

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes you to  
The Great Thanksgiving*



*Everyone is Welcome!  
Taste and See that the Lord is Good,  
Let us rejoice together!*





# Today's Readings

Second Sunday after Epiphany  
January 15, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Listen to me, O coastlands,  
pay attention, you peoples from far  
away!

The **LORD** called me before I was born,  
while I was in my mother's womb he  
named me.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain,  
I have spent my strength for nothing  
and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the **LORD**,  
and my reward with my God."

<sup>5</sup>And now the **LORD** says,  
who formed me in the womb to be  
his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered  
to him,

## Psalm



I waited patiently up- <sup>1</sup> on the **LORD**,  
who stooped to me  
and <sup>1</sup> heard my cry.  
<sup>2</sup>The **LORD** lifted me  
out of the desolate pit,  
out of the <sup>1</sup> miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff,  
making my <sup>1</sup> footing sure.

for I am honored in the sight of the  
**LORD**,  
and my God has become my  
strength—

<sup>6</sup>he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be  
my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end  
of the earth."

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the **LORD**,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy  
One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the  
nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up,  
princes, and they shall prostrate  
themselves,  
because of the **LORD**, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has  
chosen you."

## Psalm 40:1-11; tone 6

<sup>3</sup>The **LORD** put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise <sup>1</sup> to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe,  
and put their trust <sup>1</sup> in the **LORD**.  
<sup>4</sup>Happy are they who trust <sup>1</sup> in the **LORD**!  
They do not turn to enemies  
or to those who <sup>1</sup> follow lies.

*continued*

Psalm, continued

<sup>5</sup>Great are the wonders you have done,  
O LORD my God!  
In your plans for us,  
none can be compared with you!  
    Oh, that I could make them known  
        and tell them!  
    But they are more than I can count.  
**<sup>6</sup>Sacrifice and offering**  
**you do not desire;**  
**you have opened my ears:**  
**burnt-offering and sin-offering**  
**you have not required.**  
**<sup>7</sup>And so I said, "Here I am; I come.**  
    In the scroll of the book  
        it is written of me:  
**<sup>8</sup>I love to do your will, O my God;**  
**your law is deep within me."**

**<sup>9</sup>I proclaimed righteousness**  
    **in the great assembly;**  
    I have not restrained my lips,  
        O LORD, you know.  
**<sup>10</sup>**I have not hidden your righteousness  
    **in my heart;**  
**I have spoken of your faithfulness**  
    **and your deliverance;**  
    I have not concealed  
        **your steadfast love and truth**  
        **from the great assembly.**  
**<sup>11</sup>**You are the LORD;  
    **do not withhold your compassion**  
    **from me;**  
        **may your steadfast love**  
        **and your truth**  
        **continually keep me safe.**

## Second Reading

### Gospel

[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed,

### 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 [not printed]

### John 1:29-42

"Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup>He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

### TODAY'S READINGS January 15, 2023

### Volume 54, Number 1

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23.

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AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

We believe that with the bread and wine one receives the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome other Christians to receive Holy Communion with us. Children who have not had first Communion instruction may come forward for a blessing.

***We pray always for . . .***

*Grace Bentzinger, Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels,  
Tucker Drake, Eric Fass, Kathy Helgren, Eugene Rosenthal, &  
Haleigh Werner*

***We also remember in our prayers . . .***

*Anna, Vanessa, Diana & Meshack, orphans we are sponsoring  
in Tanzania.*

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's  
box in the south office. You may email the church office  
[grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com)*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)***

**Today 1/15/23**

**Joint Worship w/Communion – 10:00 a.m.**

No Sunday School

**Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting to follow worship  
Meal to follow in the basement**

**Tuesday 1/17/23**

**Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day**

*Sharing Covered Dish Luncheon*

**Wednesday 1/18/23**

**Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.**

**Next Sunday 1/22/23**

**Worship – 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.**

**Grace Lutheran Church 2023 Annual Meeting to follow  
worship & Meal to follow in the Church Basement**  
Council is providing shredded pork, buns, condiments and  
drinks, and our members have brought donations of  
a salad or dessert to share with us.

We look forward to this time of fellowship with you.

Next Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> the Faith Lutheran Luther  
League will be hosting a Soup Dinner at the Talmage  
Community Building from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m.  
Chicken Noodle or Chili Soup, Sandwiches,  
Desserts, & Drink  
Everyone is Invited! Freewill donation

*We are again hosting Tanzanian orphan Scholarships. The cost for  
each child this year will be \$450 and includes tuition and board. Last  
year we raised \$1,800.00 - enough to host 4 children and have raised  
\$1,252.00 so far. Donations towards this project should be  
designated on your offering and then one check will be sent to  
Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln. These donations can be given until the  
end of January. Sheridan will be sending us information in January.*

*The ELCW Yearbooks are available to pick up.*

*The offering Envelopes have been delayed at the warehouse –  
due to lack of employees, they will be coming.*

*If you do not wish to receive a box of envelopes, please let  
Joyce Roesener or Diane Wilken know.*

Grace Lutheran Family,  
Thank you so very much for donating supplies for my First Graders and me during this Christmas Season! You provided us with wonderful books that go along with units I teach. You also gave us a building kit which we will use to build bridges when we get to that story in reading class. They can also use them during inside recess times. I appreciate the paper plates, plastic forks, and snacks. I purchase many of these supplies throughout the year, and it's wonderful to have your help. I can't thank you enough! What a wonderful Christmas you gave us!

Robyn Faris and First Graders