



# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

**OFFICE:** 630-365-6751 \* **E-MAIL:** [general@graceoflilylake.org](mailto:general@graceoflilylake.org)

**WEB ADDRESS:** [www.graceoflilylake.org](http://www.graceoflilylake.org)

Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 \* 9:30 AM \* INPERSON and ONLINE



## *Baptism of Our Lord*

### **Introduction**

**TODAY'S THEME:** In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and 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. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.  
*Announcements are televised or found on our website*

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

*Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.*

*We hope all people find it easy to follow along.*

*We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.*

## **GOD GATHERS US**

**PRELUDE**

**O Rest in the Lord**

**Mendelssohn**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Announcements are found on our website*

### **CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>+</sup> one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in <sup>+</sup> Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

**Shall We Gather at the River**

**ELW 423, v. 1-3/Red Hymnal**

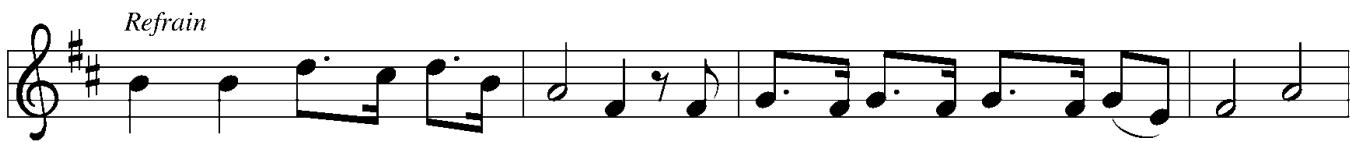
## Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;  
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

## GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray...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.**

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF PEACE**

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: **And you also.**

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST READING:                   Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how 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. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not 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. <sup>42</sup> He 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. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**



## Children's Message

*(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.)*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

**ALL: Glory to you O Lord**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**ALL: Praise to You O Christ!**

## MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

**SONG OF DAY**

**Remember and Rejoice**

**ELW 454/Red Hymnal**

## Remember and Rejoice



1 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.  
2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho - ly name,  
3 We pledge our - selves a - new to flee the lures of hell,  
4 God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.  
5 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.



We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.  
for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame.  
to cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell.  
Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.  
We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

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## APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: God of majesty,

**C: no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)*

**Offertory Music**

**Consolation**

**Mendelssohn**

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See *list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.*



*Please respond accordingly.*

P: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

P: Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

**P:** Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

## P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**ALL: The Lord's Prayer**

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: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God**

## TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

### Communion Hymns:

Baptized in Water

ELW 456/Red Hymnal

I'm Going on a Journey

ELW 446/Red Hymnal

This is the Spirit's Entry Now

ELW 448/Red Hymnal

### Baptized in Water



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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# I'm Going on a Journey

The musical score consists of three stanzas of lyrics set to a melody. The melody is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The first stanza begins with a melodic line starting on G4, followed by lyrics: "I'm going on a journey, and I'm start-ing to - day. My head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me; it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!" The second stanza begins with a melodic line starting on G4, followed by lyrics: "I'm be - com-ing this day a saint of God. It real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher - ev-er I go, God's been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car - ry me through." The third stanza begins with a melodic line starting on G4, followed by lyrics: "There are oth - er saints who have said a - men. They'll keep me faith-ful to my jour - ney's end. A - long the way I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free."

Text: Kenneth D. Larkin

Music: WET SAINTS, Edward V. Bonnemère, 1921–1996

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## This Is the Spirit's Entry Now



1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: the wa - ter and the word,  
2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born comes from the Lord of breath;  
3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign that we must die each day  
4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise for your bap - tis - mal pow'r



the cross of Je - sus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.  
the sin - less one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.  
to rise a - gain by his de - sign as fol - l'wers of his way.  
that wash-es us through all our days. Come, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933

Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P:** Radiant God,

**C:** we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## CLOSING SONG

**This is My Song**

**ELW 887, v. 1 & 3/Red Hymnal**

# This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king-doms,

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
and skies are ev - - 'ry - where as blue - as mine.  
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912–1993, sts. 1–2; Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, st. 3

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957

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## GOD SENDS US

### **BLESSING**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise <sup>+</sup> bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

**This is My Song**

**Sibelius**

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### **ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTERNARY LESSON**

#### **Isaiah 42:1-9**

*The servant of the LORD brings justice*

#### **Psalm 29**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

## **1/11/26 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are donated today by Kathy Hooey and her family, in thanks to God for His constant love and support.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 9:30am. In January, we will have Sunday School on January 4<sup>th</sup> and January 18<sup>th</sup>.

**LINE DANCING** will resume on TUESDAYs into the new season starting this Tuesday, January 6th, 2026 (NOT the 8th) from 6pm-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Please make note of the change. And perhaps Tuesdays will work better for others' schedules.

**LECTORS ARE NEEDED** for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

**MITTENS, HATS & GLOVES** will be going to the Elgin Crisis Center whichever day we can get Helen some help. Thank you!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Are you looking for ways to be a little more involved in our church each week? We have a variety of tasks that take place before and during each Sunday worship service, such as preparing communion and altar, reading our announcements and Bible reading, ushering, running the PowerPoint during the service. A variety of ways to be a part of our worship behind the scenes or up front. Please see Pastor for more information.

**TECHNOLOGY HELP** Are you familiar with IT/computer technology/livestreaming? We are seeking several people to assist in preparation and recording our church services (during the week +/or during worship service). Please contact Pastor or Tricia Painter ~ **please consider!**

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL** takes place every Monday and/or Wednesday from 9:15am – 1:15pm. There are still a few spots remaining on Wednesdays. If you know of anyone with a child ages 3-5, please let them know of this engaging Christian preschool program. More info can be found on our website, [www.graceoflilylake.org/preschool](http://www.graceoflilylake.org/preschool) or you can contact Janice Muncie at 630-854-1066.

**SECURITY FOR PRESCHOOL** Please be reminded that our Preschool policies are that all entry doors remain locked during preschool hours. If you need to come into church, we ask that you lock the door behind you, and of course ensure it is locked when you depart. And this is a good time for another request for anyone in and out of church or the last one here at church, please check all exit doors on both levels to ensure they are locked.

**SHOE BOX COLLECTION** in lower level outside of Fellowship Hall. Please help!

**BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS** The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside. ***Thank you for your generous donations!***

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER** is available on-line at [www.graceoflilylake.org](http://www.graceoflilylake.org) (**please note the new website address ends in a “.org” rather than a “.com”**)

**NOISY OFFERING** We collect your loose change as the coins add up, and do help to offset unexpected expenditures - the latest of which was replacing the pressure tank for our well system!

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** Nancy Corbige continues to collect email addresses for the Pottawatomie Partnership email distribution list. We currently have a house in-build in St. Charles. (Questions, you may call or text Nancy at 847-212-0237.)

**OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE** We are thankful for your offerings and donations to Grace. Donations received as of 1/5/26 was: \$4,389. Much gratitude to all of our members at Grace.

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 132<sup>nd</sup> year of ministry ~

**VISIT OUR Website: [www.graceoflilylake.org](http://www.graceoflilylake.org) (.ORG not .COM)**  
**FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES**

**Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services**  
**Our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>**

**630-365-6751**

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH**

- \* God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- \* As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- \* Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- \* Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

#### **FOR THE WORLD**

- \* For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- \* For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

#### **FOR OUR CONGREGATION**

- \* For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- \* As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

#### **FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY** (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- \* Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- \* William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- \* David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

**FOR ALL**

- \* The continued support of our members
- \* For all members of healthcare around the world
- \* For those serving as first responders and in the military
- \* For our Nation, to extend peace in all things.

**FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT... For our “Grace Family” members:**

Betty Boor, Craig Bradley, Dan Burtnette, Lillian Carlson, Nancy Corbige, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, Jan Docherty, Suzanne Girsch, Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul Kinsel, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave & Carol Langseth, Tom and Lois Larkin, Ray Larsen, Larry Linden, Pat & Chili Lindgren, Steve Lindquist, Joan Mortensen, Jan Myers, Carol Nelson, Ed Nordwind, Nancy & John Schaefer, Bud and Marilyn Wise, Norm Turner, Wayne Whiteside, **For our Families and Friends:** Howard, Jim, Scott, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Kathy Barton (mother of Tom Barton), Howard and Christine Baumert, Viola Bradshaw, Cindy Carlson, Joanie Chernick, David Diehl, Rebecca Eagen, **Ed Elkins (Suzanne Girsch's brother-in-law)**, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Joyce Helander, Andrew Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Sally Kruthoff (daughter of Nancy Schnaitman), Karl Kruthoff, Gay Leslie, Janelle McDonald, Linda Mowers, Ray Navarro, Oksana & Maria, Donald Overby, Emily Peters, Marc Pluskowski (dear friend of Heidi Anderson), John Schnaitman, Kelly Wilken, Ron Wilken, Greg & Val Williams, and Barbara Zegiel.

*If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, send them on-line via our prayer card on our website, leave them on the answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!*

**ALSO** - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just call or see Twyla Strom for prayer shawl needs.