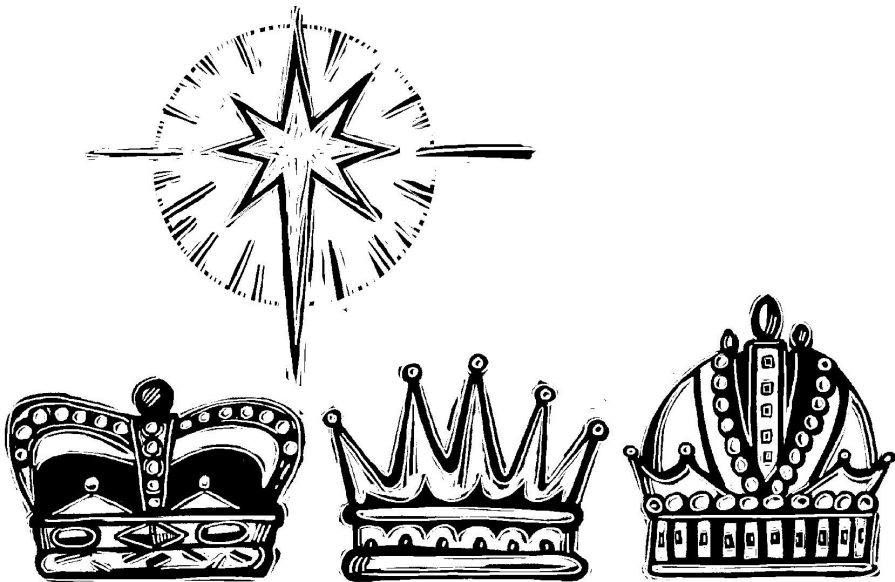


Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

January 3 & 4, 2026



EPIPHANY

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, 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.

C: Amen.



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWICZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

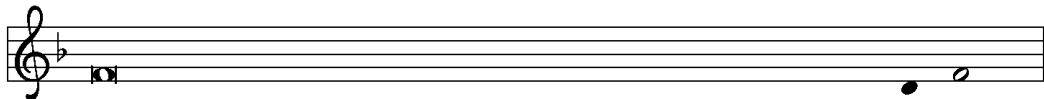
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE



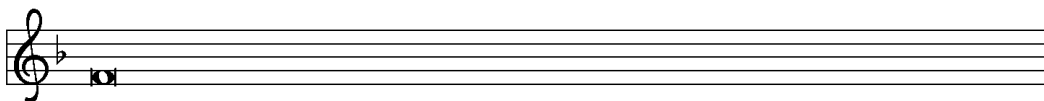
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



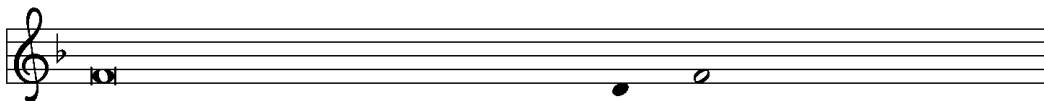
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



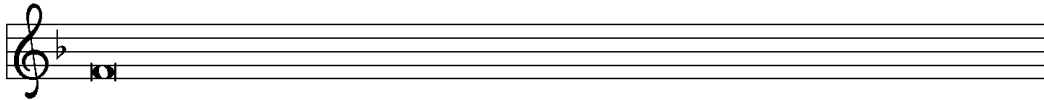
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



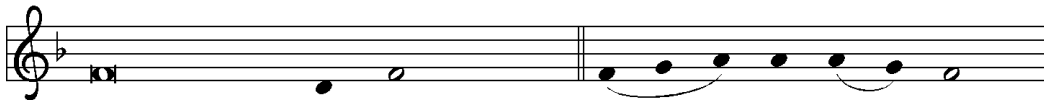
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



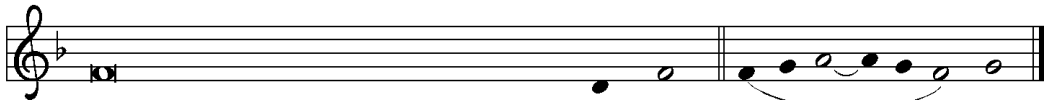
Lord, have mer - cy.



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, 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)

WORD

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

All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that 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 nations¹ 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—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and 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, ⁹and 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

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to 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; ⁴and 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 you 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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)

HYMN OF THE DAY “This Little Light of Mine”

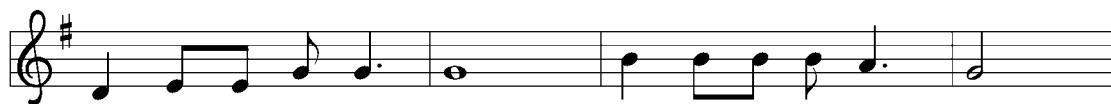
R677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

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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.

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...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:



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.

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.**

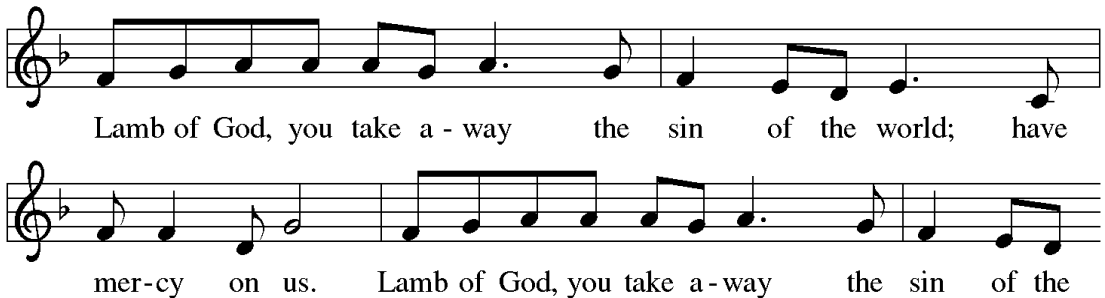
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

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

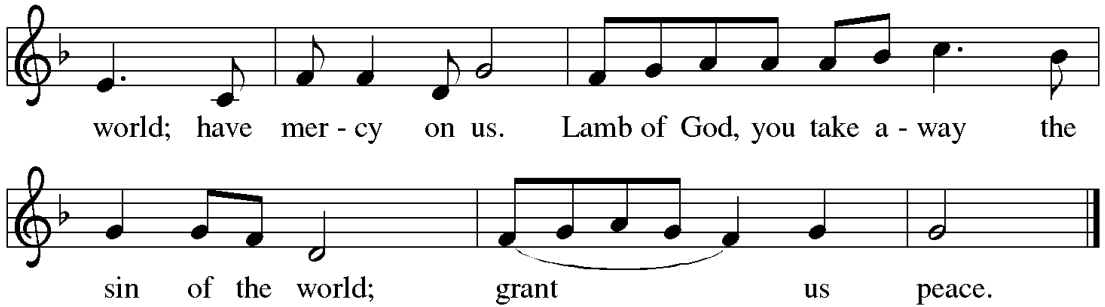
HOLY COMMUNION

(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.



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text: "mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the". The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



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

COMMUNION HYMN “Jesus, the Light of the World”

ACS914



- 1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
- 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je - sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je - sus, the Light of the world.
join the tri - umph of the skies; Je - sus, the Light of the world.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je - sus, the Light of the world.
Hail the Sun of right-teous-ness! Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain
Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

(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.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

R671

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,



flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,



Lord, and let there be light!



1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the
2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, From the
3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, So our



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By the blood I may
fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from



world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now
en - ter your bright - ness; Search me, try me, con - sume all my
glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your
Refrain



bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.
dark - ness: Shine on me; Shine on me.
sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

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

Tom Lappan, Ed Czarnecki, Patti Tucker, Bonnie Cross, Anna Lewis, Darlene Freel, Hope Kamyszek, Bill Whitscell, Joanne Kindt, 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 Diamond, 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. We also remember the families of Darlene Dekett, who passed away on December 23rd and the Michael Pankey, who passed away on December 28th.

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.

UNDECORATING THE CHURCH - SUNDAY JANUARY 4

Join in and help take down the Christmas decorations after worship on Sunday, January 4. We'll have a lunch and work together to take things down and put them away for next year.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

Have you changed your email address? Dropped your landline phone, and only use your cell? **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE** let the office know so we can be in touch with you. We've had trouble reaching some people recently.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY DRIVE - JANUARY 17 & 18

We willing do a collection from the congregation for the Little Food Pantry on Saturday and Sunday, January 17 & 18. As you shop if you could get an item or two of not perishable easy to prepare food. There is great need right now. Bring your items that week. If you see some specials or just want to drop items off at anytime, donations are always needed and welcome. Thank for helping those who have food insecurity.

RUTH CIRCLE DONATIONS

This year the Ruth Circle donated \$1,100 from their funds, contributing \$100 to each of the following charities: Hospice of Michigan, Samaritas, Sunrise Mission, Salvation Army, Alpena Sr. Center, Lutheran World Relief, Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Supper, Women of Haiti, The Friendship Room, Friends Together and WELCA membership. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support, which makes these gifts possible.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DOLLARS

\$400 was given to Toys for Kids program of Vietnam Veterans of America 583.

THANK YOU TO ALL

Thanks to all who helped make our Advent and Christmas worship services so special. From the decorations and those who put them up, to the bell ringers, singers and the livestream team. Your time and talents are deeply appreciated. Thanks to Peggy for all the extra work she does during this busy season. And thank you to everyone who shared your Christmas memories and traditions for us to enjoy.

FROM PASTOR TOM

Thank you for the very generous Christmas gift. It is appreciated. I am looking forward to some special things this Spring that this will help make happen.

NEW LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINES & DEVOTIONALS HAVE ARRIVED

New editions of Living Lutheran Magazine & Christ in Our Home have arrived. Pick up your copies in the Office Lobby.

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.

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



Birthdays



Anniversaries of Baptism



January 1
Jessica Timm

January 19
Sandra Malaski
Meredith Smith

January 5
Ava Lappan

January 20
Matthew Freel

January 6
Anna-Marie Struble

January 21
Kasandra McInerney
Ricky Slater

January 7
Douglas Chroninger
Olivia Haske

January 24
Brody Nowak

January 17
Erika Nicholls

January 25
Lisa McIntosh

January 18
Nancy Stachnik

January 30
Hannah Matzke
Erin McCourt

January 31
Brent Welch

January 2
Mitchell Agius

January 16
Levi Konarzewski
Allison Urlaub

January 5
Judy Black
Ryan Schultz

January 19
Rhonda Himes
Karen Peters

January 9
Arnold Jahnke

January 22
Michael Lang
Elsa Phillips

January 10
Michael Herrmann
Elfie Jahnke
Kat Tomaszewski

January 25
Pamela Nowak

January 12
Rick Engstrom
David Hansen

January 28
Jerry Charter

January 29
Madelyn Boyd

January 30
Judy Dorr
Adam Urlaub



