

**SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**February 3-4, 2024  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace  
Pastor Scott Hackler**

**OUR MISSION**

Proclaiming God's Love, God's Promises,  
and the Abundant Life

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS MINISTRY**

**INVOCATION**

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen!**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 147)

Gathered to worship God, let's sing our praise!

**Praise the Lord! Hallelujah!**

We sing with thanksgiving,

**for our hope is fulfilled in the steadfast love of the Lord.**

God is gracious and merciful,

**healing the broken-hearted and caring for their wounds.**

So we stand to sing our praise

**and we raise our prayers to you!**

Mighty God, thank you for the ways you provide for us and for all.

**You are great and abundant in power! Build us up that we would have courage to declare all that you have done. Amen.**

**OPENNING HYMN "God, Whose Almighty Word"**

God, whose almighty word / chaos and darkness heard / and took their flight: /  
hear us, we humbly pray, / and where the gospel day / sheds not its glorious ray,  
/ let there be light.

Christ, who once came to bring, / on your redeeming wing, / healing and sight; /  
health to the troubled mind, / sight where illusions blind; / oh, now to humankind  
/ let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, / life-giving, holy dove, / speed forth your flight; / move  
on the water's face / bearing the lamp of grace, / and in earth's darkest place / let  
there be light.

Holy and blessed three, / glorious Trinity, / Wisdom, Love, Might: / boundless as ocean's tide, / rolling in fullest pride, / through the earth, far and wide, / let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt. Public Domain.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

God of life,

**you promise good news for all people and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

### **This is the Day**

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it / This is the day that the Lord has made / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE PASSING**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **ANTHEM**

**"Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"**

**Harold Tilstra**

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? <sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to

naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. <sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. <sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. <sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? <sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. <sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God, word of life

**Thanks be to God!**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? / You have the words of eternal life. / Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

### **THE GOSPEL      Mark 1:29-39**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. <sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. <sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord,

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

**"A Future with Hope!"**

**Pastor Scott Hackler**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY      "Healer of Our Every Ill"**

*Refrain*

Healer of our ev'ry ill, / light of each tomorrow, / give us peace beyond our fear, /  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness, / grace us with your peace and gladness; /  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*

In the pain and joy beholding / how your grace is still unfolding, / give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*

Give us strength to love each other, / ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother; / Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*

You who know each thought and feeling, / teach us all your way of healing; / Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

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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 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**

*After each petition: God of grace, **receive our prayer.***

## **OFFERING**

**" Lay Up Your Treasures in Heaven"      Grace Men's Choir**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.

**Use all that we offer to serve your mission among us. And now meet us in the holy supper where in bread and cup you open heaven to us. May we receive your gifts and follow in your ways, through your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

We praise you, O God,

**For nurturing our past, our present, our future;**

For the universe beyond our knowing,

**For the desert in which we live,**

For creatures seen and unseen,

**For our ancestors from many cultures.**

We praise you for your covenant people, for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,

**For traditions of prayer and praise, giving and thanksgiving.**

We praise you, for the leaders of your church,

**And for all who offer their faithful service.**

We praise you for your Son, O God, who saves us from sin and from evil,  
**who continues to lead us to new life.**

**INVITATION                    "Come to the Table of Mercy"**

Come to the table of mercy, / prepared with the wine and the bread. / All who are hungry and thirsty, / come, and your souls will be fed. / Come at the Lord's invitation; / receive from his nail-scarred hand. / Eat of the bread of salvation; / drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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.

Again, after supper, 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 and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so we remember your Son, his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection, his word, and his presence in this meal, and we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray that you send your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom,  
**your guidance everywhere in the church.**

Send your Spirit upon the bread and cup;  
**renew the world with your mercy.**

We praise you, holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,  
**Abba, Living Water, Breath of Life, today, tomorrow 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.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**BLESSING AND PRAYER**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

Giver of every gift,

**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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **A FUTURE WITH HOPE OFFERING**

### **CLOSING HYMN "We Are Offering"**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands / we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an offering. / Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands, /  
Lord use our lives they are yours, / we are an offering. / All that we have, / all  
that we are, / all that we hope to be, / we give to you, / we give to you. / We lift  
our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: / we are an offering, we are an offering.

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## **SERVING AS WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Choir Director	Ken Carnes
Choir Accompanist/Pianist	Sandy Hobbs
Online Scripture Reader	Cathy Pierce
Saturday Usher Coordinator	Glenda Jones
Sunday Usher Coordinator	Rich Frusciano
Audio/Lighting	Richard Johnson
	Larry & Lorri Mohrweis
	David Weeks

## **Announcements & Upcoming Events**

**Visitors, Guests and Friends!** Let us know that you are here by using this QR code. We are so happy that you have joined us in worship.



**WELCOME SESSIONS** are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn about our church and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our vision, mission and values, and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am - noon. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Services with ashes and communion will be at noon and 5pm.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

Our annual meeting is on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> between services (9am). It includes elections, 2024 budget and reports.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** meets Wednesday at 10am. Pastor Scott is sharing an overview of the Gospel of Mark which is our focus in worship this coming year. Come and learn about this important book of the Bible.

**ALL THAT JAZZ**—February 4th @ 2:30 Cost: \$5 - Jazz with a Mardi Gras and New Orleans flavor to get your toes tapping. The music is provided by The All-Stars Band, under the direction of Duane Moore. Following the concert, you are invited into our own Mardi Gras Café for a traditional dessert, coffee and fellowship. Tickets will be available at the door, if space allows.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** February 25 Reminder: Bring your donations to the Valley View Community Food Bank next Sunday. *Whoever is kind to the needy honors God.* Proverbs 14:31

### **GRIEFSHARE**

Thursdays until April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am - 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. To register Call: Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church (623)977-6000 or online at [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org). Deborah Frusciano: 602-909-8369.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY** (WELCA) is having a tea party. February 15 at 11am. A high tea lunch will be served followed by our own Ellie Brooks, author, and researcher. The cost is \$15. Bring your own teacup and wear your favorite hat and come have tea with us.

**MEN'S CHOIR** Calling all men! If you are so inclined, we would love to have you join us this next Tuesday, February 6, at 3:00 pm, in Fellowship Hall.

**FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR:** Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary to Phil and Sue Nelson.

**SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR**  
**February 3 – February 11**

**Saturday, February 3**

5:00 pm Service – “A Future...”

**Sunday, February 4**

8:00 am Service – “A Future...”

9:00 am Annual Meeting

10:00 am Service – “A Future...”

**Monday, February 5**

10:00 am Welcome Session

**Tuesday, February 6**

8:00 am Men’s Breakfast

9:00 am Staff meeting

9:00 am Marketing Outreach

12:00 pm Counseling Ministry

\*By appointment only

with Dr Joe Dramise

3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal

3:00 pm Men’s Choir

4:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 7**

9:00 am Counseling Ministry\*

\*By appointment only

with Dr Joe Dramise

10:00 am Bible Study

**Thursday, February 8**

9:00 am Online Worship  
video recording

9:30 am Deborah circle

10:00 am Griefshare

1:00 pm Elizabeth Circe

**Friday, February 9**

9:30 am Bulletin Assemble

**Saturday, February 10**

5:00 pm Worship

**Sunday, February 11**

8:00 am Worship

10:00 am Worship