

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024 A.D.

10:30 A.M.



GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

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Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence for Meditation

- * Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 56

PRAISE

- * Opening Hymn **There's a Star in the East** **WOV 645**
- * The Kyrie page 57
- * The Hymn of Praise Glory to God..... page 58
- * The Salutation and Prayer of the Day.....page 62

EQUIP

The First Lesson..... Jonah 3:1-10

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 62 Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 7:29-35

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

- * The Holy Gospel.....Mark 1:14-20
- Children's Sermon Pastor East
- The Message....."The Call of Jesus".....Pastor East
- Hymn of the Day.....**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**.....**WOV 649**
- * The Apostles' Creed.....page 65
- * The Prayers and the Peace..... page 65

GIVE

The Offering The People of God

- * The Offertory and Prayerpages 66, 67

RECEIVE

- * The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
- * The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayerpages 69, 71
- * **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- * Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*..... page 72
- * Post-Communion Prayer
- * The Benediction

SEND

- * The Sending Hymn **Go, My Children, With My Blessing** **WOV 721**
 - * The Dismissal: P: Go in Peace. Be the Church! **All: Thanks be to God!**
- Postlude

* = Stand

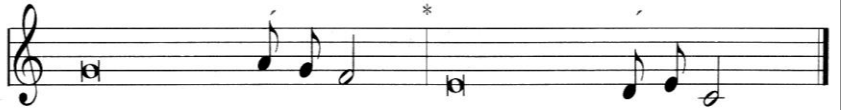
Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. The Prayer Teams will be praying with you and for your concerns during the coming week as well. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact the Church Office this week.

THIS WEEK'S THEME – Just as Jesus called men to follow him and become disciples when his earthly ministry began, he does the same today. Today God calls people by His Holy Spirit, encouraging them to believe in Jesus. When people really do come to faith in Jesus and repent from their old earthly ways, then God is very pleased and He offers eternal life in His heavenly presence instead of the condemnation that would otherwise result.

FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:1-10

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.



PSALM 62

¹For God alone my soul in / silence waits;*
from him comes / my salvation.

²**He alone is my rock and / my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall not be / greatly shaken.**

³How long will you assail me to crush me, all of / you together,*
as if you were a leaning fence, a / toppling wall?

⁴**They seek only to bring me down from my / place of honor;*
lies are their / chief delight.**

⁵They bless / with their lips,*
but in their / hearts they curse.

⁶**For God alone my soul in / silence waits;*
truly, my hope / is in him.**

⁷He alone is my rock and / my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall / not be shaken.

⁸**In God is my safety / and my honor;*
God is my strong rock / and my refuge.**

⁹Put your trust in him al- / ways, O people,*
pour out your hearts before him, for God / is our refuge.

¹⁰**Those of high degree are but a / fleeting breath,*
even those of low estate can- / not be trusted.**

¹¹On the scales they are lighter / than a breath,*
all of / them together.

¹²**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no / empty pride;*
though wealth increase, set not your / heart upon it.**

¹³God has spoken once, twice / have I heard it,*
that power be- / longs to God.

¹⁴**Steadfast love is / yours, O LORD,*
for you repay everyone according / to his deeds.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 7:29-35

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. ³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." ¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

Next Sunday's Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28. Readings are based on the recommended use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the North American Lutheran Church and Lectionary of Sola Publishing. Used by Permission.

PLEASE GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO PASTOR BRACK EAST who is leading us in worship today!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT! Please offer your services as a Lector, Usher, or Communion Assistant for the upcoming months. If you would like to serve during a particular month, please contact Tim Eckard.

GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Kevin Adams, Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Lula Ingle, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Richard & Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Carolyn & Scott Whisnant.

Nursing Home: Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village),

Friends and Relatives in our Prayers: Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, all of those who are suffering from the widespread sicknesses, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Sheila Cook, Harold Crouse, Wayne Eckard, Julie Foster, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, Family of Susie Hennessee, Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Bill Little, Ryan McMullen, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Katie Patton, Angela Sanford, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Monica Thomas, United States of America; Faye White, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces.

(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)

STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING will be held on **Tuesday, January 23 at 6:00 pm.**

THE ECCCM FOOD ASK for the month of **January** is **canned soup or broth.** ECCCM thanks the disciples of Grace for helping to keep the food pantry stocked!

A BIG “THANK YOU” is given to the disciples at Grace for the 56 pounds of food that were donated and delivered to ECCCM on January 8th! Also, thank you to the disciples at Grace who collect and deliver the food to ECCCM!

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is posted in the Narthex. If you wish to give the flowers for a given Sunday, please list your name on the chart. *You are responsible for ordering the flowers from a florist of your choice; we do not have a standing order with any florist.* The liturgical color of the day is listed to assist you in selecting flowers appropriate for that Sunday. You should contact the Church Office the Tuesday prior to your selected Sunday so that the correct information is placed in the bulletin.

*“For God alone my soul in silence waits;
from Him comes my salvation.”*

Psalm 62:1

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY TO:

26 – Kevin Adams

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today: **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
9:30A – Sunday School
10:30A – Worship Celebration

Tuesday: 6:00P – Stephen Ministry Training

Next Sunday: **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
9:30A – Sunday School
10:30A – Worship Celebration

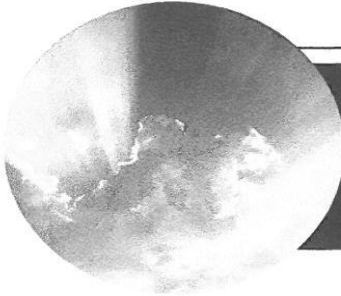
The Ministers.....The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor
Organist..... Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President Tim Eckard
Youth LeaderStormy Shull
Lector
Communion Assistants..... Rick and Cindy Bivens
UshersJoe and Lynette Momier
Altar Preparation..... Herb and Libby Travis
Offering TabulatorsTodd Childers and Jason Yoder
Custodian.....Chris Abernethy



Table Talk II

By Rev. Timothy J. Swenson • ILT Dean of Chapel

Transfiguration Sunday | January 21, 2024



MATTHEW 17:1-9

“When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified.” Vs. 6

Those terrified disciples assumed a posture of worship—that is, they “fell on their faces” (vs. 6). The brightness of the cloud that enveloped them... the disembodied voice speaking out of the cloud as if it, too, enveloped them... the divine recognition of Jesus—their rabbi—as the beloved Son of God... the divine imperative, “Listen to him...!” all combined to instill an overwhelming fear in the hearts of Peter, James, and John... a fear that drove them to commit an act of worship—that is, they “fell on their faces.”

Jesus changes all of that. The very first words he speaks after his Father in heaven has commanded, “Listen to him,” radically change the direction of worship. Because of Jesus, his coming in the flesh, and his coming down to be with us, we no longer prostrate ourselves in fear before an incomprehensible and terrifying divinity. Rather, the divinity has come to us in the person of his Son, Jesus... a son who speaks kindly and gently to his people, “Rise, and have no fear.” When Jesus fills our eyes, as the eyes of Peter, James, and John were filled (cf. vs. 8), then there is nothing that will separate us from the love of God which is ours in Christ Jesus (Ro. 8:39).

Perhaps we, as Christians, have lived with this so long that it ceases to be remarkable to us. The religions of the world (even Christianity is numbered among them) worship their god(s) out of fear and trembling or manipulation and greed. Without faith to see in Jesus Christ the radical reorientation of worship, Christian worship remains rooted in fear. But, when faith grasps hold of Christ’s command, “Have no fear,” then worship becomes that mighty arena in which our good God—the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ—hands out the gifts of Christ—the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation—through Word and Sacrament.

Table Talk: Discuss the radical reorientation of worship in Jesus Christ.

Pray: Heavenly Father, lift up my fearful face which I hide from your sight and let my eyes see Jesus and Jesus only. Amen



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