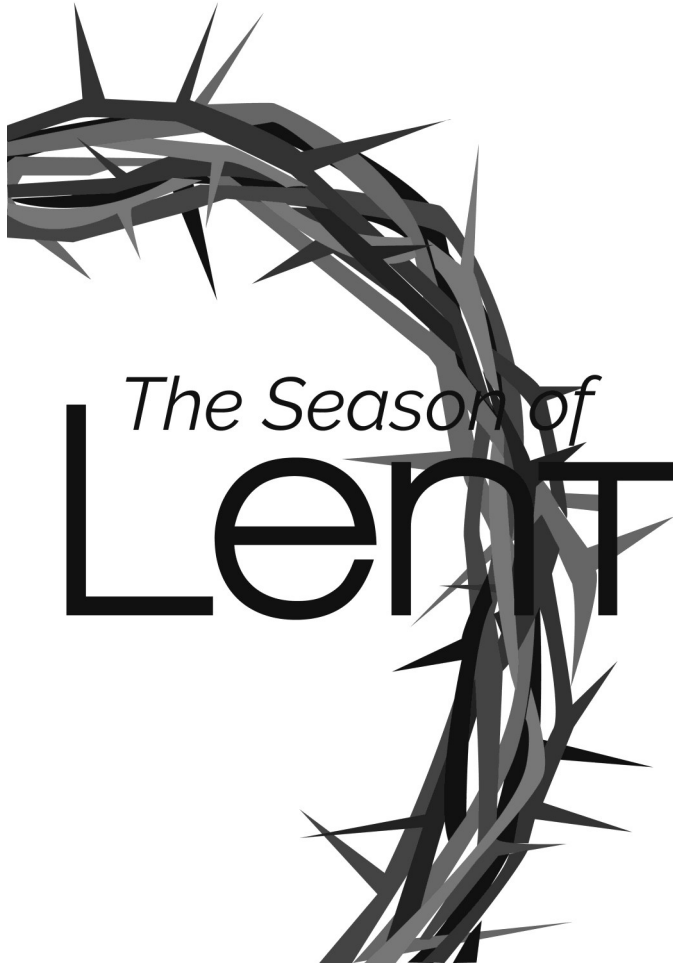


# *Grace Lutheran Worship Folder*

*February 21 & 22, 2026*



**Watch worship online - connect through [www.gracelutheran-alpena.org](http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org)**

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# *Grace Lutheran Church*

## **Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement**

***"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."***

### **GATHERING**

***The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.***

#### **WELCOME/PRELUDE**

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

*(The assembly stands as you are comfortable)*

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God:

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: for dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, we have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in us, pours God's love into our hearts, and gives us life and peace. **Amen.**

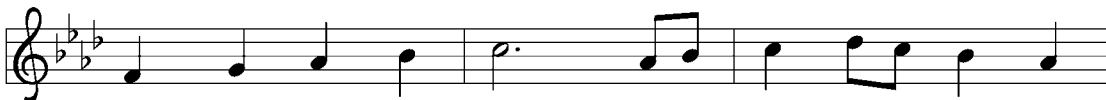
## GATHERING HYMN

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

**R319**



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

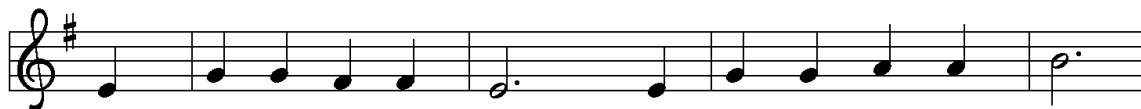
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## GREETING

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*Text: Gracia Grindal © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.*

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.*

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7**

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." <sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 32**

*Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Ps. 32:10)*

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup> **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the  
guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## **Romans 5:12-19**

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death,  
from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously  
showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and  
so death spread to all because all have sinned <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world  
before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned  
from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who  
is a pattern of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass.  
For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the  
grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the

many. <sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

### Matthew 4:1-11

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup> But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you

will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” <sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**P:** The Gospel of Our Lord.  
**C:** Praise to You, O Christ.

## HOMILY

*(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY “When We Are Tested”

ACS922



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
 2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
 3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
 trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
 trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

## APOSTLES' 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
 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.**

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*(Response after each petition)*

**P:** Hear us, O God,

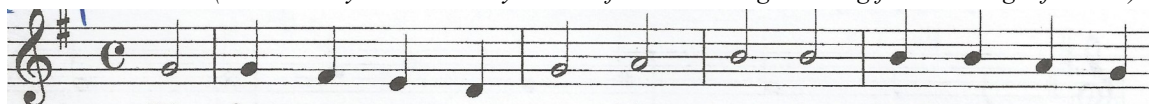
**C:** your mercy is great.

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** *(the assembly stands as they are comfortable & sings as the gifts are brought forward)*

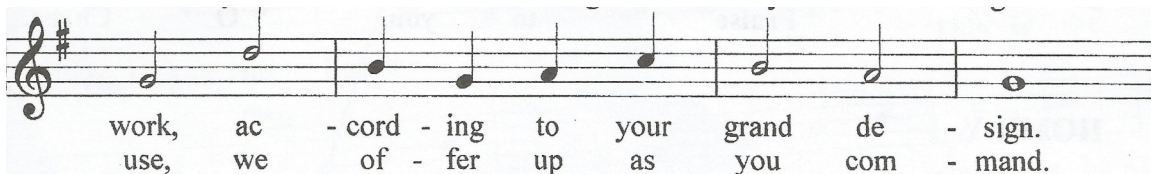


We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, the food of life, the  
 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them hum - bly



bread and wine, as sym - bols of our dai - ly  
 from your hand. These gifts of yours for high - er

*(Continued on next page)*



*Words: M F C Wilson. Text copyright 1988, Lorenz Publishing, All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-708789*

**P:** Let us pray...O God, maker of heaven and earth,

**C:** **your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** The Lord be with you.

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

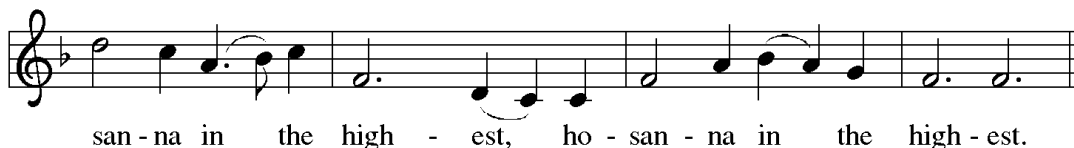
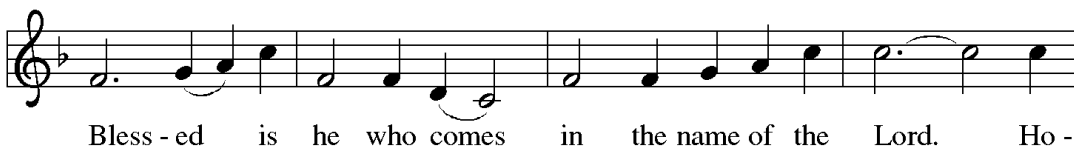
**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is indeed our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...(concluding)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)*

**P:** Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION HYMN “Thy Holy Wings”

R613



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,  
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast  
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
 where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
 Oh, take in - to thy keep-ing thy chil-dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.  
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten-der care.  
 and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

*(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray...God of our salvation,

C: **we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

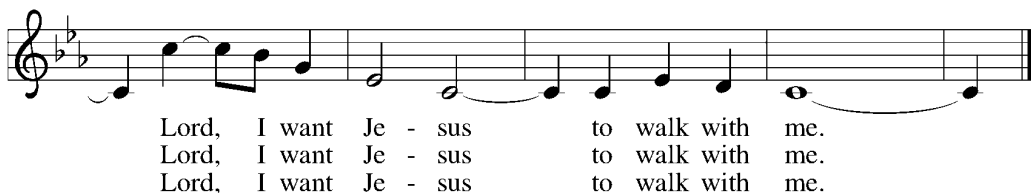
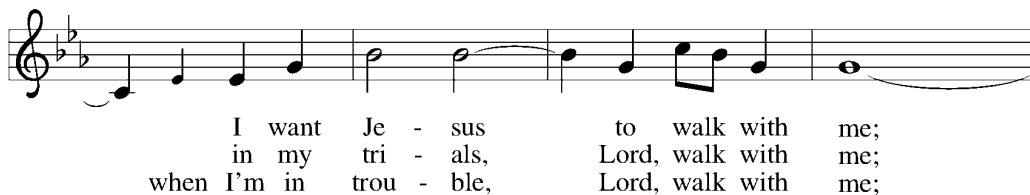
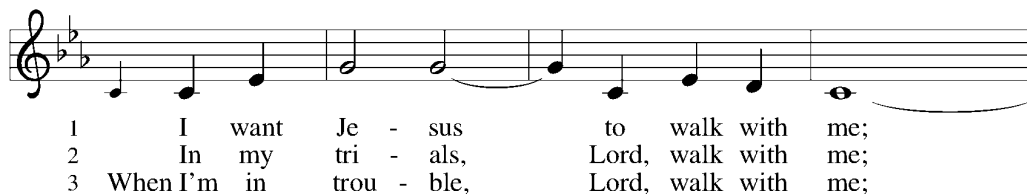
### **BLESSING**

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy spirit, whose breath sustains creation, + bless us now and always.

C: Amen.

### **SENDING HYMN "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"**

**R325**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**P:** Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C:** Thanks be to God.



## POSTLUDE



## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN**

### **A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

We are glad to have you here worshipping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

### **COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats  
in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

In Memory of Joseph & Laura Bleau  
Given by Mike & Donna Morgan

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Myra Cross, Larry Garant, Patti Tucker, Bonnie Cross, Darlene Freel, Hope Kamyszek, Bill Whitscell, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Tom Watson, Amy, Chuck, Ho-Ok Nam Lin (Pastor Seok Nam Lin's mother), Maria Shelton, Paul Kroll, Jim Marquardt, Aggie Jakubiak, Jerry McConnell, Lisa Creger, Lynsie, Becky & Dante, Lyle Beck, Candy & Tom Laughlin, Margaret Kamyszek, Michelle, Joan Vanover, Paige Lancewicz, Randy Thiem, Mychele Allmacher, Daphne Flack, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, Herb Schiller, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, and Joseph Hansen. Military: Will Stafford (Rich & Sherie McTaggart's grandson), Amelia Berles, US Air Force Pilot Training, and Michael Herrmann, US Air Force.

### **PRAYER PARTNERS**

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Youth Ministry at All Saints Catholic Church. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Cross of Christ/Petoskey, Rev. Sherry McGuffin; and Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas and Synod Staff.

### **PRAYER LETTERS**

***Please sign*** the prayer letter(s) each week that we send out telling other churches and ministries they have been included in our prayers. Fill the page with our names. The letter(s) are on the podium by the table in the Office Lobby.

## **LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Our Little Food Pantry is currently in need of hats, mittens, and socks, and supplies have been depleted. Please consider donating these much-needed items to help keep our neighbors warm.

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - FEBRUARY 22**

### **Historic Atrocities: What helps Healing?**

The United Methodist Church recently took part in a ceremony acknowledging a massacre of Native Americans by troops lead by a Methodist pastor that took place over 160 years ago. This is just one of the many atrocities in history that we do not understand how it could have happened. So how do we deal with horrors of the past and acknowledge the trauma they have caused to groups of people? How is healing accomplished? Join us at 11 in the Lounge as we wrestle with the past affecting the present and how we live out grace and love and forgiveness.

## **JOIN US TO CELEBRATE BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES**

Baptism is an event to celebrate and remember throughout our lives as Christians. We celebrate with you, your family, and friends as you grow in faith and love. Join us Sunday, February 22, after the 9:30a.m. service to celebrate all February baptism anniversaries. If you have a photo, your gown or candle to share, please bring it with you.

## ***RANDOM ACT OF GRACE* – Join us Monday February 23 at 5:30 PM**

Help with packing for ***FEEDING KIDS*** at Sunset School. With lots of hands, we can be done easily within an hour. Sign up in the Office Lobby. Questions, see Pastor Tom.

## **RUTH CIRCLE MEETS FEBRUARY 25**

The Ruth Circle will meet at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25 in the Lounge. (Please note the change to the 4th Wednesday of the month.) All women are welcome. Please join us!

## **LENTEN SERVICES**

This year we will learn more about the Biblical Prophets with a video series during out soup supper and some discussion afterwards until time for service. This year the services will be evening prayer services from each of the traditions that are participating. **SUPPER BEGINS AT 5:30 PM** with the video starting after everyone has soup. Our **SERVICES WILL START AT 6:45 PM** and with the shorter format of prayer services for the second through fifth weeks will be done by 7:30 PM.

## DIGITAL DISCIPLES - YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

We will gather for fun meetings, plan a Facebook challenge, take photos of church events and share them online. For more information, contact Donna Morgan at 989.590.3327 or Kat Tomaszewski at 989.255.8750.

## THANK YOU

Sending out a BIG Thank You to everyone who made a donation of men's, women's and kids warm hats and gloves. When I dropped off our donation to the emergency warming shelter, the director was extremely appreciative and expressed her gratitude.

-- Donna J. Morgan




## Lenten Services 2026

The Ash Wednesday service on February 18 will be at Grace Lutheran Church. This year the services will be evening prayer services from each of the traditions that are participating. **SUPPER BEGINS AT 5:30 PM** with the video starting after everyone has soup. Our **SERVICES WILL START AT 6:45 PM** and with the shorter format of prayer services for the second through fifth weeks will be done by 7:30 PM. The Maundy Thursday Service will be hosted by Trinity Episcopal. The Tre Ore Service will be hosted by First Presbyterian from Noon – 3 pm on Good Friday, April 3. All are welcome!

Service	Host Church
<b>Ash Wednesday February 18</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	Grace Lutheran
<b>Wednesday Weekly February 25</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	First Presbyterian
<b>Wednesday Weekly March 4</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	Trinity Episcopal
<b>Wednesday Weekly March 11</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	First United Methodist
<b>Wednesday Weekly March 18</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	Grace Lutheran
<b>Wednesday Weekly March 25</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	First United Methodist
<b>Maundy Thursday April 2</b> 5:30 PM Soup/6:45 PM Worship	Trinity Episcopal
<b>Good Friday Tre Ore April 3</b> Noon – 3 PM	First Presbyterian



# February



## Anniversaries of Baptism



**February 3**  
Darlene Freel

**February 5**  
Judith Douglas

**February 12**  
Thomas Lappan

**February 13**  
Stephanie Adamski

**February 16**  
Alexandra Priebe

**February 19**  
Rhonda Himes  
Cody Suszek

**February 22**  
Joseph Gentry  
Steven Lappan

**February 23**  
Mitchell Agius  
Judy Black  
Laura Thompson

**February 24**  
Kenda Yochum

**February 25**  
Gracelyn Gohlke

**February 26**  
Kurt Smith

**February 27**  
Matthew Haske

## Birthdays



**February 2**  
Brianna Himes  
Charles McKay

**February 3**  
Alexandra Priebe

**February 4**  
Kathryn Reynolds

**February 5**  
Eleanor Coddington  
Kurt Smith

**February 6**  
Stephanie Ihnat

**February 7**  
Jeremy Jacobs

**February 10**  
Kaitlyn Schultz  
Tracey Urlaub

**February 15**  
Matthew Haske  
Cheryl Werblow

**February 18**  
Joel Suszek

**February 19**  
Jon Carr  
Michael Dekett  
Trevor Denstaedt  
Taylor Hayward

**February 20**  
Maggie O'Connor

**February 22**  
Mary Rowader

**February 24**  
Barb Werle

**February 27**  
Joshua Engstrom

**February 28**  
Astrid Fitzpatrick



## Wedding Anniversaries

2nd  
16th

Gerald & Barbara Mudge  
Gene & Cynthia Domrase

## **Financial Summary for 2025**

Listed below are the final numbers:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Contributions	\$252,425	\$224,361
Spending	\$252,425	\$249,519

As shown, our contributions were well below budget and actual spending. The shortfall of \$25,158 that contributions were below actual spending means our bank balance took a significant drop last year. Fortunately, we started 2025 with a healthy account balance and despite the shortfall we ended the year with an account balance of \$160,184.

After experiencing two years of contributions exceeding spending, we need to understand the sudden shortfall in 2025. The Finance Work Group is already investigating the numbers to find the reasons and to initiate actions to turn this negative year around.

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Budget</u>
2021	\$204,547	\$215,531	(\$10,984)	\$233,415
2022	199,987	223,058	(\$23,071)	\$232,745
2023	248,890	230,727	\$18,163	\$238,495
2024	240,657	232,189	\$8,468	\$246,288
2025	224,361	249,519	(\$25,158)	\$252,425

As we enter 2026 with a Budget of \$250,252, we need to revisit the Stewardship letter of November 18, 2025 and ask ourselves if our giving to Grace is where we want it to be.

Dennis Werblow, Treasurer

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

### Sunday – 22nd

8:50 am Choir Practice  
9:00 am Sunday School  
9:30 am **Worship**  
11:00 am Adult CE - Lounge

### Monday - 23rd

8am-noon Church Office Open  
5:30 pm Feeding Kids Ministry  
Packing - Sunset School

### Tuesday - 24th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
9:00 am Sewing/Quilting  
11:00 am Pastor's Text Study

### Wednesday - 25th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
1:00 pm Ruth Circle - Lounge  
5:30 pm Soup Supper &  
6:45 pm **Worship** at  
First Presbyterian

### Thursday - 26th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
1:30 pm ReBoot Mtg.  
5:30 pm Catechism  
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

### Friday - 27th

8am-noon Church Office Open

### Saturday - 28th

5:00 pm **Worship**

## SERVING FEBRUARY 21/22

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
**Pastor**.....Rev. Tom Orth  
**Music Director** ..... Claire Witt  
**Recorded Accompaniment** .....Kat Tomaszewski  
**Comm. Asst.**..... Audrey Garant, Wayne Lewis  
**Lector** ..... Joe Gentry  
**Ushers**.....Wayne & Chris Christopherson,  
Mary Rowader

**Greeters** ..... Joel & Cindy Suszek  
**Altar Guild**..... Nancy Platt  
**Livestream Team**.....Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter,  
Don LaBarre, Alex Struble

**Counters**..... Wayne & Chris Christopherson,  
Darlene Freel

**Coffee Hour** .....Pat Schultz, Dawn Anderson,  
Darlene Freel

## SERVING FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
**Pastor**.....Rev. Tom Orth  
**Music Director** ..... Claire Witt  
**Recorded Accompaniment** .....Kat Tomaszewski  
**Comm. Asst.**.....Joe Gentry, Stephanie Suszek,  
Cindy Domrase

**Lector** ..... Audrey Garant  
**Ushers**..... Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom,  
Cindy Domrase (Sat.)

**Greeters** ..... Wayne & Chris Christopherson  
**Altar Guild**..... Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips  
**Livestream Team**.....Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter,  
Don LaBarre, Alex Struble

**Counters**..... Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek,  
Stephanie Suszek

**Coffee Hour** ..... Joel & Cindy Suszek

**Large print worship folders & hearing  
assistance devices are available from ushers**

### GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Web Site: [www.gracelutheran-alpena.org](http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org)

Give online at [www.gracelutheran-alpena.org](http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Thomas W. Orth

**Pastor's Home** 989-356-8729 **Pastor's Cell Phone** 989-916-8759

**E-mail:**

[pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org](mailto:pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org)

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