

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025 A.D.

10:30 AM



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



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. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact Pastor Doug (980)234-8848.

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

PRELUDE *Please observe silence for meditation.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation is invited to stand.

* **BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and confession.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

* **GATHERING HYMN** **Love Devine All Loves Excelling** **LBW 315**

* **GREETING**

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

C: And also with you.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty God, increase in us the holy gifts of faith, hope, and love. May we never fail to exercise these gifts through which your glory is revealed to all nations. Teach us to love all people as you have commanded us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” ⁶Then I said, “Ah, LORD God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” ⁷But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the LORD.” ⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 71:1-6

¹In you, O Lord, do I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame!

²**In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;**

incline your ear to me, and save me!

³Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;

you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴**Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,**

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

⁵For you, O Lord, are my hope,

my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

⁶**Upon you I have leaned from before my birth;**

you are he who took me from my mother's womb.

My praise is continually of you.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

^{31b}I will show you a still more excellent way.

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The congregation is invited to stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word vs. 1&2

LBW 239

GOSPEL: Luke 4:31-44

P: The holy gospel according to John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹{Jesus} went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, ³²and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. ³³And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Ha! 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.” ³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. ³⁶And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” ³⁷And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region. ³⁸And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them. ⁴⁰Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. ⁴¹And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. ⁴²And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, ⁴³but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.” ⁴⁴And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

“Jesus Shows Us What Love is All About!”

Pastor Doug

The congregation is invited to stand.

* **HYMN OF THE DAY**

O How I Love Jesus

TCH 92

* **THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

LBW PG. 65

Response at the end of each petition.

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*Worshipers may greet one another with "the Peace of Christ" or similar words.
The assembly may be seated.*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards

LBW PG. 66

* **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Compassionate God, you receive us again into your arms and invite us to be nourished as your dear children at your table of grace. We pray that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ Jesus, our life would be transformed and strengthened so that we might shine with the light of Christ as we share ourselves and your gifts with all the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of Life.

C: Amen

* **DIALOGUE AND PREFACE**

LBW PG. 68

* **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

LBW PG. 69

* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

LBW PG. 70

* **LORD'S PRAYER**

LBW PG. 71

* **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

The assembly may be seated.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God

LBW PG. 72

The assembly may be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus Loves Me

LBW 197

The congregation is invited to stand.

* **COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

P: O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with the heavenly food of your body and blood. As we go now, nourished in faith and love, be present with us today, tomorrow and forever so that we will tell and live-out the story of your never-ending love in the precious and powerful name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

C: Amen.

* **BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

* **SENDING HYMN**

I Love to Tell the Story

LBW 390

* **DISMISSAL**

P: Sent and anointed by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News of God's love in Christ in word and deed, let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Jeffrey Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Larry Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Harvey Leatherman, Phil & Malinda Leatherman, Tim Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Joe Momier, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Michael, Debi & Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Scott, Carolyn Whisnant, Nancy Willis

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, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Becky Cartee, Jessica Cassels & Family, Evelyn Childers, Dennis D'Alessio, Guy Franzen, Stormy Geter, Wendy Hannah, J.C., Lily Rose, Alyssa McCary, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Angela Sanford, Anita Sabino, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Nathan Starnes, Monica Thomas, United States of America, 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.

Friends and Family of: Irene Heavner & Vicky Costner

Birthdays This Week:

February: 4 – Tricia Panek
 4 – Tricia Panek
 7 – Alyx Williamson
 7 – Alyson Devine

COMING UP AT GRACE

Today: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

9:15am – Sunday School

10:30am - Worship Celebration

Wednesday: 12:00 – Fred T. Foard Senior Lunch
Ebenezer UMC

6:30pm -Vespers and Bible Study

Friday: Church Office Closed

Saturday: 9:00 Grace Prayer Breakfast
Four Peas in a Pod

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| ❖ The Ministers: The People of Grace | ❖ Altar Preparation: Herb & Libby Travis |
| ❖ Pastor: Doug Hefner | ❖ Lector: Tim Eckard |
| ❖ Organist: Sandi Tallant | ❖ Communion Assts: Herb & Libby Travis |
| ❖ Administrative Assistant: Kristi Tucker | ❖ Youth Leader: Stormy Shull |
| ❖ Leadership Board President: Tim Eckard | ❖ Tabulators: Todd Childers & Tim Eckard |
| ❖ Ushers: Jeff Scronce & Jack Wilfong | ❖ Custodian: Chris Abernethy |