# Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

February 24 & 25, 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."

# **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 writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.
- C: Amen.
- P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

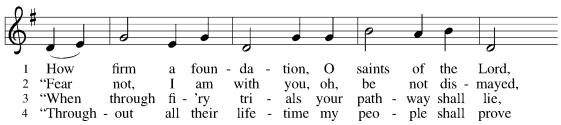
Silence is kept for reflection.

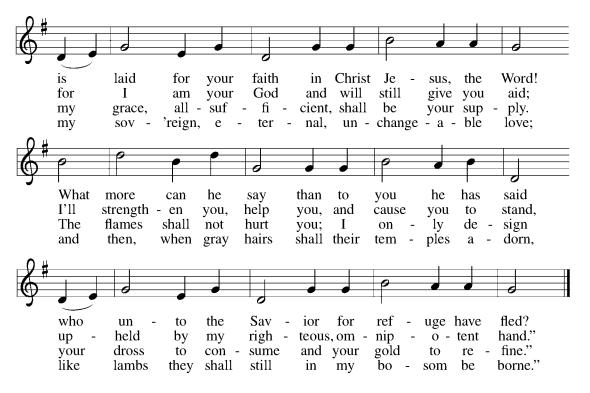
- P: Holy God,
- C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.
- P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
- C: Amen.

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

"How Firm a Foundation"

**R796** 





Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

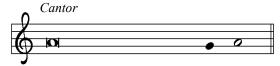
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American This selection is in the public domain.

#### GREETING

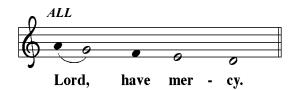
P: The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

#### **KYRIE**



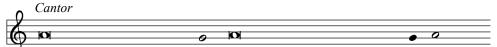
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



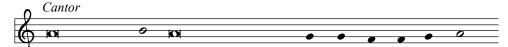


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

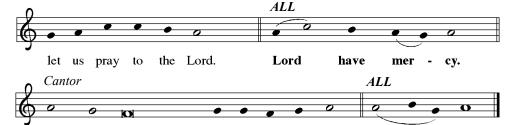


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# **HYMN OF PRAISE**



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of 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 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 22:23-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;

## but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- <sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.
- <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

#### Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." 19He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it

was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

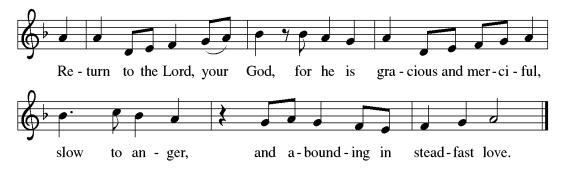
L: The word of the Lord.

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 Mark.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

#### Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

#### **HOMILY**

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY** "Faith of Our Fathers"

**R812** 



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

This selection is in the public domain.

#### 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)



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...Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
- C: Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

C: And also with you.

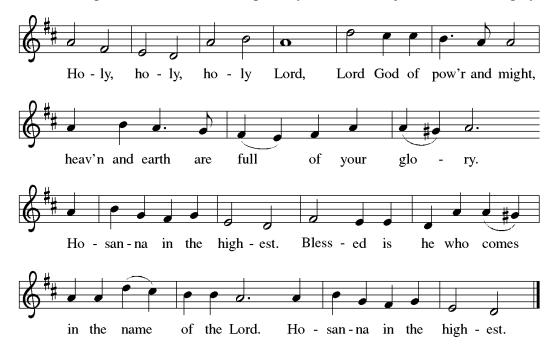
P: Lift up your hearts.

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:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

- P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe...
  With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection and new life: ... Grace our table with your presence.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

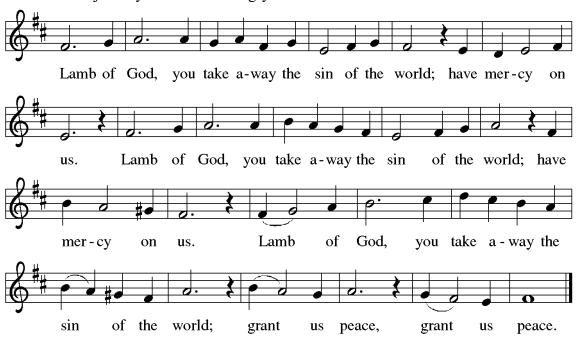
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

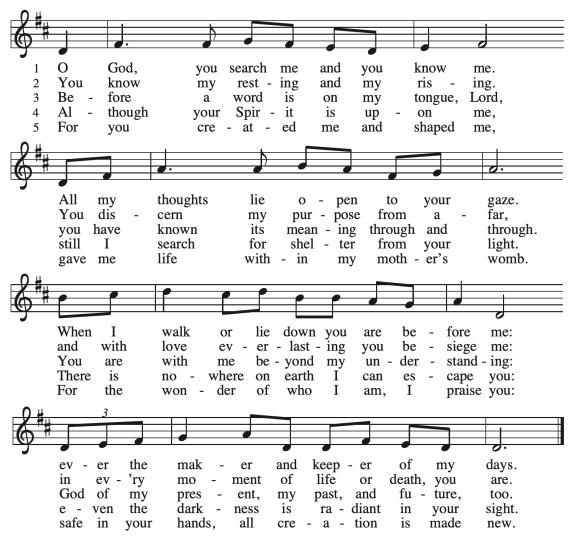
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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) Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!





Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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Music: O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME, Bernadette Farrell

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(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.

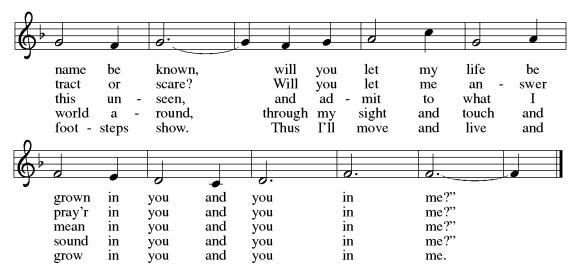
- P: Let us pray...Generous God,
- C: at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

#### BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless us and keep us, shower us with mercy, fill us with courage, and + give us peace.

C: Amen.





Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

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 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

Ali Lewis, Tammy Furze, 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 -- Jerry Austin, Annie Olsen, Brenda Donajkowski, Rev. Laraine Sundin, Rev. Sarah Samuelson, Arlene Bettega, Duane Morin, 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 Youth Ministry at All Saints Catholic Parish. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Hope Lutheran Church/Marlette, Rev. John Sleziak, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

#### **ADULT CE FOR FEBRUARY 25**

# Our Neighbor's Faith - Christian and Missionary Alliance

We continue our look at other Christian traditions with the Christian and Missionary Alliance denomination. We will at their thinking and practices and compare it to ELCA Lutherans. Join us at 11 for our discussion in the Lounge.

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER

**Sunday, April 28, 2024** 

The dinner will be held here at Grace and catered by JJ's. Cost: \$20/person.

#### YOU ARE INVITED TO SING WITH THE COMMUNITY CHOIR

You are invited to sing with the Community Choir for the ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service on March 29th. Rehearsals will be held at 6:30 p.m. on March 7 and March 14 at First Congregational UCC, and 6:30 p.m. on March 21 and 11:15 a.m. on March 29 at First United Methodist Church on Ripley for a final run-through. Any questions call Kat Tomaszewski at 989.255.8750 or Sandy Jarmuzewski at 989.255.7894. Please note change in rehearsal times previously posted.

#### CATECHISM CLASSES STARTING UP

Want to help our youth continue to grow their faith? Join the Catechism Team as classes begin. See Pastor Tom for more info.

#### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - GIFTS OF LOVE - ON THE FARM

During the Lenten Season, Grace will be participating in the LWR Gifts of Love On the Farm program. We will be collecting funds to donate various farm animals and farming seeds through Lutheran World Relief. Information will be available in the coming week on how to donate and the farm animals that will be given as gifts from our congregation. Thank you for making a Christ-like difference in our world!

#### LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

*Lifted Up in Love* devotionals inspired by Henri Nouwen writings are available on the cabinet in the Office Lobby and on the tables entering the sanctuary.

#### PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

# Grace Lutheran Rummage Sale - August 23 & 24

Please remember our rummage sale as you are Spring cleaning.

# **Quilters Game Night at Grace - October 17**

More details coming as these events get closer!

#### EASTER FLOWERS

This year we are asking for donations for Easter flowers for the church in lieu of individual plants. Donations may be made in honor or memory of someone. Several larger plants will be ordered with the money collected to beautify our sanctuary for our Easter service. Forms are available on the table in the Office Lobby. Deadline to submit forms with information to be included in the Easter bulletin is March 17.

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2023**

Listed below are the final numbers for last year:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Contributions	\$238,495	\$248,890
Spending	\$238,495	\$230,727

As shown, our contributions were above budget and our spending was under budget! These results helped us increase our bank accounts by \$20,986.

After starting 2023 with lower than expected contributions, we finished the year with increased giving thanks to many members responding to our need. Our Giving goal for 2024 is to meet our budget of \$246,288 so that we can continue to grow Grace's programs and activities for our members and community.



# Lenten Series 2024

Series Theme: Peace - Shalom - Wholeness - Wellness Soup Supper at 6pm. Worship services at 7pm.

# This year's offering goes to Hope Shores Alliance and The Friendship Room.

(Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church)

Date	Host	Preacher
February 28	First Congregational UCC	Rev. Dr. Daniel Maxwell
March 6	First United Methodist	Rev. Richard Hotchkin
March 13	First Presbyterian	Rev. Tom Orth
March 20	St. Paul Lutheran	Rev. Robert Nystrom
Maundy Thursday March 28	Trinity Episcopal	Rev. John Shipman
Good Friday March 29 12 PM	First United Methodist	



#### 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



# Anniversaries of Baptism

February 3

February 5

Darlene Freel

Judith Douglas

Thomas Lappan

Stephanie Adamski

Alexandra Priebe

February 12

February 13

February 16

February 19

Cody Suszek

Rhonda Himes



February 22
Joseph Gentry

**February 23**Mitchell Agius
Judy Black

Laura Thompson

Steven Lappan

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
Bob Stacey

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





2nd 12th 16th Gerald & Barbara Mudge Edward & Elvira Jahnke Gene & Cynthia Domrase

#### HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday – 25th	
9:00 am	Choir Practice
9:00 am	Sunday School
9:30 am	Worship
11:00 am	Adult Ed - Lounge
Monday - 26th	
8am-noon	Church Office Open
8am-2pm	Kitchen Reserved
6:15 pm	Friends of Alpena County
	Animal Control - Hall
Tuesday - 27th	
8am-noon	Church Office Open
9:00 am	Sewing/Quilting
11:00 am	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday - 28th	
8am-noon	Church Office Open

# Thursday - 29th

6:00 pm 6:00 pm

7:00 pm

8am-noon Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved 8am-2pm

#### Friday - 1st

8am-noon Church Office Open Fellowship Hall Reserved All Day

**Bell Choir Practice** 

Mid-Week Lenten Worship at 1st Congregational UCC

Soup Supper &

#### Saturday - 2nd

8am-4pm Fellowship Hall Reserved 5:00 pm Worship

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

#### **SERVING FEBRUARY 24/25**

Ministers God's People		
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth		
Music DirectorClaire Witt		
Recorded AccompanimentKat Tomaszewski		
LectorBill & Nancy Platt		
Comm. Asst Wayne & Chris Christopherson		
UshersMatt, Everett & Oliva Haske (Sun.)		
Wayne Lewis (Sat.)		
Greeters Wayne & Chris Christopherson		
Altar Guild Arlis St. Charles (Set Up)		
Nancy Platt, Brandi Stone (Clean Up)		
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan		
Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble		
Counters Wayne & Chris Christopherson,		
Darlene Freel		
Coffee HourJoe & Dawn Gentry		

SERVING MARCH 2/3
Ministers God's People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Music DirectorClaire Witt
Recorded AccompanimentKat Tomaszewsk
Lector Janet Bettega
Comm. Asst Joe Gentry/Wayne Lewis
Ushers Dale Schultz (Sun.)
Diane Prevost (Sat.)
GreetersJoe & Dawn Gentry
Altar Guild Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan
Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
CountersCheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Anne Gentry, Vicki Cripps

#### 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

E-mail:

pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org

View our services

on YouTube