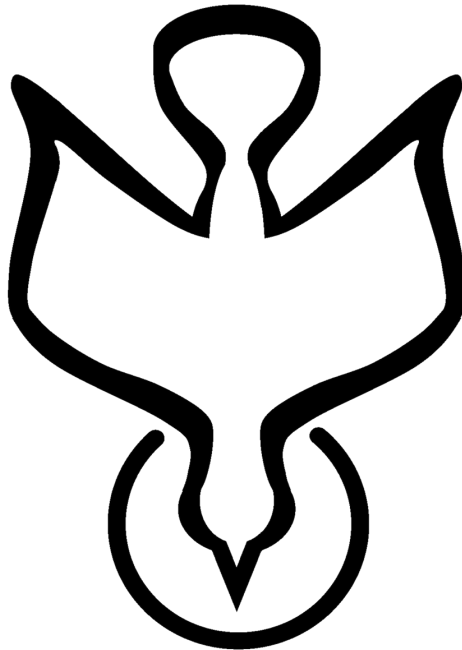


# **Baptism of Our Lord**



**January 11, 2026**

# Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, we invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form in the bulletin or at the Welcome Desk to let us know you were worshipping with us today. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor, an usher, or placed in the offering.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Busy Bags for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available at the ushers table in the entry-way, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available at either worship service, after the Gospel reading for children ages 3 through third grade During Little Lambs Children's Ministry children and their leader go to the Nursery to enjoy age appropriate Biblically-oriented activities during the Sermon, creed and prayers. They return during the offering to join us for Holy communion! This gives little ones a Bible break during the service, while allowing parents to focus on the sermon!

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at [www.grace43081.org](http://www.grace43081.org) and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) at [www.thenalc.org](http://www.thenalc.org)!

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## PRELUDE

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" - *arr. Peter Pindar Stearns*

"When Jesus Came to Jordan" - *arr. David Cherwien*

## Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

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

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## ENTRANCE HYMN

### “God, Whose Almighty Word”



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the  
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray,  
in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!  
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place  
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

## The Liturgy of The Word

### THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

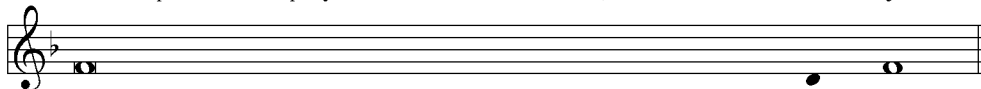
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

### KYRIE



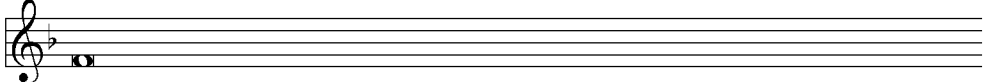
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**



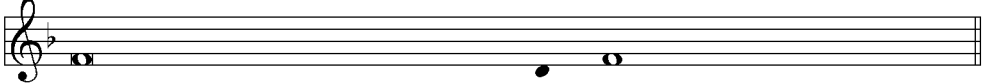
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



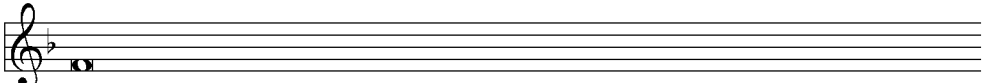
☒ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



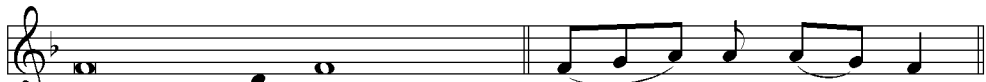
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



☒ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



☒ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. ☒ A - men

## HYMN OF PRAISE



☒ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



☒ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

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

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ The Lord be with you. ☛ And al - so 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 in their calling to be your children, and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

L The Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 29

Refrain

The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

Psalm Tone

L <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods,  
ascribe to the Lord glo- | ry and strength.  
C <sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due his name;  
worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness.**  
L <sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the | mighty waters.  
C <sup>4</sup>**The voice of the Lord is a pow- | erful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor. Refrain**  
L <sup>5</sup>The voice of the Lord breaks the | cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;  
C <sup>6</sup>**he makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**  
L <sup>7</sup>The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord | shakes the  
wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.  
C <sup>8</sup>**The voice of the Lord makes the | oak trees writhe  
and strips the | forests bare. Refrain**  
L <sup>9</sup>And in the temple | of the Lord  
all are | crying, “Glory!”  
C <sup>10</sup>**The Lord sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as | king forevermore.**  
L <sup>11</sup>The Lord shall give strength | to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the bless- | ing of peace. **Refrain**

### SECOND READING: Romans 6:1-11

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified

with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L The word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**ALLELUIA VERSE** (*John 6: 68*)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, 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 thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**LITTLE LAMBS:** At this time, Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available for children ages 3 through third grade at both services after the Gospel reading. The children leave the sanctuary with the teacher and enjoy an age appropriate Biblically oriented lesson and activity. They return during the offering to join us for Holy Communion.

**SERMON: "The Hope and Promise of Baptism!"**

**The Rev. Dr. David Wendel**

*After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### “When Jesus Came to Jordan”



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

## APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*After each petition:*

A Lord, in your mercy;

C **Hear our prayer.**

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

C **Amen.**

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*Remember in our prayers... John Westenhaver, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Ernestine Dietz, Steve Miller, Betty Milner, Mary Cooney, Amy Seifert Unkefer, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross, The family of Rosie Hardick*

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## The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*Matthew 5: 22-24; John 20: 19*)

C **And also with you.**

*You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,  
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*Please be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

### MUSICAL OFFERING

**8:15** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" - *arr. Joel Raney*

**Martha Crist and Linda Hoch - Piano Duet**

**11:00** "Shine on Us" - *arr. Benjamin Harlan*

**Grace Singers Chancel Choir**

*Please stand as the offering is brought forward.*

### THE OFFERTORY

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

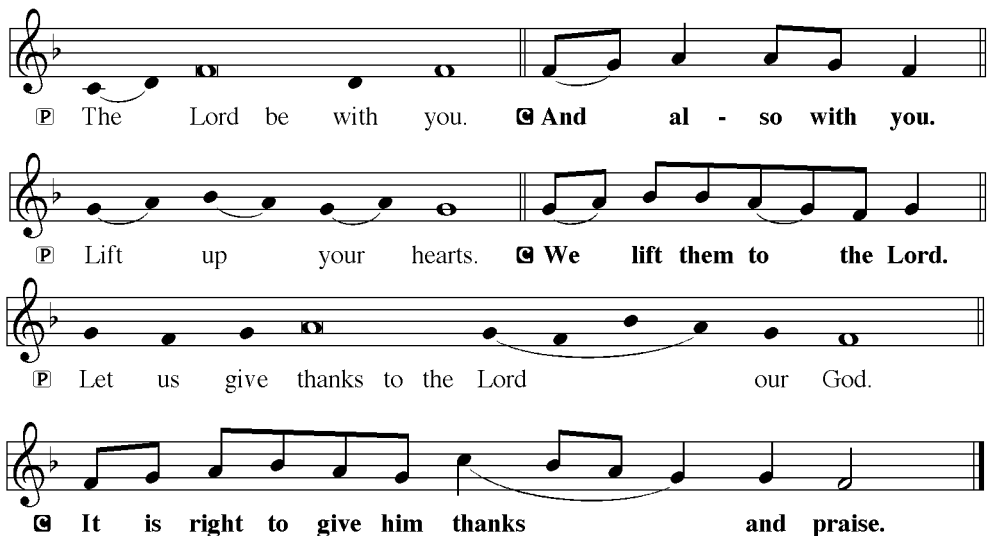
pres - ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

## THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

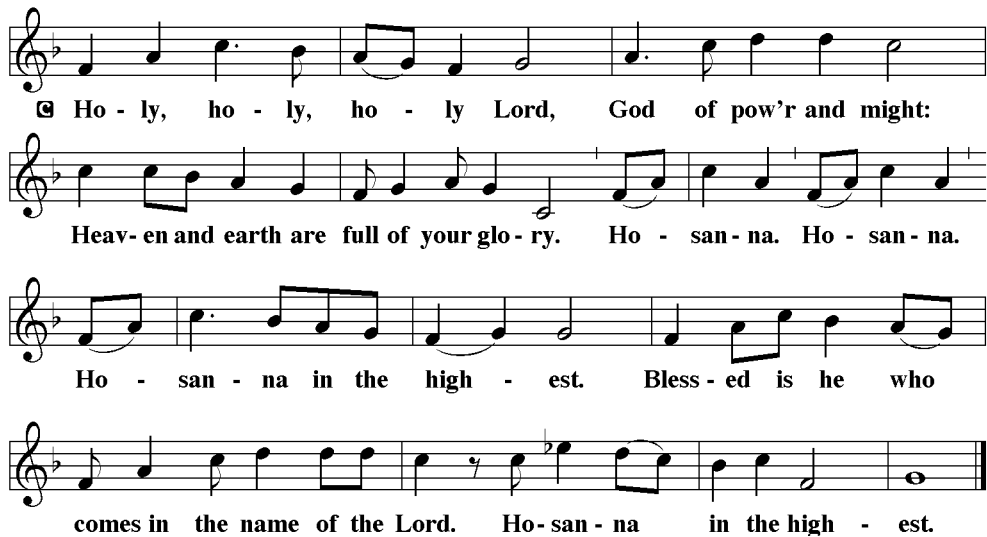
☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

- P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS *(Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ,  
your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save  
and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.  
He is your Word, inseparable from you.  
Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.  
He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.  
He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth  
as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin Mary.  
It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will  
and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands  
in suffering to free from suffering, those who trust you.  
It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted,  
to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one,  
to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his  
covenant, and to show forth the resurrection:

P Taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:  
Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

P Remembering then, his death and resurrection, we lift this  
Bread and Cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made  
us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your

priestly people. And we ask you:

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church, that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit, to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

**C Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6: 9-13)*

**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.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

*A time of silence...*

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. *(John 1:29)*

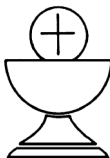
**C Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!**  
*(Revelation 19:9)*

### LAMB OF GOD *(John 1: 29)*

☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children or adults who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord's sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray. Please place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

### **Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion:**

O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood. Amen.

### **Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion:**

Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

"Beautiful Savior" - arr. Joel Raney

**Martha Crist and Linda Hoch - Piano Duet**

*After all have communed, please stand.*

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

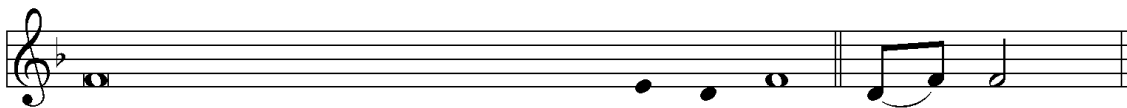
**C** **Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A** Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

# THE BENEDICTION *(Numbers 6: 24-26)*

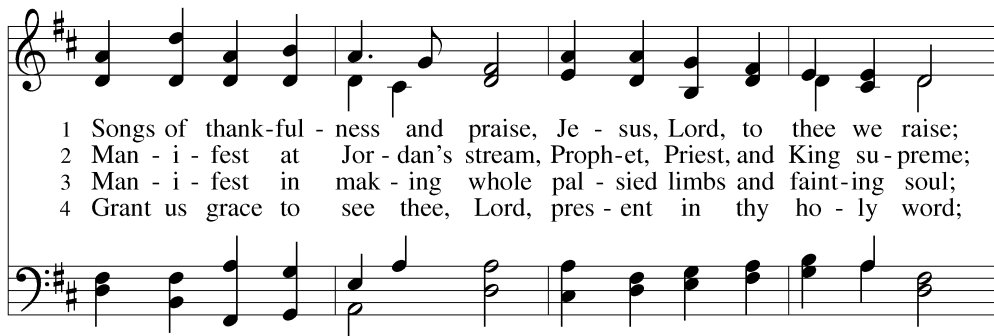


☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine on you  
And be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.  
In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit ✠

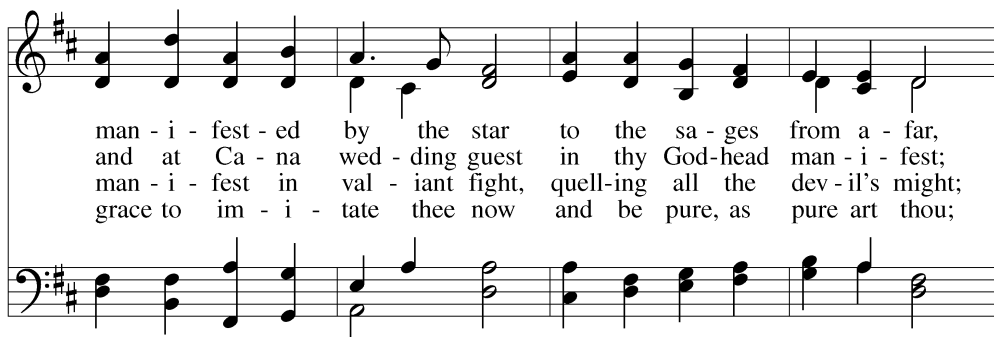
☐ **A - men**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

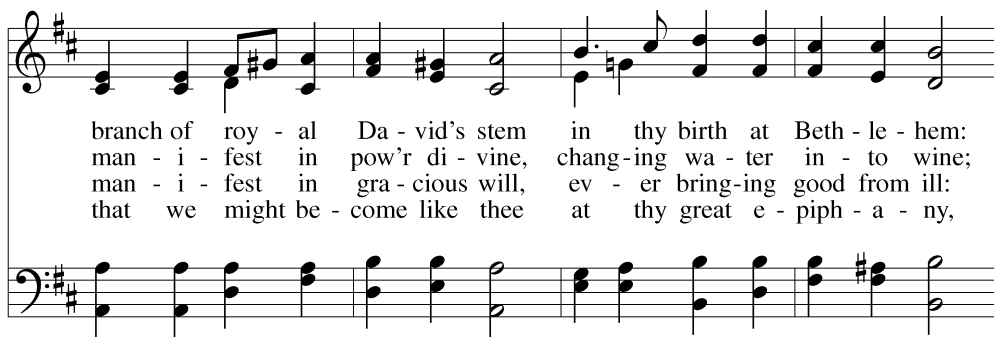
“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”



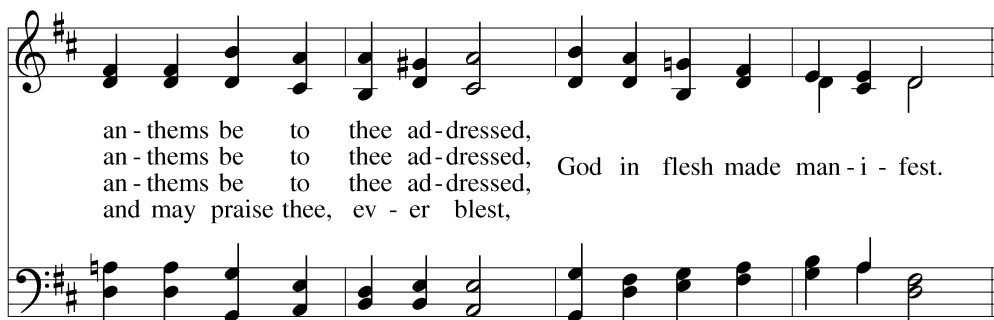
1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

## THE RITE OF SENDING

Children            Go in peace, serve the Lord!  
C                    Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"God Whose Almighty Word" - arr. David Cherwien

**Offering:** An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

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### *Flowers are given by...*

*Ann Korb in celebration of daughter Lisa Kuhar's birthday.*

*Bill and Twyla Ridder in celebration of granddaughter Mazzlyn Ridder's birthday.*

*Paul and Karen Grant in memory of Wayne Dray, Karen's father.*

*Janice and Eddie Hardick in memory of Eddie's wife Rosie Hardick who died of cancer at the age of 49. Her care by AlēvCare Hospice was incredible: 315 S. Main St., Mansfield, TX 76063.*

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**WELCOME, GUESTS!** We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form and place it in the offering or hand it to an usher to let us know you were worshipping with us today.

**WELCOME**



### Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to *Simply Give* today.

**Financial Update:** If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

**Christmas Eve, December 24:** 5pm: 219; 8pm: 180; Total: 399

**Christmas Day, December 25:** 10am: 35

**Second Sunday After Christmas, January 4:** 8:15am: 87; 11:00am: 127; Total: 214

## MUSIC NOTES

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### **“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” – arr. Peter Pindar Stearns**

“Epiphany” means “manifestation” of Christ to the world, and the author, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), used the word “manifest” twelve times to describe Christ’s birth, baptism, appearance at the wedding feast in Cana, healing the sick, and his powers over evil. Thus, the hymn becomes not only praise to God, but a time for learning more about Epiphany and about Christ himself.

### **“When Jesus Came to Jordan” – arr. David Cherwien**

In the text for this hymn by Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John – not for pardon, but as the “Sinless One.” He came to “share repentance with all who mourn their sins.” In the parallel accounts of Jesus’ baptism (Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, and Luke 3:21-22), it is only in Matthew that Jesus says anything. There he counters John’s resistance to baptize him by saying, “Let it be so now; for it is proper in this way to fulfill all righteousness.”

### **“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” – arr. Joel Raney**

Robert Robinson (1735-1790) wrote the hymn in 1758 for the festival of Whitsunday (Pentecost). The lines reveal a deep gratitude to God for saving him from a life of dissipation and were written while he was a pastor in Norwich, England. The text was first published in *A Collection of Hymns, Used by the Church of Christ in Angel-Alley, Bishopsgate* (1759).

### **“Shine On Us” – arr. Benjamin Harlan**

This arrangement combines the contemporary classis “Shine on Us” by Michael W. Smith and Deborah Smith with the classic hymn “Be Thou My Vision.” “Shine on Us” appeared on his album “Hymns II – Shine on Us”, the second of his hymns albums released exclusively at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store. The text for “Be Thou My Vision” comes from an eight-century anonymous Irish poem translated into English prose by Mary E. Byrne (1880-1931) and which appeared in the journal *Erin*, Vol. II (1905). The prose was put into verse by Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935) and published in her *Poem-Book of the Gael* (1912). The tune was found in Patrick W. Joyce’s *Old Irish Folk Music and Songs* (1909) set to “With my love on the road.” It was used with this hymn text in the *Irish Church Hymnal* (1919). The tune name, SLANE, gets its name from a hill near Tara in County Meath, where St. Patrick is said to have challenged the Druid priests by lighting the Paschal fire.

### **“Beautiful Savior” – arr. Joel Raney**

Although it is known to have been written at least fifteen years earlier, the original German text (“Schönster Herr Jesu”) was first published in the *Münster Gesangbuch* (1677). The anonymous English translation of this Roman Catholic hymn first appeared in Willis’ *Church Chorals and Choir Studies* (New York, 1850). A fourth stanza was added by Joseph A. Seiss in 1873 and appeared as part of his full translation in *The Sunday School Book* of the American Lutheran General Council (Philadelphia, 1873).

### **“God Whose Almighty Word” – arr. David Cherwien**

This hymn takes the first three verses of the Bible, Genesis 1:1-3, as its starting point. It was written around 1813 by John Marriott (1780-1825) but was not published then. Six weeks after Marriot’s death it was quoted by Thomas Mortimer at a London Missionary Society meeting on May 12, 1825 and then published the following month in the *Evangelical Magazine* as “Thou whose eternal word.”

## Serving Today

OFFICIATING/PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER	Molly King
ASSISTING MINISTER	8:15 Donna Dettmann
ORGANIST	11:00 Caleb Scheideger
SACRISTAN	Linda Hoch
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Fred Pfanz
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
CANTOR	Maria Laderman
ACOLYTE	Steve Kile
LECTOR	8:15 Camden Strete
	11:00 Ali Milliner
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:15 Bill Kulju
USHERS	11:00 Andy Laderman
	8:15 Paul Whitacre, Ted Ray
	11:00 Eric Bush & Cheryl Bush
	8:15 Lisa Kuhar, Kathy Haegele, Vanessa Stewart, Shirley Hodek
	11:00 Joe Moleno, Merlin Breen, Dick Jones, Brice Graves
GREETERS	8:15 JoAnn Slemmer
	11:00 Marge Zimmermann
LITTLE LAMBS	8:15 Susan Riches
	11:00 Amy Quinn
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	Kaitlyn F., Donna P.
ALTAR GUILD	Team 3: Vanessa Stewart, Lois Bernhardt, Jodie Arreguin, Dortha Fuhrman, Verna Kreachbaum, Amy Quinn, Linda Reasoner, Ellen Paulus, Joanne Figge
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves

## Acknowledgements

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church** has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

**Vision Statement:** We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.