



140 Years Grace Lutheran
1883-2022

Baptism of Our Lord ~ January 7, 2024
Grace Lutheran Church Welcomes You to Worship

Traditional Service ~ 8:30 am

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota
Web Site: glcwn.org ~ gracelc@midconetwork.com
Church Office: 605-886-5737

Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501

PRELUDE

Congregation responses in Bold Print

Setting 4 p 147

Welcome and Announcements

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the minister gives thanks.

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. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: “Christ When for us you were baptized”

ELW 304

1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame,
as urgent as a flame.

2 God called you, "My beloved Son";
you are God's servant true,
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,
God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do.

3 Straightway and steadfast until death
you then obeyed the call
to serve with free and willing heart,
to give your life for all,
to give your life for all.

4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find.

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.**

KYRIE

ELW p147

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

FESTIVAL HYMN

“This is the Feast”

ELW p149

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

**Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God,

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5 Pew Bible p 1

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 40: 1-11

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests
bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7 Pew Bible p 903

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

"Alleluia!"

p 151

Alleluia! Lord, to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 4-11 Pew Bible p 812

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark, the first chapter.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river

Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Baptized and Set Free"

ELW 453

1 We are people created,
chosen by God.

Then we're washed, ever gently,
in mercy and love.

Sin has power no more.

Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing,
and wholeness and more.

2 We are fed and we're nourished,
filled and refreshed.

Then our hunger returns and
again we are blessed.

For whatever the need,

God is greater indeed:

endless ocean, always deeper
than all of our need.

APOSTLE'S 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 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *(We greet you all in peace.)*

OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY of Grace Lutheran Church

SONG of OFFERING:

“We are an Offering”

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,

Lord, use our lives, they are yours; We are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,

all that we hope to be we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, We lift our lives up to you;

We are an offering, we are an offering.

OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... **As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, Gracious God, who holds nothing back from us, but is generous and gracious with all that is yours. Take and use us, that our hands may reach out in service, our feet may walk the difficult path of reconciliation, and that our words may be words of peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

PRAYER SONG:

“Hear Our Prayer”

ELW 178

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

PRAYER PETITIONS:

Inspire wisdom and a spirit of proclamation in your church, God of forgiveness. Uplift leaders to share the truth of your word in community. Move the hearts of those contemplating ministry to hear your call. Encourage us to live into the promises of baptism, working for justice and peace in all the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, God of life and death. Restore the rivers in which your children are baptized and enable us to trust your baptismal promise. May fields flourish and grow. Summon the stewards and caretakers of the land to cherish your good works. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Give strength to your leaders, God who is present in every country and community. Raise up leaders committed to equity and healing. Grant them discernment and compassion as they lead in love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Protect and cherish the most vulnerable among us, God of strength. Accompany those separated from family or hurting from broken relationships. Shelter our unhoused neighbors and any experiencing poverty. Protect those incarcerated in prisons and detention centers. Care for the sick and suffering especially Rhys, Roy, Esther, Shannon, Allen, Danny, Dennis, Dick, Harper, Ted, Carol, Kristi, Sylvia, Lavern, Elvira, Jada, Rick, Roger, Lynn, Tracy, Deb, Kaisley, Raef, Ashlea, Robert,

Sandra, family of Harry E. Roberts, Sr, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Encourage this congregation, God who calls and sends disciples. Guide us in accompanying, learning from, and serving our neighbors on the margins, following the example of Jesus. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting the assurance of the Holy Spirit, we remember all who have died and rest in God's care. Give hope to those who grieve even as we rest in your eternal promise of resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER SONG: "Hear Our Prayer" ELW 178

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

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.

BENEDICTION: Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ; and may the Spirit of God which filled John and Jesus, fill your hearts, souls and minds; may the power of God which upheld them, strengthen you for each day; and may the love of God which directed their every action be your guiding light and your shining star, both now and forevermore. **Amen**

SENDING SONG: "God Whose Almighty Word" ELW 673

1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light.

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

DISMISSAL: Go in peace... You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**
Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for January 7th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Allen Benson, Danny Brekke, Dennis Carlson, Dick Everson, Harper Evjen, Ted Frost, Carol Henrichs, Kristi Herting, Sylvia Larson, Lavern McPeek, Elvira Moen, Jada Mohror, Rick Raml, Roger Rust, Lynn Schaefer, Tracy Schaefer, Deb Schlenner, Kaisley Schulz, Raef Stolp, Ashlea West, Robert Wittrock, and Sandra Wittrock, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, transportation personnel, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders.

On the CALENDAR For the week of January 7 thru 14th

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| Today | 8:30 am – Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
With Meet and Greet Olena Shevliakova
9:45 am – Sunday school
11 am – Contemporary Worship Service
1 pm – Service at Edgewood |
| January 8 | ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE
5:30 Banquet meal
5:30 pm Grace Foundation meets |
| January 9 | 5:30 pm Fellowship & Outreach Committee meeting
6:30 pm Cub Scouts meet |
| January 10 | 10 am – Service at HiRise
5:30 to 6:15 - Wednesday meal
6 pm – Dinner Church and Wednesday school opening
6:30 to 7:30 pm – Wednesday school
6:30 to 7:30 pm – Confirmation
7:30 to 9 pm – Youth Group |
| January 11 | 10 am – Service at Stoneybrook
1 pm – GLCW Exec Board meets in Conference Room
5 pm Finance & Stewardship committee meets
6 pm Grace Council meets |
| January 14 | 8:30 am – Traditional Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
9:45 am – Sunday school
11 am – Contemporary Worship Service w/ Holy Communion |

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- January 8th – Annual Reports are Due at the Office
- January 11th – GLCW Exec Board Meets at 1 pm in the Conference Room.
- January 20 – 11 am Chili Cook-off tasting begins.
- January 21st – Annual meeting at 11:30 am

Sunday school at 9:30
One Worship Service at 10:30 am.
Noon – Potluck meal in Fellowship Hall
February 10th – Celebration of Love Banquet for all members and non-members.
February 14th – Ash Wednesday

MEET & GREET Olena Shevliakova, TODAY

A Ukraine refugee, Olena Shevliakova, arrived in South Dakota on December 20th and is staying with host family Ty and Jen Moos near Webster. Olena is from the city of Pavlograd. On April 30, 2023, after a night missile attack, her apartment suffered destruction and she was forced to leave Ukraine. She has a Master's degree in Primary Education, Lecturer of Pedagogy and Methods of Primary Education and been a Primary School Teacher for 12 years. A meet and greet is planned TODAY - Sunday morning January 7th at 9:30 am during coffee. We invite everyone to come out to meet Olena and welcome her to our community. She is currently seeking employment in Watertown and an apartment. To get her started in her new life, we will put together a list of items you can donate for her apartment. Stocking her food shelves and monetary donations are welcome as are gift cards for her to purchase items she will need in her first months. Grace Lutheran has a separate account to make donations for our refugees to help them get established. You can give online at glcwn.org or mail to the Ukraine Fund at Grace Lutheran, 202 2nd St, SE, Watertown, SD 57201.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Narthex. Offering envelopes are numbered weekly envelopes use for recording your regular donation so you can receive an annual report for your financial records at the end of the year. Please pick them up as it saves on the cost of mailing. If you can take one to someone, please do so.

Outreach and Fellowship Committee Planning Fellowship Events “Just for Fun” CHILI COOK-OFF January 20th

The Fellowship and Outreach Committee of Grace Lutheran is sponsoring a Chili Cook-off on Saturday January 20th. There will be prizes for the best chili. Judging will be by the tasters and a panel of judges. There is no cost to enter the chili competition and just \$5.00 to taste all the chili beginning at 11 am. For more information call or text Denise Biller at 605-377-5106.

CELEBRATION OF LOVE February 10th

Enjoy a night of food, dancing, fellowship, and time to celebrate the season of love on February 10th at the 2nd Street Station. The evening of fellowship for all couples and singles will begin with a social hour at 5 pm and serving of the meal at 5:30 pm. No formal attire is required. Tickets for this First Annual Celebration of Love are \$30 for single and \$50 for two and available at the church office. You must purchase prior to February 4th. We especially encourage newly married and long-time married couples to come and let us celebrate you. The committee is looking for those who could provide rides for our elderly members or any who may not drive during the evening. If you are able, please let the office know.

YOUTH FUN NIGHT SCHEDULED FOR January 19

Youth in grades 7th thru 12th are invited to a fun night on Friday, January 19th from 6 to 10 pm at Grace Lutheran. The evening will begin with a meal, include games and several fun activities to be determined. Parents are asked to help with the night. If you are able, please contact Pastor Cheryl, 605-237-1501.

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR January 21

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29th in the church Sanctuary following the 10:30 am worship. There will only be one worship service that day to allow for the 11:30 am meeting. Important business of the church will be discussed, including the budget. To vote and pass the budget, a certain number of members must be present, so please plan to be in attendance. If you are unable to attend, a ZOOM link will be available as we need the numbers to have a vote.

Caramel Rolls will be available on January 21st beginning at 9:30 am to eat in or take out. All proceeds go to the youth trip to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

ZOOM Link for Annual Meeting: If you are not able to attend the annual meeting, email Pastor Cheryl for a ZOOM link to be sent to you **prior to** the meeting. You will need to download the ZOOM app on your computer or phone prior to the time. Instructions can be sent to you if additional help is needed PRIOR to the meeting – NOT during. Email Pastor by Saturday January 20th at: cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com to receive a ZOOM link.

Potluck Meal following Annual meeting

There will be a potluck meal at noon on Sunday, January 21st following the Annual Meeting. We encourage you to take time to participate by bringing a dish to pass and staying to visit and get to know your family at Grace Lutheran. Fellowship is an important part of being a member of the church family and we look forward to spending time with you and your family.

WATERTOWN FRUITS BY GRACE SALES

Our fruits, nuts, snacks and candy items are always available at the office Monday thru Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm and Wednesday until 7 pm. All proceeds go to Grace Lutheran

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: Dee Haugan

USHERS: Kyler Schulz & family, Bryn Koistinen & family

ACOLYTE: Brom Koistinen

GREETER: Geri Mohror

PIANIST: Isaak Montemayor

SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstensen

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht

Gary Rukstad and Dylan Jordan.

Pastoral Calls: You can reach Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501(cell or text) or by E-mail: cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com

GRACE LUTHERAN FOUNDATION GRANTS are due February 15th. Grant forms are available in the office. Please pick them up and completed prior to the due date.

MISSION OF THE MONTH Ukrainian Refugee Efforts

During the past year, Grace Lutheran has sponsored 5 refugees from Ukraine. Vasyl Molod and Igor and Luv Tokariev and boys Davyd and Ramir. All have settled into their apartments, jobs, and school in Watertown.

Currently a new refugee, Olena Shevliakova, arrived in South Dakota on December 20th and is staying with host family Ty and Jen Moos at Webster. She will be moving to Watertown in the coming weeks as she obtains employment and an apartment.

The statewide "Freedom's Haven for New Americans Workforce" set a goal in 2023 of 1,000 Ukrainians for Watertown, SD. Winter is setting in hard in Ukraine, and Russia is targeting the electricity, water, and other infrastructure systems. Ukrainian's coming to the US must have a sponsor. Lutheran Social Service and Codington Country Social Services provide many programs of assistance. They are allowed to work as soon as they arrive in the US. Volunteer assistance is needed to provide transportation for the first weeks they are here so they can apply for employment. Currently there are 6 families plus two singles in Watertown and another family coming this month.

Grace Lutheran has a separate account to make donations for our refugees to help them get established as they come. You can give online at glcwn.org or mail to the Ukraine Fund at Grace Lutheran, 202 2nd St, SE, Watertown, SD 57201. Gift Cards are also welcome. For more information or if you can help, contact Pastor Cheryl.

A **RADIO BROADCAST** of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** is given in loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling from the Schmeling Radio Fund. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran inside and out of our walls. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, a sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to sponsor the radio broadcast or altar flowers, stop at the office, call the office, or send your donation to:
Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201



Your support is appreciated for Grace Lutheran Church.
You can GIVE online by using the QR code to the left
or visiting glcwn.org/give
You can give to General, Refugee, Flower,
Memorial, Radio, Youth Trip, Parking Lot,
Multipurpose Room or other on that page.