

January 22, 2023
Grace Lutheran Church, Boulder, Colorado
Rooted in Grace + Reaching out in Christ's Love

Welcome to Grace!

+

In response to Christ’s boundless love, members of Grace share that love by inviting all – regardless of ethnicity or race, educational or religious background, economic, physical, mental or social condition, gender identity or sexual orientation – to come and participate in the life of Grace. We are glad you are joining us for this worship service!

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

PARTICIPATING MINISTERS IN THE WORK OF GRACE

Presiding Minister	Pastor Matthew Weber
Assisting Minister	Ron Schwiesow
Lector	Lan Zeckser
Organist & Pianist	Boyd Hamilton
Choir Director	Michael Hoffman
Lead Singers	Melissa Lubecke – soprano Simon Daum – tenor Sebastian Schmidt - bass
Altar Guild	Donna Rohde
Usher	Tom Lawson
Grounds	David Bartlett
Financial Counters	Patty Meyers & Nan Schwiesow
Office Administrator & Digital Worship Volunteer	Amy Stewart McIntosh

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GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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office@graceboulder.org | matthew@graceboulder.org

GATHERING

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

*we confess that we are in bondage to sin,
and cannot free ourselves.*

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

*For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us,
that we may be reconciled*

to you and to one another

for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

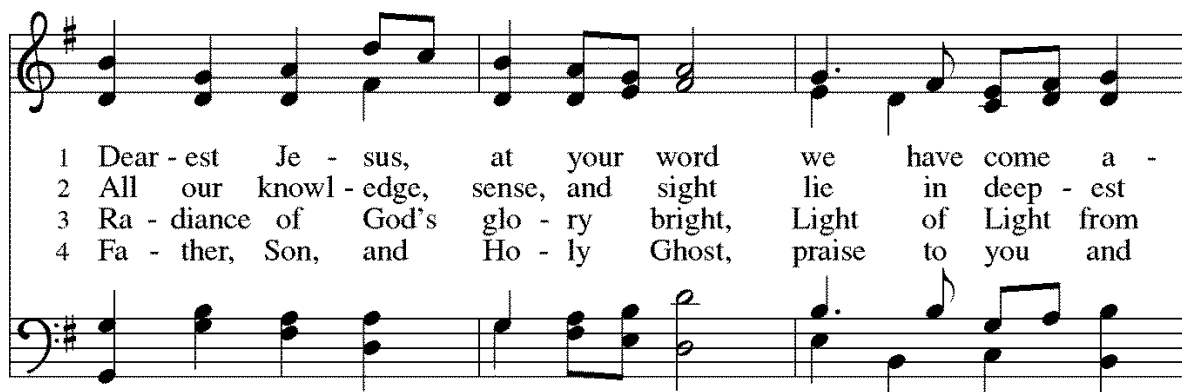
God's mercy renews our spirit, and makes all things new.
By the mercy of our God, we are forgiven
in the name of † Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen! Thanks be to God!

GATHERING

"Dearest Jesus, At Your Word"


ELW 520



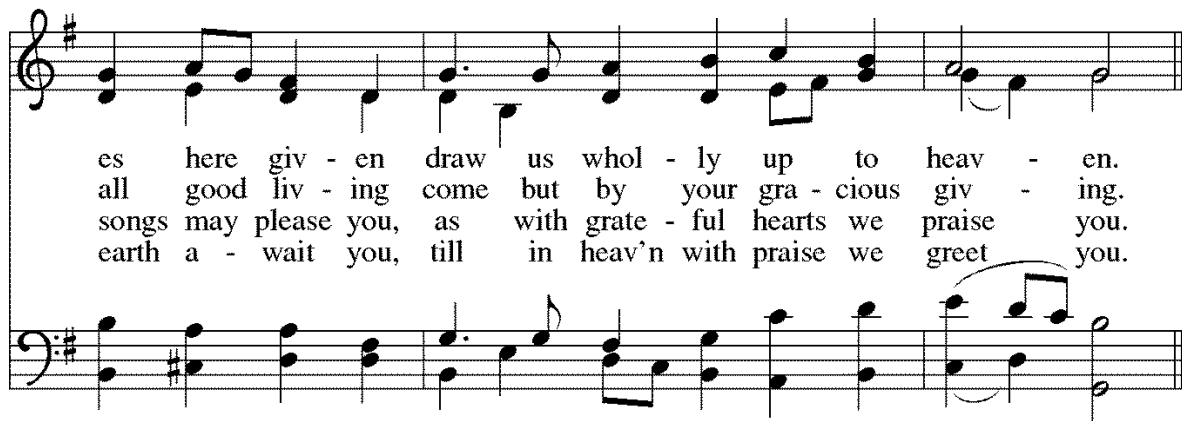
1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.


REETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

GLORIA

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Lord God,

your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross; in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them..

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴*One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the
temple.*

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden
places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶*Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround
me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of
rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.*

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸*My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.*

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God
of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

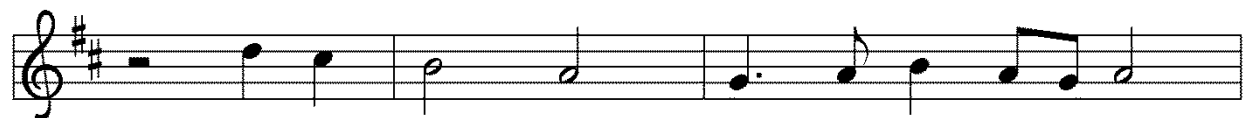
¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

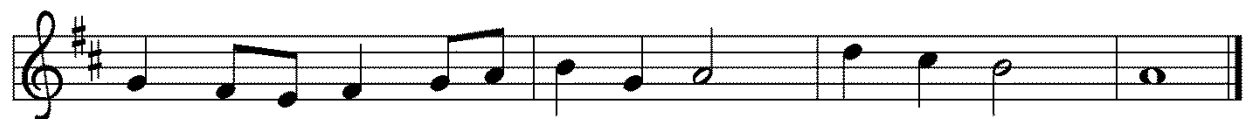
Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Matthew Weber

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

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a common time signature. The melody starts on a whole note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F4. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The lyrics are: "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.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody from the first system. The treble staff continues with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F2. The bass staff continues with chords and single notes. The lyrics are: "to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love." The system ends with a double bar line.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

*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 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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation, that our proclamation of your Gospel may be life giving to the world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and renew fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant to the world leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse us to care for our families, our neighbors, and all those who are in any need. We pray especially for those we name before you now ...
Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us. Help us by their example to leave our nets so that we can also follow you, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

At this time, you are invited to share a sign of peace with those who you are near in worship, keeping in mind the comfort and preferences of your neighbor. For those who are online, you're welcome to use the chat to share peace with one another.

OFFERING

Your stewardship at Grace is more important now than ever. You are invited to make financial contributions during worship, or to communicate with Amy about electronic giving options.

ANTHEM

“O Lux Beatissima”

Howard Helvey

O Light most blessed, fill the inmost heart of all thy faithful.

Without your grace, there is nothing in us.

Nothing that is not harmful.

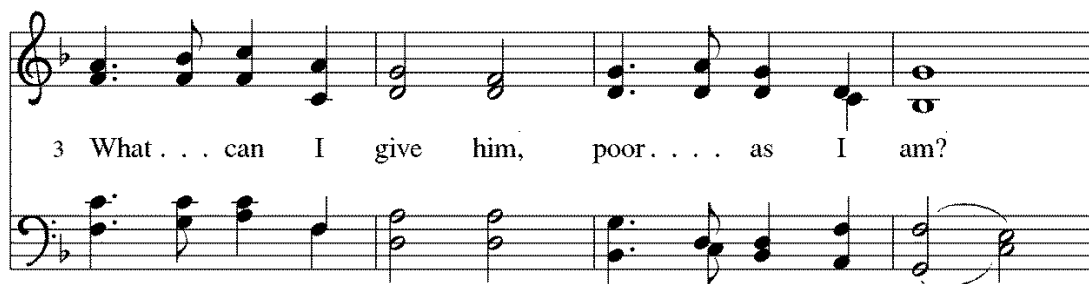
MEAL

OFFERTORY

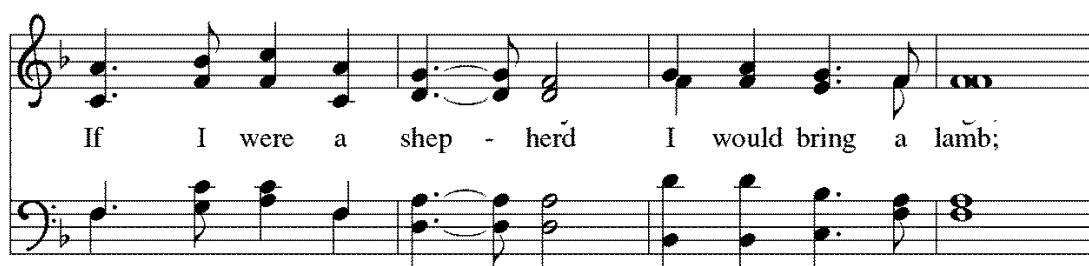
“In the Bleak Midwinter”

ELW 294

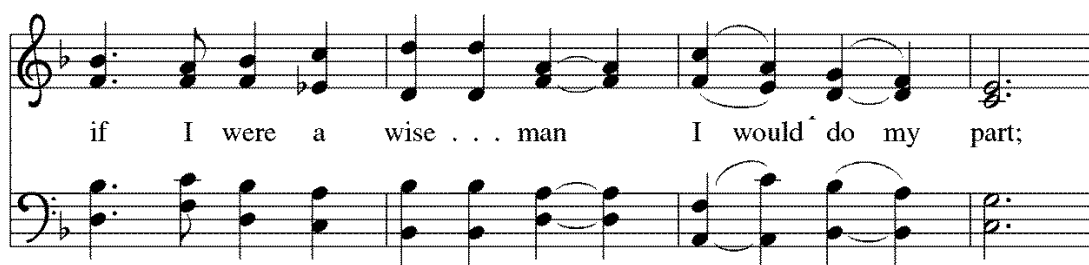
verse 3



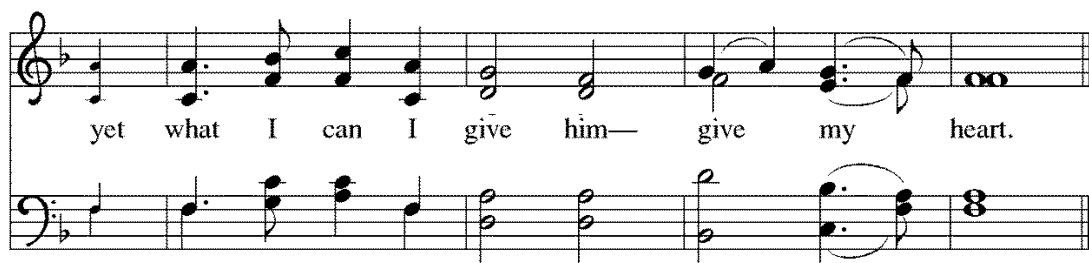
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice

and let the oppressed go free.

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving

for all your works of merciful power,

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

The first line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of two measures of music. The first measure contains the lyrics 'The Lord be with you.' and the second measure contains 'And al - so with you.' The melody is a simple, stepwise line of eighth notes.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

The second line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps. It consists of two measures of music. The first measure contains the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts.' and the second measure contains 'We lift them to the Lord.' The melody continues with a similar stepwise eighth-note pattern.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

The third line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps. It consists of one measure of music containing the lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The melody continues with a similar stepwise eighth-note pattern.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The fourth line of musical notation is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps. It consists of one measure of music containing the lyrics 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The melody concludes with a similar stepwise eighth-note pattern.

PROPER PREFACE

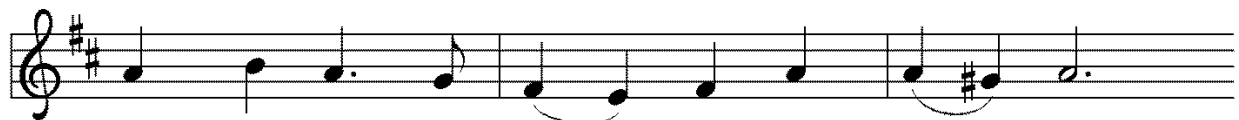
It is indeed right ...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



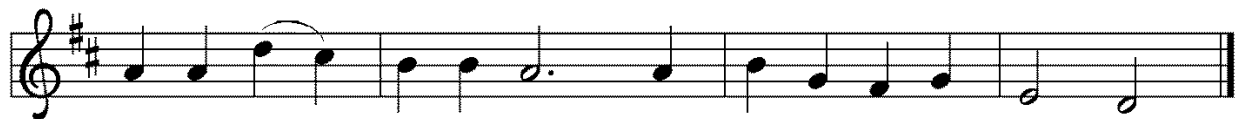
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being.
In Christ, the Lamb of God,
you have revealed yourself again to the world.
On the lakeshore, he called disciples
to make your infinite love known to the nations.

Having revealed himself to us,
He gathered with his disciples for a final meal.
That evening, before he was betrayed,
He took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying,
take and eat, this is my body given for you
do this for the remembrance of me.

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying
this cup is the new covenant in my blood
shed for you for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the resurrection of our living savior until he comes.



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

Filled with the Spirit,
who descended upon your Son at his Baptism,
we who have heard his call to follow
strive for Your heavenly kingdom.

To you be glory, almighty God,
in your holy church, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

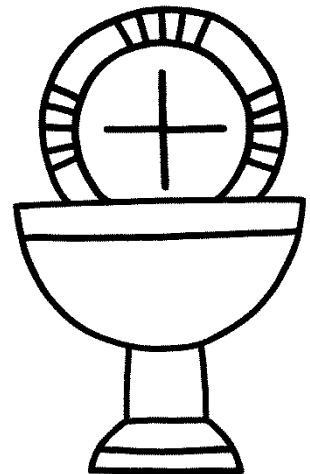
We pray the prayer our Savior taught us, saying:

*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.*

DISTRIBUTION

Come, taste and see the goodness of our God.

Thanks be to God!

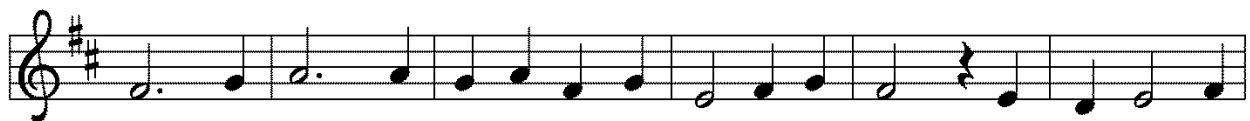


This is God's table. We invite all who are hungry for Christ's presence in their lives to receive these gifts of mercy and forgiveness at the table.

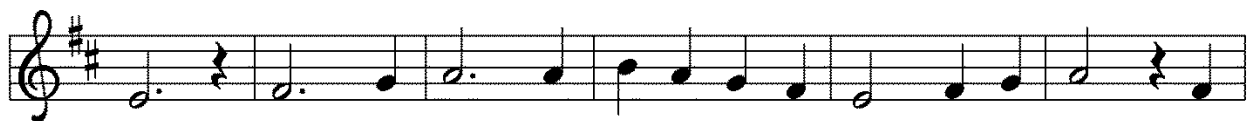
For those who are not in the sanctuary: if you don't have bread, or you don't have wine or grape juice, Martin Luther reminds us that God's grace is fully present in each element – that receiving only the bread or only the wine is receiving entire forgiveness.

Further, those of you who might not receive communion for whatever reason, please trust that God's forgiveness and mercy and love are fully and completely provided to you in ways additional to Holy Communion.

AGNUS DEI



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, grant us peace.



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone,
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy One,
we give you thanks for the healing
which springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', nyen' kwen - khos'
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
 We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

NOTES ABOUT MINISTRY BEYOND WORSHIP

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday, January 29

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12



We pray for **those undergoing treatment:**

- Tony Pappas (friend of John Laitinen)
- Marsha Herrmann (friend of Grace Lutheran Church) diagnosed with cancer
- Margurite DuPont (Tom Dozier's childhood friend) fighting metastatic breast cancer
- Karen O'Loughlin's Godchild
- Judy Lawson (Tom Lawson's relative)
- Mary Dorsett (former Grace member)
- Sam Anderson (Lorne & Mikki Matheson's friend)
- Robert Reish (Sandi Stahl's friend)
- Patrick Fallin (Hiroko Akima's friend)

We pray for friends and family **grieving the death of:**

- Nils Pearson (Mary Kay Geston's – former Grace music director – father)

We pray for **hope and healing** for:

- Stan Peterson (recovering from gall bladder removal)
- Betsey (Patty Meyers' neighbor) recovering from brain surgery
- Jerry Mercier (Patty Meyers' cousin)
- Susan Hull (Patty Meyers' friend) with ALS and other concerns
- Avis Fjestad (Anne Peterson's sister-in-law)
- Carl and Jan Stubenrauch
- Bob Meyers
- All those affected by the war in Ukraine
- Allan Wolfe
- Pete Tafoya
- Paul Herzegh (Charley and Mary Zabel's friend)
- Rich Harris (John Laitinen's cousin)
- Beaudin Larabee, in remission after CRT therapy (Charley and Mary Zabel's friend)

Grace Partner in Ministry

The designated Partner in Ministry (PiM) offering for January 2023 is: **The Asylum Ministry Fund.**

Grace Lutheran Church has a long history of helping refugees and asylum seekers, and the Asylum Ministry Fund sets aside resources for direct aid to individuals in and around Boulder on a case-by-case basis. At present, this fund is dedicated to providing support for Emmanuel Rusaka, who came to us at Grace in 2017 and is now in his 5th year as a pending asylee. Your donations contribute to his legal fees and education, and enable us to give his family in Congo stability during ongoing turmoil in that country.

Because of Emmanuel, we have an opportunity to live out what it means to be the family of God as we offer finances, prayer, and community to our brother from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Thanks to the **Grace Foundation**, all gifts through our designated offerings will be matched dollar for dollar in 2023 up to \$2,000/month. Please make your check to “Grace Lutheran Church” and add “PiM: Asylum Fund” to the memo line. You may place checks in the mail slot at Grace, send through the US mail, or use our electronic giving option Simply Giving on the Grace website. Thank you for your generosity!

Rooted in Grace

Adult Education meets on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am in Fellowship Hall. Please join us next week!

Please save the date for Grace's **Annual Congregational Budget Meeting**. This is an important time to come together and review the financial health of the church and approve or amend the proposed 2023 operating budget.

The meeting will take place after worship on Sunday, January 29, 2023. Participation by Grace members both in person and via Zoom is invited and encouraged!

Boulder County does not have a **mask mandate** in place for public spaces; Boulder County is currently recommending that people who are experiencing symptoms, or have tested positive, or have been exposed to COVID-19 wear a mask while out in public.

Our request at Grace is that those who gather for worship in person continue to wear masks during the liturgy. One significant goal is for everyone to feel comfortable and welcome in worship, especially since worship is the most important thing that we do as a Christian community. At post-worship fellowship and other non-worship events, everyone is invited to make their own decisions about masking. Of course, you are always welcome to continue wearing a mask at public events if you desire to do so.

If you have questions or concerns about the masking guidance at Grace (or anything else), please contact Pastor Matthew at any time at 720-301-9411 or matthew@graceboulder.org.

Lectionary Bible Study continues on Wednesday, January 25, at 11:00 am. The study focuses on the lectionary texts for the next Sunday's worship, taking a deeper dive than is possible within the constraints of the service. Join us for spirited discussion and fellowship time!

The readings for Sunday, January 29, 2023, are:

- **Micah 6:1-8** *The offering of justice, kindness, humility*
- **Psalm 15** LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (*Ps. 15:1*)
- **1 Corinthians 1:18-31** *Christ crucified, the wisdom and power of God*
- **Matthew 5:1-12** *The teaching of Christ: Beatitudes*

Reaching Out in Christ's Love

Thank you for your donations of blank greeting cards for the inmates of **New Beginnings**. Your cards allow the women to communicate with loved ones.

Remember **Harvest of Hope** food pantry when you shop for groceries this week. Our donations make a difference for those who struggle to find food each week.

This Week at Grace

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Sunday, January 22

- 8:45 am** **Adult Education, Fellowship Hall**
- 10 am** **Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary + via Zoom**
- 11:15 am** **Church Council Meeting, Fellowship Hall + via Zoom**

Monday, January 23

- 7-8 pm NA, Fellowship Hall
- 7-8 pm NarAnon, Library

Tuesday, January 24

- 12-1 pm Staff Meeting, via Zoom
- 12 -3 pm Fall Office Admin Hours, Off-site

Wednesday, January 25

- 9 am-12 pm Fall Office Admin Hours, On-site
- 11 am** **Lectionary Bible Study, via Zoom**
- 7:15-9 pm** **Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Thursday, January 26

- 9 am-12 pm Fall Office Admin Hours, On-site
- 9 am-12 pm** **Quilters, Fellowship Hall**

Friday, January 27

- 6-7 pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 8-9 pm NA Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 28

- 9 am-12 pm Organist Practice, Sanctuary

Sunday, January 29

- 8:45 am** **Adult Education, Fellowship Hall**
- 10 am** **Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary + via Zoom**
- 11:15 am** **Grace Annual Budget Meeting, Sanctuary + via Zoom**
- 7 pm Elizabeth Hansen Recital, Sanctuary