

*Grace Lutheran Church*  
*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*  
*January 28, 2024*



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# ✠ Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany ✠

+++ *In The Name of Jesus* +++

Carillon Call to Worship

Welcome and Parish News

Prelude

Processional Hymn

819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, The au - thor of cre -  
2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, In mer - cy He is  
3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy  
4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho - sen gen - er -  
5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, Give God the praise and



a - tion, The God of love who un - der - stood  
keep - ing. By morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade  
hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness  
a - tion; He is their ref - uge and their rock,  
glo - ry. Let all who know His pow'r pro - claim



Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our  
His eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the king - dom  
And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and  
Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's  
A - loud the won - drous sto - ry. Cast ev - 'ry i - dol



souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:  
of His might All things are just and good and right:  
praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:  
ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:  
from its throne, For God is God, and He a - lone:



To God all praise and glo - ry!  
To God all praise and glo - ry!  
To God all praise and glo - ry!  
To God all praise and glo - ry!  
To God all praise and glo - ry!

Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1640–90; (sts. 1–3, 5): tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, adapt.; (st. 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, adapt.  
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Opening Versicles

### Common

260

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
  
- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** Teach me Your paths.
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** Your Word is truth.
  
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

## Introit

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,\*  
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

**Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for-| given,\*  
whose sin is | covered.**

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,\*  
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

**I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in-| iquity;\***

**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity |  
of my sin.**

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;\*  
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

**You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;\*  
you surround me with shouts of de-| liverance.**

**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.**

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,\*  
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

## Collect

**L** Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Chancel Choir

**Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come**

*Bender*

## Old Testament

*Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’<sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.<sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.<sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.<sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 8*

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

<sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

## Gospel

*Mark 1:21–28*

<sup>21</sup>They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

## Responsory

*LSB 221*

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

## Apostles' Creed

- L** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Offering (11:00 am)

Sermon Hymn

842 Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
 Free-ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
 Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
 Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your



glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
 sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
 toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
 will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
 of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, alt.  
 Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradansou, c. 1710, Amsterdam  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

**Concerning Our Faith**

*1 Corinthians 8:1-13*

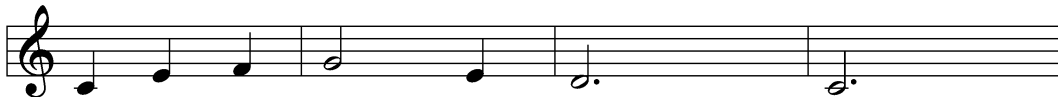
*Rev. Timothy P. Halboth*

**Congregational Response**

**411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with patience the race,



The star of my life is Jesus.  
 And show me the way to the Father.  
 We shall know the joy of Jesus.



*Refrain*

In Him there is no darkness at all.



The night and the day are both alike.



The Lamb is the light of the city of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934  
 Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002483

## Offering (9:15 am)

### Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**



- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*]. . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 241

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **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.**

## Benediction (Pauline)

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn

### 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852-1933, alt.  
Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796-1867  
Text and tune: Public domain

### *The Staff of Grace Lutheran Church*

*The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior/Administrative Pastor*  
*Solomon Spangler, Vicar*

*Ian Boynton, Director of Music*  
*Erika Halboth, Church Secretary*

*Steve Robinson, Organist and Choir Accompanist*  
*Bonnie Karkheck, Assistant to the Pastor -*  
*Children and Youth*

#### Acknowledgments

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## *Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany - January 28, 2024*

**WELCOME!** Concerning our faith, Jesus is more interesting than anything else that life can show us. We try to put our faith in many things; government, institutions, education, but it is Jesus, and Jesus only Who can show us the faith that we need. He gives us free will but as St. Paul warns us watch your faith: "be careful that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak" The Lord will continue to bless our worship and our lives.



<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	Quilting - Fellowship Hall (Rescheduled)
	<b>12 Noon</b>	Women's Ministries - Fellowship Hall (Rescheduled)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:15 pm</b>	First Year Catechism - East End
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	BYOB (21 ++ ) Bible Study - Home of Jacob Lanyon
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Handbell Choir - Sanctuary
	<b>8:00 pm</b>	Chancel Choir - Choir Room
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Board of Elders Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**Next Sunday - February 4, 2024 - The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany** - Vicar Solomon Spangler will preach on the theme "Freed to Serve" based on 1 Corinthians 9:16-2. Holy Communion will be celebrated.



**Your quiet reverence prior to the beginning of and during worship hours** is appreciated while others also prepare to worship our Lord. For the courtesy of others while in God's house of worship please silence your cell phones. **PLEASE NOTE: The Cry Room and Nursery are available for "fussy" children.** Please see an Elder or Usher for assistance.



Please meet Miss. Bonnie in the Narthex after the choir anthem and proceed with her to your classroom. May God bless the learning and teaching of God's Word.



Due to the January weather and the cancellations of the Adult Bible study, the class "The Reformation Project" will be postponed until after Lent. At this time it will be difficult to finish in just two weeks. Watch for further information.



**This Wednesday, January 31 at 8:00 pm** the BYOB (21++) Bible Study will be held at the home of Jacob Lanyon. Please see Jacob or the Vicar for address and directions if you are interested in attending. Vicar Spangler will continue the study of The Book of Ecclesiastes.

## ELDERS MEETING

The Board of Elders meeting will be conducted **THIS SATURDAY, February 3 at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. A continental breakfast will be provided. Important information on the Lenten Season will be discussed, along with scheduling and other matters. Please notify either Duane Lanyon or Mark Mross if you plan to attend.



Super Bowl Sub Sale! Our Women's Ministries will once again be selling Submarine sandwiches for the Super Bowl. There is a signup sheet at the Information Center with all the information. Type of subs, toppings and prices are listed. A representative of the Women's Ministries will be there to help you.



During the months of January and February we will once again conduct our Food Drive and Drive-through pick up for the communities of Redford and Livonia. Donations will be accepted now through February 18. Volunteers will be needed on the day of pick-up which will be Saturday, February 24. We ask that non-perishable items only be donated and please check the expiration date to make sure items are fresh. In addition, along with staples, remember that protein items such as canned chicken and tuna are needed.



It is that time of year! Orders for Easter Lilies begins today. Please help us to beautify the Chancel once again for Easter. Plants are \$20 each (the same as last year). Order forms can be found at the Information Center. Payment is requested at the time of ordering. Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Women's Ministries. Please place payment in an envelope with your name on the front and place it in the black lock box next to the signup sheet. Orders will be accepted until March 3.



The Lenten Newsletters are on the tables in the Narthex today. Please be sure to pick up your copy on your way out.



*Ash Wednesday - February 14, 2024*

*"The Powerless 'I Am'"*

John 18:1-11

Holy Communion will be celebrated along with Imposition of Ashes



Flowers are a beautiful way to honor a loved one, commemorate an anniversary/birthday or to simply give thanks to God for His many blessings! Thank you to everyone who have placed flowers in the chancel. **Be sure to call the church office to place your order.** All arrangements are \$30 each and checks should be made payable to:

Grace Lutheran Women's Ministries. **Payments may be handed to Erika or placed in the black lockbox (be sure to use an envelope with your name on the front) at the Information Center.** Please remember to pick your flowers up after the 11:00 worship service or you can arrange to pick them up on Monday from the church office. **The following Sundays are available to place flowers: February 11.**

**THERE WILL BE NO FLOWERS DURING LENT.**



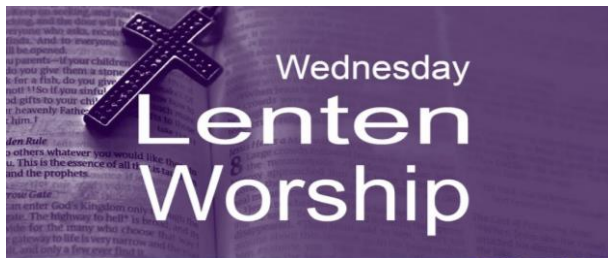
The Women's Ministries continue their ongoing opportunity to raise funds! Furniture and home decor items that are fit for resale can be sold through New-2-You in Northville. Please call Happy Westmeier with any questions or to set up a meeting time (248-349-5818). All proceeds from the sales go to Women's Ministries. We thank Happy for her many hours of service for our church and the Women's Ministries.



The deadline to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31st. Direct your dollars online at [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/) or call 800-THRIVENT. You must remake your request annually or quarterly to assure your funds are being distributed in accordance with your wishes. We appreciate any funds you designate. Thank you!



Please join us in the Fellowship Hall between Worship hours for coffee and fellowship!



## *“The St. John Passion”*

*February 21, 2024 Midweek One*

“The Two Interrogations”

John 18:12-27

*February 28, 2024 - Midweek Two*

“What Kind of King Is This?”

John 18:28-40

*March 6, 2024- Midweek Three*

“Whom Do We Follow?”

John 19:1-16a

*March 13, 2024 - Midweek Four*

“A Friend on the Cross”

John 19:16b-27

*March 20, 2024 - Midweek Five*

“The Battle is Finished”

John 19:28-42



Join us for our annual Wednesday Lenten Dinners in the Fellowship Hall. Serving will begin at 5:15 pm



*Sunday Worship Hours at 9:15 am and 11:00 am*  
*"Lent Is All About Jesus"*



*February 18, 2024*  
Holy Communion  
Get Behind Me, Satan  
Mark 1:9-15



*February 25, 2024*  
Get Ahead of Me, Jesus  
Mark 8:27-38



*March 3, 2024*  
Holy Communion  
Disrupt the World, Jesus  
John 2:13-22



*March 10, 2024*  
Love Us, Jesus  
John 3:14-22



*March 17, 2024*  
Holy Communion  
Serve Us, Jesus  
Mark 10:35-45