



Grace Lutheran 1883-2024

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany ~ January 21, 2024*

*10:30 am service - Grace Lutheran Church*

***Welcomes You to Worship***

*202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota*

**Web Site: [glcwtm.org](http://glcwtm.org) ~ [gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gracelc@midconetwork.com)**

*Church Office: 605-886-5737*

*Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501*

**PRELUDE**

**Congregation responses in Bold Print**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(inspired by Jonah 3-4)*

The word of God came to Jonah **The word of God comes to us:**

Go **Despite your fears** Speak **the truth of God**

Love **your neighbor and you enemy** Forgive **as you have been forgiven**

Receive **grace upon grace overflowing from the fullness of God.**

**GATHERING SONG:**

**“Make me an instrument”**

***(Refrain)***

Make me an instrument of your love.

Let me be a channel from above.

Make me an instrument of your love,

An instrument of your love.

1 When a friend is in need

of an open heart,

Let me be there, oh let me be there.

When a friend is lost

with nowhere to go,

Let me be there. *(Refrain)*

2 When someone is hungry,

when someone is cold,

Let me be there, oh let me be there.

When someone needs help

to carry their load,

Let me be there. *(Refrain)*

3 If someone should wonder

is God still alive,

Let me be there, oh let me be there.

If someone should wonder

does God really care,

Let me be there. *(Refrain)*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(inspired by Jonah 3: 1-10)*

Holy One, what a blessing and privilege we share

here in this sacred space and among this loving community.

**But, like Jonah, we sometimes are jealous of what we share here. We know that others are longing and thirsting for what we know and experience. Forgive us our reluctance to open our doors, open our hearts to others; some like us, some not. We repent of our hesitations and unwillingness to witness to those we have considered strangers and even enemies for fear they just might become friends. Amen.**

*(time of silence for reflection)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

The one who calls us to this place calls us to reconciliation through grace.

God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit. Know that you are forgiven and walk in the new way that is made known to you in God's love. **Thanks be to God!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** Let us pray... **Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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: "Song of Offering"**

O accept these gifts that we bring As an offering to You, our King;

Lifting our voices in praise to You, our God.

As your children we come to Your throne With the worship that is Your's alone;

Giving ourselves with our praise to You, our God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Fruit of our lips we offer to Your name. O accept these words that we bring

As an offering to You, our King; Lifting our voices in praise to You, our God.

**OFFERING PRAYER:** (*Following where you lead*)

Let us pray... Great God of Heaven and Earth, you call us to leave behind our preoccupations and to follow you into the future. **Sometimes we find your call challenging. We are comfortable, maybe even complacent, in our present. May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness to follow where you lead. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Pew Bible 753**

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 62: 5-12**

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

<sup>6</sup>**God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>**Put your trust in God always, O people,  
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.**

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

<sup>12</sup>**Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.**

**PRAISE SONG: "Be Still"**

(*Refrain*) Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

1. Amidst the chaos of the day Hear the small voice. *(Refrain)*
2. Above the raging of the nations You weep for peace. *(Refrain)*
3. Just as a hen cares for her young ones Your wings, our home. *(Refrain)*

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31**

**Pew Bible 930**

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

**CHILDREN SINGING & SERMON**

**GOSPEL LEAD-IN: “Help Us O Lord”** *(DR Blue p 117)*

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word.

Give us the strength To live your work each day. *(Repeat)*

**GOSPEL: Mark 1: 14-20**

**Pew Bible p 812**

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

*Response: Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

**SONG OF THE DAY: “Love to the world”**

*(Refrain)* Light the path. Shine the way. Send the word.

Through our lives, show your love to the world.

1. Many roads up ahead, hard to see. Where is truth to be found?  
Can I trust and believe? *(Refrain)*
2. Ev’ry nation and tongue, ev’ry tribe All are children of God;  
for each one there is life. *(Refrain)*
3. To the ends of the earth bring your light. Justice, mercy and love,  
let them shine through the night. *(Refrain)*

**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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

**PRAYER SONG: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"**

**ELW 752**

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;*

*Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

**PRAYER PETITIONS:** *(based on Jonah 3, Psalm 62, Matthew 4:18-22, Mark 1: 14-20)*

Our gracious, eternal God, we thank you that Jesus' call to his disciples came in such an uneventful way. Contrary to the wisdom of the world he did not start with the privileged and the wealthy and the powerful. He did not begin with those who had little need and little desire for change. He began with some very simple folk. He began with some fishermen.

We pray that his call, "Come, follow me," might again reverberate through our souls today.

May we hear again the challenge to be your disciples. May we hear again the message of this one who brings good news. May we hear again the invitation to come to you, "all you who are weary and heavy laden." Hear us Oh Lord, **And answer**

We pray that his call would come to the leaders of the world to know the present form of this world is passing away. May we hear again eternal words of hope which tell us that however dark the world becomes the darkness cannot ever overcome the radiant light of this holy one, Jesus. May we hear again those simple words: "Come, follow me," and may we come, just as we are, and know again the depth of your grace and love for us.

Hear us Oh Lord, **And answer**

We pray the steadfast love of you oh Lord, be revealed in your words for the power belongs to you God. Give us the power to bring change and transformation to the peoples of the world as did those early fishermen. Give us the power to provide the same kind of hope for the world-weary as they brought to theirs. Give us the vision of a world transformed. Hear us Oh Lord, **And answer**

We pray for those whose health is a constant and major concern. Be especially with Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Allen, Janice, Danny, Dennis, Dick, Harper, Ted, Greg, Kristi, Sylvia, Lavern, Elvira, Jada, Rick, Roger, Lynn, Tracy, Deb, Kaisley, Raef, Ashlea, Robert, Sandra, family of Lorraine Christians, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound... and any whose health is compromised so much that they have no hope of ever feeling totally well again. For those we ask that you give courage for the frustrating obstacles of life. Hear us Oh Lord, **And answer**

We pray for the saints living with you, and wait in silence, as truly our hope is in you God.

Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace, 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: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"**

**ELW 752**

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;*

*Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

**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.**

## **SENDING & BLESSING:**

Go now, follow where Christ calls you and proclaim the message God gives you. Wait in hope for God. Avoid becoming bound up in the business of the world, but live in trust of the steadfast love of the Lord and readiness for the inbreaking of the Kingdom.

And may God be your rock and your glory; May Christ Jesus give you courage for his mission; And may the Spirit embrace your soul in God's silence. **Amen**

## **SENDING SONG:**

### ***"Made for Love"***

*(Refrain)* We've been molded by the Creator's hand.

Here in Jesus we have grace to stand. Moving by the Spirit, we are made for love.

1. Sun and starlight, sparkling waters, Morning birds that serenade,  
In the image of the Maker We are wonderfully made. *(Refrain)*

2. In the water's holy blessing, Spirit coming like a dove,  
We're a witness to the wonder; We are loved and so we love. *(Refrain)*

3. Live out justice, treasure kindness, Journey humbly ev'ry day.  
We are called here into service, A forgiving, loving way. *(Refrain)*

**SENDING:** Go in peace... share the promise. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

***Thank you for worshiping with us today!***

## **Announcements for January 21<sup>st</sup>**

### ***Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:***

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Allen Benson, Janice Brandriet, Danny Brekke, Dennis Carlson, Dick Everson, Harper Evjen, Ted Frost, Greg Gross, 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, Sandra Wittrock, the family of Lorraine Christians, 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 21<sup>st</sup> thru 28<sup>th</sup>

Today ANNUAL MEETING DAY

9:30 AM - Sunday school

10:30 am - Worship Service w/children singing

11:30 am – Annual meeting

Noon – potluck meal

Monday 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters

5:30 Banquet meal

Wednesday 5:30 to 6:15 - Wednesday meal

6 pm – Dinner Church

6:30 to 7:30 pm – Wednesday school

6:30 to 7:30 pm – Confirmation

7:30 to 9 pm – Youth Group

Friday – Feb 3: Kat on vacation

Sunday 8:30 am – Traditional Worship Service

9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

9:45 am – Sunday school  
11 am – Contemporary Worship  
Girl Scouts 11:30 – 4 pm

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

February 10<sup>th</sup> – Celebration of Love Banquet for all members and non-members.  
February 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday

### **ANNUAL MEETING TODAY**

The annual meeting will be held following the service today in the church Sanctuary following the 10:30 am worship. There will only be one worship service 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 quorum of members must be present, so please plan to be in attendance.

**EAT IN OR TAKE OUT - Caramel Rolls** available today 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.

### **Potluck Meal following Annual meeting**

There will be a potluck meal at noon on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

**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.

### **Tickets Available for February 10<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION OF LOVE**

Enjoy a night of food, dancing, fellowship, and time to celebrate the season of love on February 10<sup>th</sup> at the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### **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

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. **ALTAR FLOWERS:** have been given today in loving memory of her husband Lynn Johnson from Donna Johnson. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board near the front door.. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to *Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201*

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

### **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:**

**PASTOR:** Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett 6 **READER:** Dee Haugan  
**KEYBOARDIST:** Isaak Montemayor **Acolyte:** Tyler Schulz  
**USHERS:** Soren Bisgard & family, Geri Mohror,  
**PRIASE TEAM:** Becky Sprouse, Riley Sprouse, Leigh Carstensen, Krisma DeWitt,

## Looking Ahead – Silent Auction & Country Gospel Jamboree! April 7<sup>th</sup>

The silent auction has been a good source of revenue for Grace – in the last couple of years in conjunction with the Country Gospel Jamboree. We are planning another one this year along with the Jamboree and meal. We wanted to give the congregation, and especially the crafters, a “heads up” so you can think about donations for it. These are some things that brought good prices previous years:

- Baskets of various types – Bath & Body, Baby items, kitchen items, garden, office supplies, kids things, camping, personal, etc.
- Flashlights
- Plants
- Embroidered dish towels
- Kitchen hand towels
- Handmade greeting cards
- Home canned food
- Games
- Rugs
- Needle work – table runners, etc.
- Floral arrangements – silk or dried

When donating items for the silent auction, please include the minimum bid amount. Contact Darlene Bresson, 605-421-1258, for more information.

***Sisters by Heart*** are the featured musical group for the 2 pm April 7<sup>th</sup> Country Music Jamboree. The trio, Melanie Yost, Janeen Kohl, and Linda Loberg are the girls from “*Just Between Friends*” classic country band located in and around Sisseton, SD who opened for several named entertainer at the Sisseton Theater Arts Center such as Lorrie Morgan, Skip Ewing, The Isaacs, Travelin' Man, Mo Pitney, LeRoy Van Dyke, Suzy Bogguss, Moe Bandy, Gene Watson, and Connie Smith to name a few. ***Sisters by Heart*** played for the Spring Theological at Grace in April of 2023. Please to mark your calendars for an enjoyable musical afternoon for the whole family.

### **The Fruit is Coming! The Fruit is Coming!**

So good to hear those words in the middle of winter! Fresh oranges, grapefruit, apples, pears, oh my! Our Spring fruit sale will start **Feb 1<sup>st</sup>** and run till **Feb 18<sup>th</sup>**, with delivery in early March. Prices look like they'll be comparable to last year – and the fruit last year was scrumptious!

The company has added a new mixed box that has only 12 oranges/apples/pears, which is more attractive to single or 2-person households. In addition to the delicious fruit, you can

also order beef and cheese snacks. And of course, we'll have our dried fruit, nuts, and candy available when you pick up your fresh fruit.

Starting Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, you'll be able to order online – watch for the website and our code so it gets credited to Grace Lutheran, but Darlene will be available on Sundays to take your order too. As always, if you have any questions, please contact Darlene at 605-421-1258.

### **VALENTINE BOXES OF CANDY**

There will be Valentine boxes of candy available on Feb 4th and 11th (Sundays) and in the office during the week before Valentines along with fruits and nuts those days as well.

### **Scrip Gift Cards can now be purchased Online**

If you regularly purchase Gift Cards, you can now purchase them online at RaiseRight.com and shipped to your home or the church. Download the app and use the code for Grace: 7B7977AD26LL5 when you order and Grace will receive between 3% and as high as 20% return. There are 750+ popular brands to choose from.

Currently available at Grace are gift cards for Walmart, County Fair, Hy-Vee, Target, Applebee's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Pizza Ranch and Starbuck. Kat will be happy to order them for you if you need assistance.



Scrip is a great fundraiser for the Grace Lutheran mission plan. Please consider using them for your next purchases. The cards can be bought after the service or from 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Thursday and Wednesday until 7 pm.

### **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 [glcwtm.org](http://glcwtm.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.



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