

# *Grace Lutheran Worship Folder*

*February 14 & 15, 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** "On Eagle's Wings" Bell Choir

Michael Joncas/arr. Martha L. Thompson. Permission to stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

*(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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Mighty God, lover of justice,

**c:** **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

**P:** The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers us in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives our sin in + Jesus' name. May the Spirit give us strength to live for others, and bless us with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

R834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional This selection is in the public domain.

## GREETING

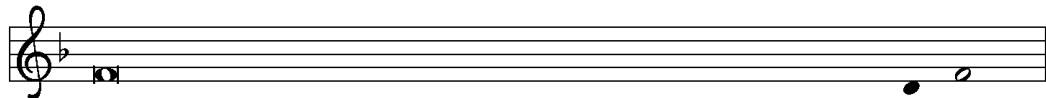
**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

**C:** And also with you.

## KYRIE



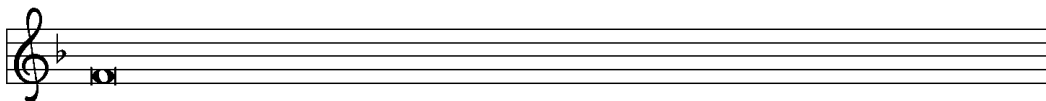
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



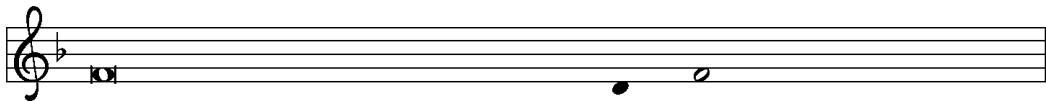
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



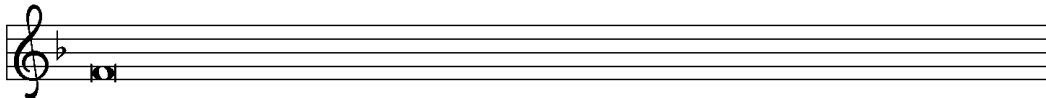
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



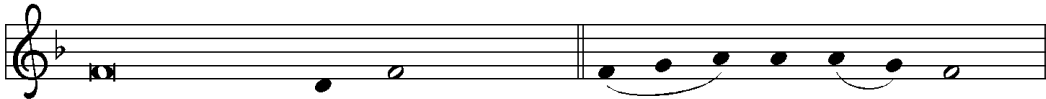
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



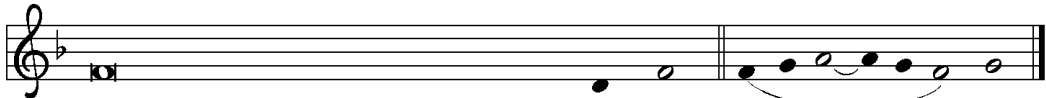
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,      you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through 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

#### **Exodus 24:12-18**

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the LORD” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **Psalms 2**

*You are my son; this day have I begotten you. (Ps. 2:7)*

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

<sup>2</sup> **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD’s anointed?**

- <sup>3</sup> “Let us break their yoke,” they say;  
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”
- <sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;  
the LORD holds them in derision.**
- <sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God speaks to them,  
and in rage fills them with terror.
- <sup>6</sup> **“As for me, I have anointed my king  
upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**
- <sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree of the LORD,  
who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.
- <sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
- <sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an iron rod  
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”
- <sup>10</sup> **And now, you kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
- <sup>11</sup> Submit to the LORD with fear,  
and with trembling bow in worship;
- <sup>12</sup> **lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

## **2 Peter 1:16-21**

*At the transfiguration, God’s voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God’s voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

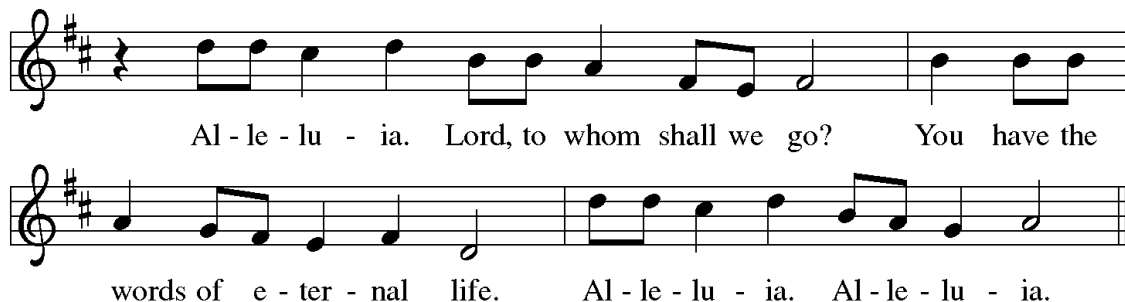
L: The word of the Lord.

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 17:1-9

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**P:** The Gospel of Our Lord.

**C:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

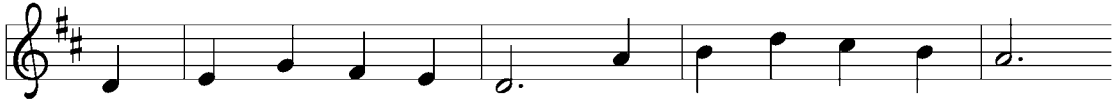
## HOMILY



*(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

R315



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

## 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,

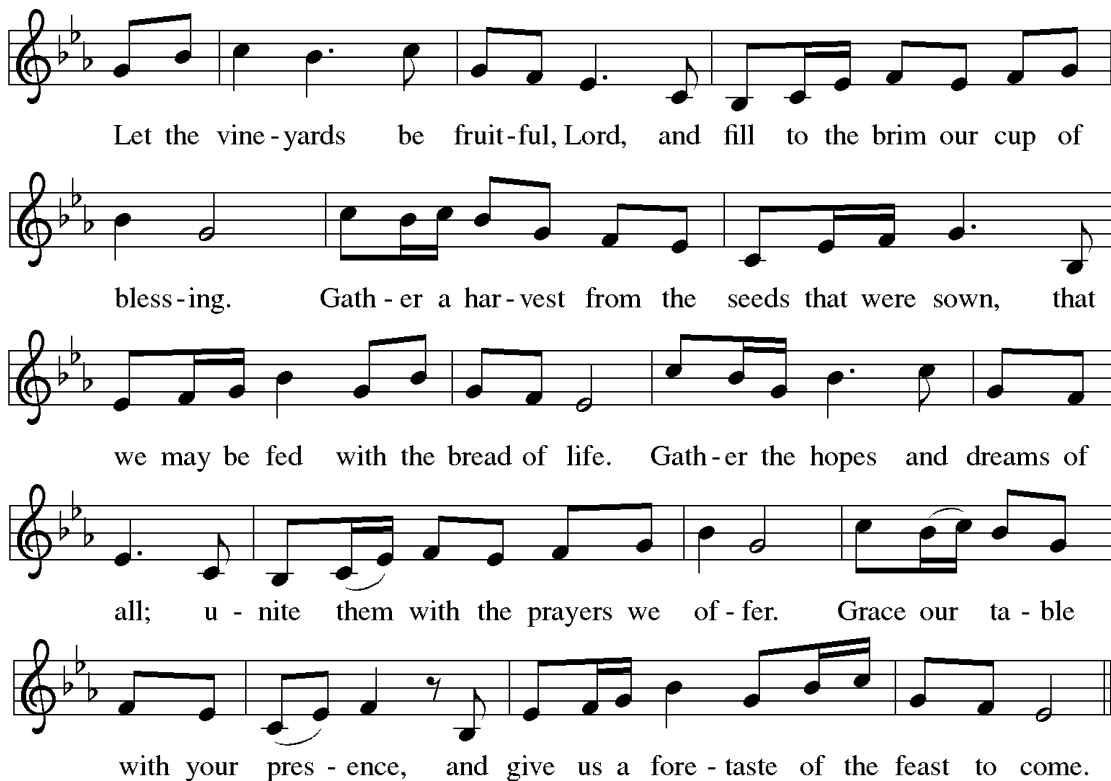
**C:** receive our prayer.

## 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)*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble  
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

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

**P:** Let us pray...God of majesty,

**C:** no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

**C:** And also with you.

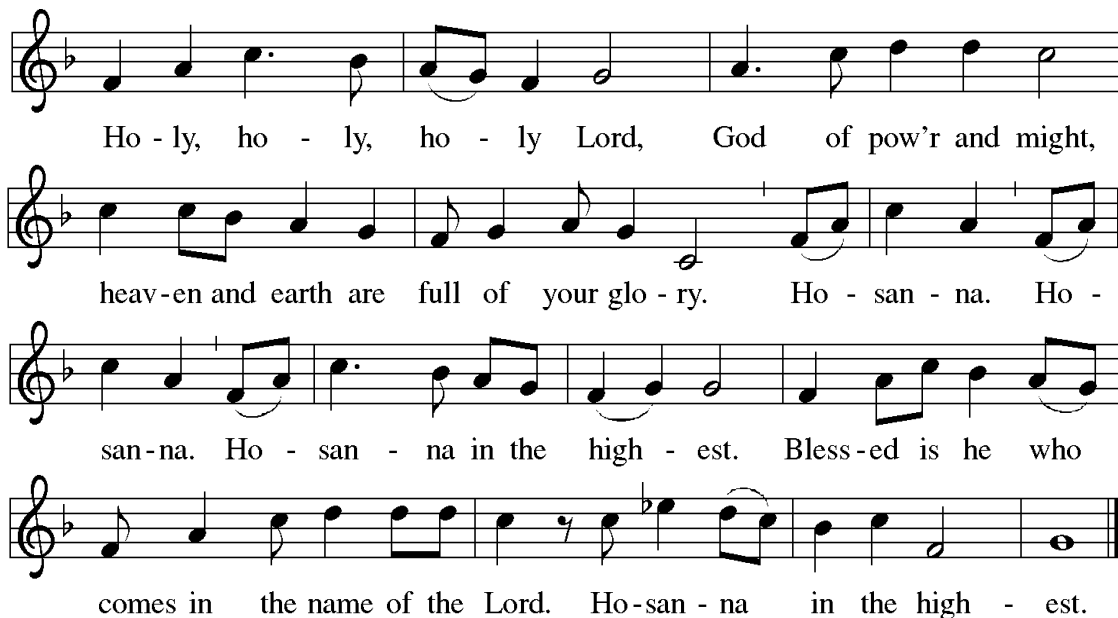
**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## **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.**

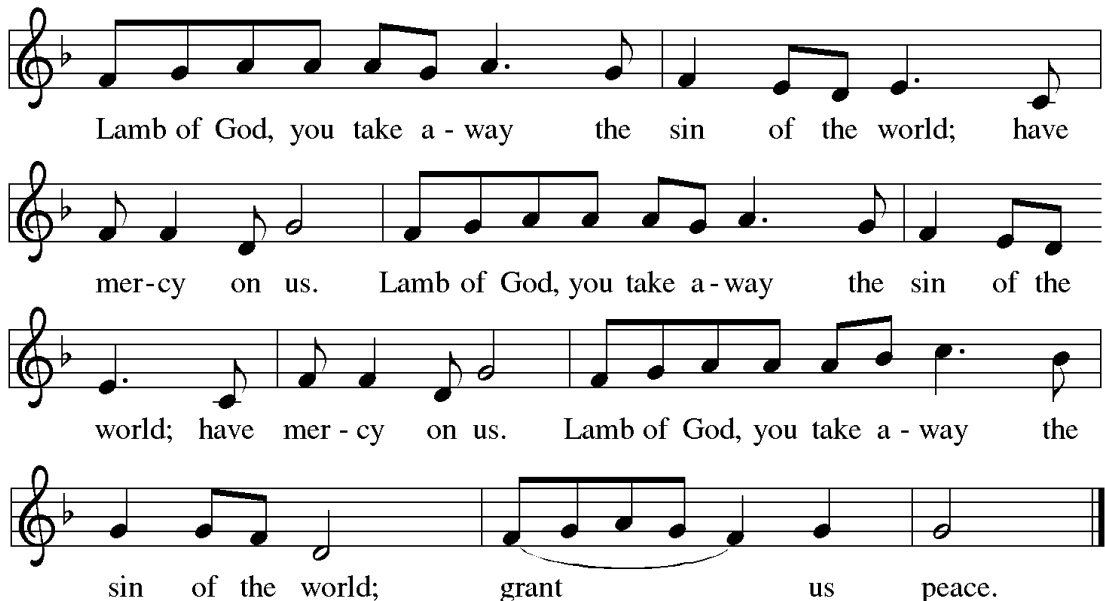
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

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

**P:** Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

**C:** Come to the table; taste and see.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

# COMMUNION HYMN “Beautiful Savior”

R838



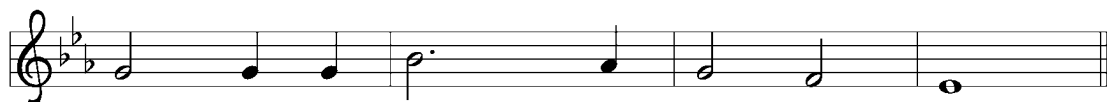
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

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...Radiant God,

C: we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **SENDING**

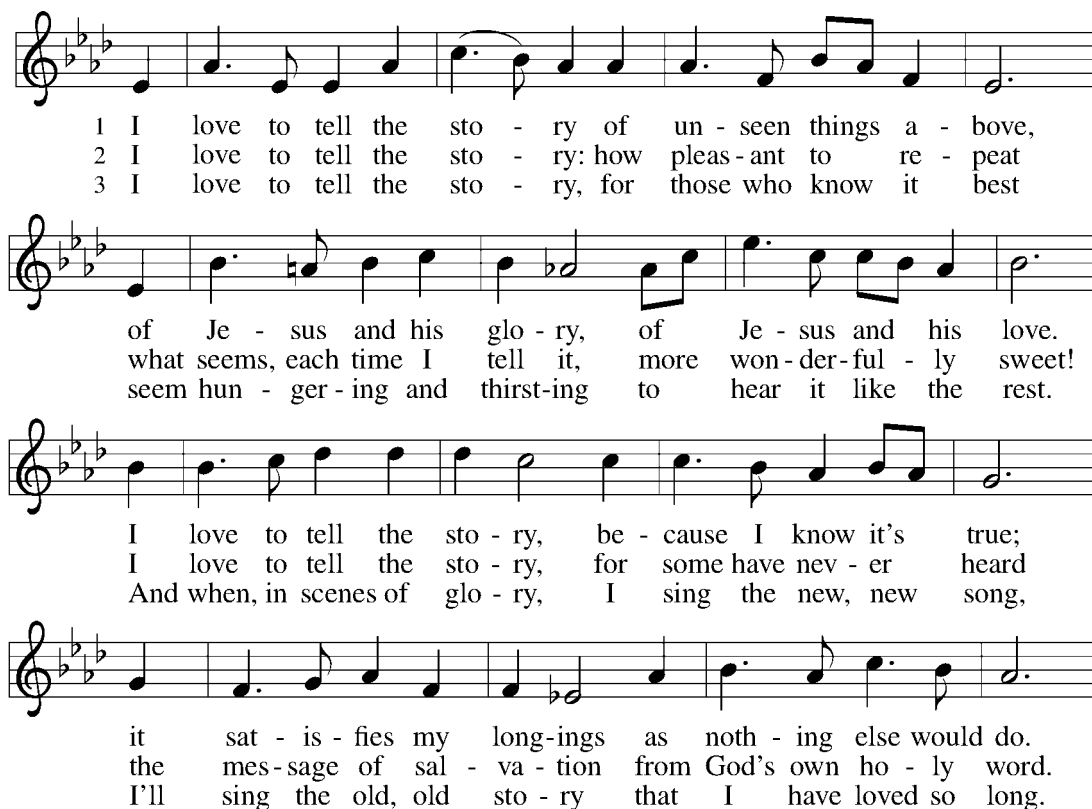
### **BLESSING**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in our mouths and tuned our hearts for praise + bless us now and forever.

C: Amen.

### **SENDING HYMN**      “I Love to Tell the Story”

**R661**



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911

Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936 This selection is in the public domain.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**P:** Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Walk humbly with God.

**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**

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, Lysie, 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 Kendzierski, Jeff Kendzierski, 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. We also remember the family of Tom Diemond (Jeff's father), who passed away this past week.

## **PRAYER PARTNERS**

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Funeral Service Groups at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Hope St. John's/Oscoda, Supply Pastors; 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 15**

### **Buddhist Walk for Peace**

The Buddhist monks and their dog walking across the country for peace have received quite a bit of attention. They are actively promoting their beliefs for peace and human connection. We will talk about promoting our beliefs, how we can go about that and about the contrast with opposing actions and policies that we think go against our faith and our understanding of God's love. Join us at 11 in the Lounge as we work out living our faith in the world today.

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - FAT SUNDAY POTLUCK**

Have a splurge. Join us for a celebration of Fat Sunday (our name for it!) before the season of Lent begins. Join us after our 9:30 a.m. worship service. There will be Paczki, of course!

## **LENTEN SERVICES - STARTING ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18**

This year we will learn more about the Biblical Prophets with a video series during our 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.

## **ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - AT GRACE**

Soup Supper at 5:30 PM with a video on Embracing the Prophets for discussion during supper. Worship in a prayer service format of the various traditions at 6:45. We will have imposition of ashes during the service. This year First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Trinity Episcopal and Grace Lutheran are participating together. Sign up for soups or breads that you can provide in the Office Lobby. Invite friends and neighbors to join us. **Looking ahead: February 25 at First Presbyterian and March 4 at Trinity Episcopal.** Hope to see you there.

## **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**

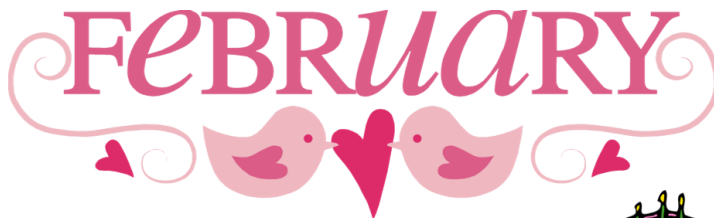
Help with packing for ***FEEDING KIDS*** at Sunset School. With lots of hands, we can be done easily within an hour. Sign up in the Office Lobby. Questions, see Pastor Tom.

## 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!

## 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.



### 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 – 15th **Fat Sunday Celebration**

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

### Monday - 16th

8am-noon      Church Office Open

### Tuesday - 17th

8am-noon      Church Office Open  
9:00 am      Sewing/Quilting  
11:00 am      Pastor's Text Study  
6:00 pm      Council

### Wednesday - 18th **Ash Wednesday**

8am-noon      Church Office Open  
5:30 pm      Soup Supper  
**6:45 pm      Worship**

### Thursday - 19th

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

### Friday - 20th

8am-noon      Church Office Open  
10 am-12 pm      Visitation &  
12 pm      Joanne Kindt Service

### Saturday - 21st

**5:00 pm      Worship**

## SERVING FEBRUARY 14/15

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

**Greeters** .....Joe & Dawn Gentry  
**Altar Guild**..... Nancy Platt  
**Livestream Team**.....Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter,  
Don LaBarre, Alex Struble

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

**Coffee Hour** ..... Wayne Lewis, Audrey Garant

## 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

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

**GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707

Phone: Office 989-354-2640

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)

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



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