Grace Lutheran Worship Folder January 6 & 7, 2024



Watch worship online - connect through 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."

<u>GATHERING</u>

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, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: God, our rock and refuge,
- C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.
- P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. We are God's beloved.

R671

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Shine, Jesus, Shine"



θ Blaze, Spir-it, blaze, Flow, riv-er, flow, set our hearts on fire. flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word, 0 Lord, and let there be light! the light shin 1. Lord, of your love is ing, In the -2. Lord. to your awe - some Ι come pres ence. From the on your king - ly bright - ness, 3. As we gaze So our midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je sus, Light of the shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By blood the Ι may dis - play fac your like - ness, Ev chang - ing from es er world, shine up - on Set free by the truth you now us; us ter your bright-ness; Search me, try me, con-sume all en my glo Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your glo ry to ry, Refrain θ σ bring Shine Shine us: on on me; me. dark - ness: Shine Shine on me; on me. Shine Shine on sto ry: on me; me.

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GREETING

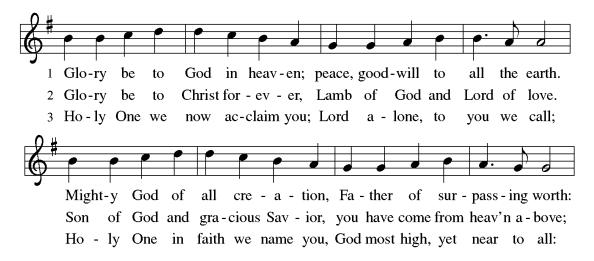
- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

KYRIE



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HYMN OF PRAISE





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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(the assembly may be seated)

<u>WORD</u>

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

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All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)
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¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush¹ the oppressor.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations[|] do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation. as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- 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



- P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
- C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him: ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea: for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when vou have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold. frankincense, and myrrh.¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

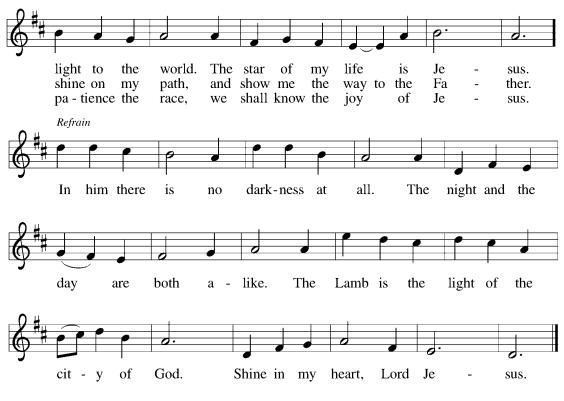
P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)





Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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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: Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.

<u>MEAL</u> God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

OFFERING

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

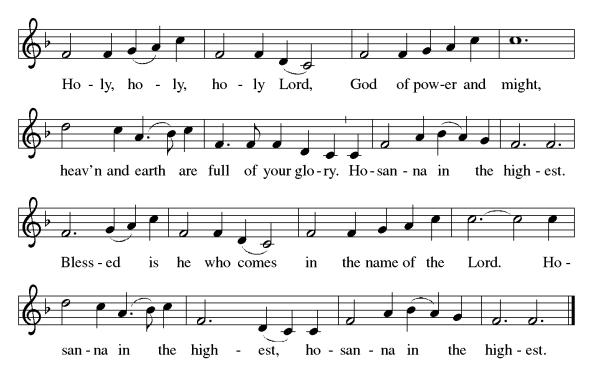


Words: M F C Wilson. Text copyright 1988, Lorenz Publishing, All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-708789

- P: Let us pray...Blessed are you, Holy One,
- C: for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. 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:



EUCHARISTIC 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.



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.



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

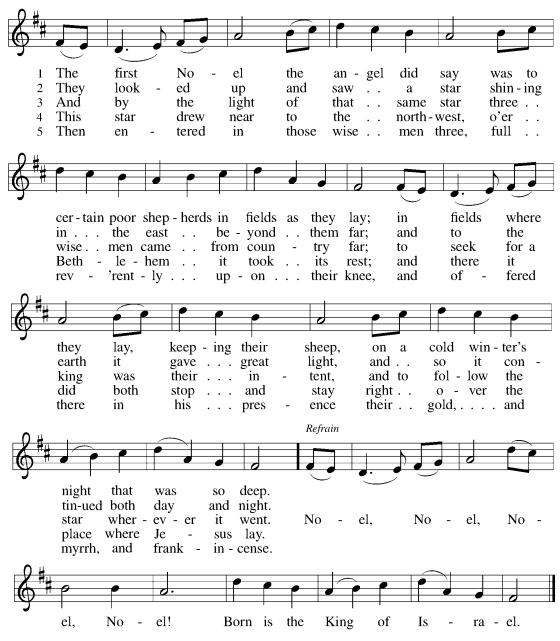
(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.



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COMMUNION HYMN "The First Noel"



R300

Text: English traditional Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional This selection is in the public domain. (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 every gift,
- C: Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

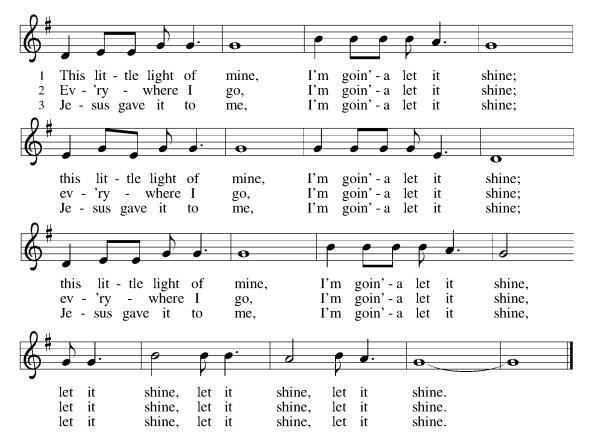
BLESSING

P: God who names us, Christ who claims us, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, + bless us and remain with us always.

R677

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "This Little Light of Mine"



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

can spiritual Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.C: Thanks be to God.



POSTLUDE

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Mary Barney-Bock, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Harry Kautz, Lisa Wooll, Kristin Berles, Don Barnard, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry & Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski, Katherine Rettell -- Annie Olsen, Brenda Donajkowski, Carl Smith, Rev. Laraine Sundin, Rev. Sarah Samuelson, Arlene Bettega, Judy Cattin, Sarah Cattin, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Joanne Coughlin, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Emily Cross, and Joseph Hansen.

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Sunday Supper Program at Trinity Episcopal Church. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Advent Lutheran Church/ Lake Ann, Rev. Timothy Jahn, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

UNDECORATE THE CHURCH - SUNDAY JANUARY 7TH

After we celebrate the coming of the Wisemen Sunday morning, help take down the decorations from the sanctuary and church after worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, January 21st.

HELP NEEDED

Someone, or a Team, to keep our outside sign up to date with latest events and announcements. Every week or two to change letters. See Pastor Tom for more info.

QUILTERS NEWS

The Quilters gave 10 lap robes to the Blue Horizon Group Home for Developmentally Disabled Adults. Thank you to the Tuesday morning group for sharing your ministry of time and gifts with others.

ADULT CE FOR JANUARY 14

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith - Methodist Traditions

Our Sunday morning class returns to exploring other Christian denominations by looking at the Methodist traditions. The United Methodist Church is a full communion partner with the ELCA. The UMC is currently undergoing a split with many churches leaving. We will explore the tradition and where they are today.

THANK YOU TO ALL - WHO HELPED MAKE CHRISTMAS EVE & WEEKEND SERVICES HAPPEN

Without all of you, we could not have done it for about 32 more people on Christmas Eve this year than last.

From decorators, bell choir, chancel choir, special music, altar guild, ushers, greeters, acolyte & crucifer, lectors, communion assistants, livestream team who did their part, THANK YOU. To those who stepped up and pitched in where needed. THANK YOU. To those who filled in at the last minute, THANK YOU. To the staff who also had extra work for the services on the weekend, THANK YOU. Pastor Tom

NEW CHURCH ACCOMPANIST FOR ORGAN AND/OR PIANO

We have reposted the announcement on our Facebook page. Your specifically "sharing" the post, beyond just liking, will spread the word more online. Thank you.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR) PERSONAL CARE KITS

Once again we will be collecting items for LWR Personal Care Kits. Please contribute what you are able to. Items needed for each kit (new items please):

- One light-weight bath-size towel (20"x40" to 52"x27"), <u>dark color</u> recommended
- 2-3 bath-size bars of soap totaling 8-9 oz, in original packaging (no mini-hotel size bars, please)
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap)
- One sturdy comb (no picks or fine toothed combs)
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please mark the envelope "Personal Care Kits." If writing a check, please make it out to "Grace Lutheran Church."

Collection will take place throughout January 2024. Items may be placed in tall basket just outside the Fellowship Hall.

ALTAR GUILD HELP NEEDED

We are in need of help on Sunday mornings in February for Altar Guild clean up following our morning service. If you are able to help with this please contact the church office. Thanks!

THANK YOU - FROM PASTOR TOM

Thank you to the congregation for the Christmas gift that you gave me. It is special and appreciated. I am thinking of some special photography projects this year that it will help make possible. Again, thank you.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.

GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR DECEMBER 2023

Average needed in December (4 weeks) to meet budget\$ 18,344.00Monthly Giving - December21,509.47

We received:

151 envelopes, 64 Simply Giving recurring payments, and 9 Give+ payments made from our website



Birthdays



Anniversaries of Baptism

January 1 Jessica Timm

January 5 Ava Lappan

January 6 Anna-Marie Struble

January 7 Douglas Chroninger Olivia Haske

January 17 Erika Nicholls

January 18 Nancy Stachnik





January 19 Sandra Malaski Meredith Smith

January 20 Matthew Freel

January 21 Kasandra McInerney Ricky Slater

January 24 Brody Nowak

January 25 Lisa McIntosh

January 30 Hannah Matzke Erin McCourt

January 31 Brent Welch



January 2 Mitchell Agius

January 5 Judy Black Ryan Schultz

January 7 Susan Stacey

January 9 Arnold Jahnke

January 10 Michael Herrmann Elfie Jahnke Kat Tomaszewski

January 12 Rick Engstrom David Hansen **January 16** Levi Konarzewski Allison Urlaub

January 19 Rhonda Himes

January 22 Michael Lang Elsa Phillips

January 25 Pamela Nowak

January 28 Jerry Charter

January 29 Madelyn Boyd

January 30 Judy Dorr Adam Urlaub



HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 7th

9:00 am	Choir Practice
9:30 am	Worship
11:00 am	Brunch & Un-Decorate
	The Church

Monday - 8th

8am-noon 8am-2pm 6:00 pm Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved Remembering Our Children - Lounge

Tuesday - 9th

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

Wednesday - 10th

8am-noon 8am-2pm 6:00 pm Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved Bell Choir Practice

Thursday - 11th 8am-noon

Church Office Open

Church Office Open

Friday - 12th 8am-noon

<u>Saturday - 13th</u> 5:00 pm

Worship

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

SERVING JANUARY 6/7

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
	orClaire Schreiber
Recorded Ac	companimentKat Tomaszewski
Lector	Sharon Engstrom
Communion	Asst Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis
Ushers. Wayı	ne & Chris Christopherson (Sun.)
J	oel Fraley, Cindy Domrase (Sat.)
Greeters	Bill & Nancy Platt
Altar Guild	Arlis St. Charles (Set Up)
	Joe & Dawn Gentry (Clean Up)
Livestream T	eam Dawn Anderson, Jan
	Charter, Don LaBarre
Counters	Gary & Kay Grove
Coffee Hour	Joel & Cindy Suszek

SERVING JANUARY 13/14

Ministers
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Music DirectorClaire Schreiber
Recorded AccompanimentKat Tomaszewski
Lector Bob Greene
Communion Asst Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis
Ushers. Wayne & Chris Christopherson (Sun.)
Joel Fraley, Cindy Domrase (Sat.)
Greeters Steve & Janie Hansen
Altar Guild Arlis St. Charles (Set Up)
Joe & Dawn Gentry (Clean Up)
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan
Charter, Don LaBarre
Counters
Coffee HourRuby Haske & Family

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640 Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org Give online at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth Pastor's Home 989-356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 989-916-8759 <u>E-mail</u>: pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org

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