to a few things in 2025 that this will help make possible. Thanks again. And a blessed Christmas season and New Year to all.

#### LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

Happy New Year!

As I entered Grace Lutheran this morning to organize and put food out for the two pantries, I once again saw a couple donate food to the pantry. It is not the first time I have met them and I know they are not the only ones. Thank you for your donations and helping people with food insecurities. Many of us are very fortunate and thank you to those who give back! -- Mary

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.



# Birthdays



January 5 Judy Black Ryan Schultz

January 9 Arnold Jahnke

January 10 Michael Herrmann Elfie Jahnke Kat Tomaszewski

January 12 Rick Enastrom David Hansen

January 16 Levi Konarzewski Allison Urlaub

January 19 Rhonda Himes

January 22 Michael Lang Elsa Phillips

January 25 Pamela Nowak

January 28 Jerry Charter

January 29 Madelyn Boyd

January 30 Judy Dorr Adam Urlaub



**Anniversaries** of Baptism

January 1 Jessica Timm

January 5 Ava Lappan

January 6 Anna-Marie Struble

Januarv 7 Douglas Chroninger Olivia Haske

January 17 Erika Nicholls

January 18 Nancy Stachnik





Sandra Malaski Meredith Smith

January 20 Matthew Freel

January 21 Kasandra McInerney Ricky Slater

January 24 Brody Nowak

January 25 Lisa McIntosh

January 30 Hannah Matzke Erin McCourt

January 31 Brent Welch



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#### **HAPPENING THIS WEEK!**

#### **SERVING JANUARY 4/5** Sunday – 5th Pastor ...... Rev. Tom Orth 8:50 am **Choir Practice** Music Director.....Claire Witt (Sunday School Recorded Accompaniment..Kat Tomaszewski Resumes Jan. 19) Comm. Asst.....Joe Gentry, Dale Schultz 9:30 am Worship Lector ...... Sandy Welch 11:00 am Fellowship Lunch & Undecorate the Church Ushers...... Wayne & Chris Christopherson Greeters .....Joe & Dawn Gentry Monday - 6th Altar Guild..... Brandi Stone, Nancy Platt 8am-noon Church Office Open Livestream Team ...... Dawn Anderson, Jan 6:00 pm ROC - Lounge Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble Tuesday - 7th Coffee Hour .....Jeff & Sandy Welch 8am-noon Church Office Open 9:00 am Quilting/Sewing 11:00 am Pastors Text Study - Lounge **SERVING JANUARY 11/12** Friends of AC Animal Control 6:15 pm Pastor ...... Rev. Tom Orth Wednesday - 8th Music Director.....Claire Witt All Day Kitchen Reserved Recorded Accompaniment..Kat Tomaszewski 8am-noon Church Office Open Comm. Asst.....Joe Gentry, Dale Schultz 6:00 pm Bell Choir Thursday - 9th All Day Kitchen Reserved Greeters ........Dawn Anderson, Bruno Hirzel 8am-noon Church Office Open Altar Guild..... Brandi Stone, Nancy Platt 1:30 pm ReBoot Mtg Livestream Team ...... Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble Friday - 10th All Dav Kitchen Reserved Coffee Hour .....Joe & Dawn Gentry 8am-noon Church Office Open Saturday - 11th 5:00 pm Worship

## Large print worship folders & hearing assistance devices are available from ushers

**GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** 119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640 Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org Give online at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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