

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

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## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GATHERING SONG** - ELW #314 – “Arise, Your Light Has Come”

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** - ELW p. 94 *Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

**A: 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.

**A: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

**A: We confess that we are captive 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

**A: Amen. Assembly sits.**

**GREETING** - p. 138

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

**A: And also with you.**

**KYRIE** - p. 138

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** - Please see insert.

**FIRST READING** – Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6. 8-10 Not printed.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** – 19 Please see insert and read responsively.

**SECOND READING** – 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Please see insert.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** - p. 142

*Please stand in body or spirit.*



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.

**P:** The holy gospel according to ....

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL** – Luke 4:14-21 Please see insert.

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**A:** **Praise to you, O Christ.** *The assembly sits.*

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** - ELW #843 – “Praise the One Who Breaks The Darkness”

## **Installation of Church Council**

**APOSTLES CREED** - p. 105

**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.**

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** - “Cultivating Love through Peace” ELW #785

“When Peace Like A River” – All Verses

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** - p. 143 Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

**LORD'S PRAYER** - p. 145 – *Please stand in body or spirit.*

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

**BLESSING** - p. 146 - Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

**DISMISSAL** - p. 146 - Response after the blessing:

A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

**SENDING SONG** - ELW #551 – “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

**POSTLUDE**



## *Announcements*

### **TODAY 1/26/25** *Third Sunday after Epiphany*

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

### **MONDAY 1/27/25**

Tower Echoes Deadline

### **TUESDAY 1/28/25**

Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day

### **WEDNESDAY 1/29/25**

Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

### **NEXT SUNDAY 2/2/25** *Presentation of Our Lord*

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

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

*Pastor Steve Billington, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Char Helgren, Becky Knake,  
Axl Walters, Joan Wellensiek & Haleigh Werner*

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

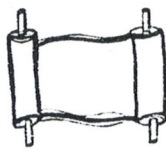
*Winfrida, Juliet, Vanesa & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania*

*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)***

*Please join us for fellowship in the basement following worship 😊*



# Today's Readings

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

## Prayer of the Day

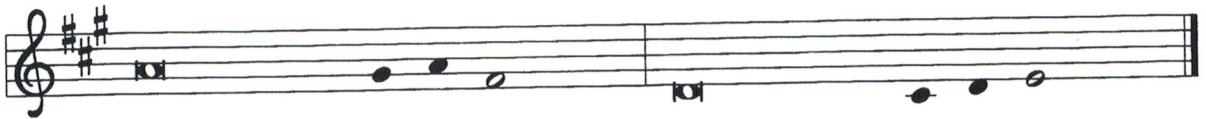
Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 [not printed]

## Psalm

Psalm 19; tone 3



The heavens declare  
the glo-<sup>1</sup>ry of God,  
and the sky proclaims  
its <sup>1</sup>maker's handiwork.  
<sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale <sup>1</sup>to another,  
and one night  
imparts knowledge <sup>1</sup>to another.  
<sup>3</sup>Although they have  
no <sup>1</sup>words or language,  
and their voices <sup>1</sup>are not heard,  
<sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands,  
and their message  
to the ends <sup>1</sup>of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent  
<sup>1</sup>for the sun.  
<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom  
out <sup>1</sup>of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion  
to <sup>1</sup>run its course.  
<sup>6</sup>It goes forth  
from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of <sup>1</sup>it again;  
nothing is hidden  
from its <sup>1</sup>burning heat.  
<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect  
and re-<sup>1</sup>vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom <sup>1</sup>to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just  
and re-<sup>1</sup>joice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD  
is clear and gives light <sup>1</sup>to the eyes.  
<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean  
and en-<sup>1</sup>dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD  
are true and righteous <sup>1</sup>altogether.  
<sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than <sup>1</sup>much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey <sup>1</sup>in the comb.  
<sup>11</sup>By them also  
is your ser-<sup>1</sup>vant enlightened,  
and in keeping them  
there is <sup>1</sup>great reward.  
<sup>12</sup>Who can detect one's <sup>1</sup>own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my <sup>1</sup>secret faults.  
<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant  
from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion <sup>1</sup>over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a <sup>1</sup>great offense.  
<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth  
and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable <sup>1</sup>in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength  
and <sup>1</sup>my redeemer.



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On

the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

## Gospel

## Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to bring  
good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release  
to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s  
favor.”

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”