

*Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about “**Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.**” If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **10:30a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.*

THE 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 8, 2026

Today in Worship

- In the stewardship hymn “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness,” author William Watkins Reid Sr. includes the thoughtful line “Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast” (LSB 788:5). The text, written in 1965, reflected a growing understanding of the need for service in Jesus’ name by all who had received His blessing. In the concluding stanza of the hymn, he also writes, “May thankfulness be days in service spent, reflection of Christ’s life and love and light.” In this Epiphany season, when we celebrate the radiantly expanding light of Christ, we are directed to find new ways to reflect that light into all the areas of our life. Paul says it simply and directly: “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone” (Galatians 6:10). Those opportunities are just waiting for us!



Ringling of the Bells

Announcements (10:30am Service)

Welcome

Opening Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #914
"Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten"*

Invocation & Sentences

Ps. 66:1-3a, 4, 8; 40:1a, 111:3

P In the name of the Father and of the **✠** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C **sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

P Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!

C **All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."**

P Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard.

C **You have multiplied, O LORD my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!**

P Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

C **and His righteousness endures forever.**

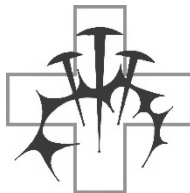
Confession & Absolution

P As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy. Humble yourselves, then, before God; confess your sins to Him and implore His forgiveness.

C **O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. Too often I have sought the easy road of ignoring the needs of others and considered only myself and my wants. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being.**

Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.

P As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C Amen.

Psalm 112:1-9



P Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who | fears the Lord, *

C who greatly delights in his com- | mandments!

P His offspring will be mighty | in the land; *

C the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

P Wealth and riches are | in his house, *

C and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

P Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright; *

C he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

P It is well with the man who deals generous- | ly and lends; *

C who conducts his affairs with | justice.

P For the righteous will nev- | er be moved; *

C he will be remembered for- | ever.

P He is not afraid of | bad news; *

C his heart is firm, trusting | in the Lord.

P His heart is steady; he will not | be afraid, *

C until he looks in triumph on his adver- | saries.

P He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures for- | ever; *

C his horn is exalted in | honor.

C **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son ***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | -ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Lutheran Service Book #526

"You Are the Way; through You Alone"

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3-9a

"The brightness of the Lord's light breaking forth."

L The Old Testament Reading for the 5th Sunday after the Epiphany is from Isaiah, chapter 58.

³ 'Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?'

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ “Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem (10:30am)

“Here I Am, Lord”

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

“Paul speaks and writes in and with the Spirit’s power.”

L The Epistle Reading is from 1st Corinthians, chapter two.

¹ And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴ and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷ But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him” —

¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³ And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶ “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Matthew 5:16b

P Alleluia. Let your light shine before others,

C **so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

“Jesus calls His followers to be salt and light in the world.”

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles Creed *8:00am service*

The Nicene Creed *10:30am service*

Message for Children from God's Word

Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book #788

“Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness”

Sermon

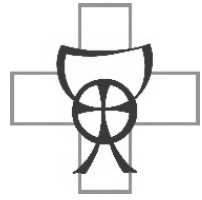
Offering

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.”

– Matthew 5:14-15

Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**



Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...
... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *“Holy, Holy, Holy”* LSB p. 208

Lord’s Prayer *Spoken* LSB p. 209

The Words of our Lord *Spoken* LSB p. 209

Pax Domini *“The Peace of Our Lord”* LSB p. 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *“Lamb of God”* LSB p. 210

Distribution Hymns

“The People That in Darkness Sat” LSB # 412

“O God of God, O Light of Light” LSB # 810

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me” LSB # 683

Nunc Dimittis *“Song of Simeon”* LSB p. 211

Thanksgiving

- P** For the joy of saving Noah and his family in the flood, and likewise saving us through the flood of Holy Baptism,

C **we thank You, Lord.**

- P** For the joy of the Gospel, that in receiving we can become the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and a city set on a hill,

C **we thank You, Lord.**

P For the joy of Jesus who proclaimed and demonstrated the coming Kingdom, and who suffered, died, rose, and ascended,
C **we thank You. We praise You. We adore You, Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #394
"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"*