



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
 303 N. Green Bay Rd Thiensville, WI 53092
 Phone: 262-242-1174 www.grace53092.org



**Worship services: Sundays at 9am,
 Tuesdays at 12:10pm**

CHURCH STAFF

Bill Beyer – Pastor (C: 262-674-4714)	Brian Dearing - Organist/Music Director	Online Giving
Sandy Luettgen - Administrative Asst.	Shonda Schaff - Nursery Attendant	
Fred Lynk - Custodian	Sunday School Coordinator - Kathryn Koppa	

Our Mission: "Reaching out to all people as Disciples of Christ, we serve God, proclaim our faith, and care for all creation."

Vision Statement: At Grace, we strive to Guide and nurture all individuals to be Resilient, Accepting Children of God rooted in the Enrichment of God's word.

Welcome to Worship: We encourage visitors to talk with our pastor following worship! Know that you are always welcome to join us for worship! If you are interested in becoming a member at any time, please contact the pastor.

Communion Instruction: Jesus Christ, present in this Meal of bread and wine, invites every person to share in Holy Communion, especially children. Ushers will direct you to the front, where you will come forward in an orderly fashion, receive a piece of bread, and then select either the red wine or the white grape juice and return to your seat. **Gluten-free wafers are also available; talk to the pastor if you require gluten-free.** If you would prefer not to commune today, you are welcome to come forward with your hands crossed to receive a blessing instead. If you would like your children to receive communion instruction prior to sharing in this Meal, please talk with the pastor before or after worship.

Offering: Offerings are not taken during worship. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary and one near the front for you to drop an offering when you come up for communion. You may also scan the QR code on this page to give online.

Hearing Assistance Available: This facility is equipped with a hearing-assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

Nursery Available: We love to have children in worship with us. For those that play quietly there is a space for them to play with quiet toys in worship (the Pray-ground). A separate staffed nursery is provided for healthy children that are more active and like to be a bit louder.

PRELUDE (Bell Choir): from Cathy Mokelbust (arr.), *Celebrate the Season* (2013)

1. 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime – Tune: Une Jeune Pucelle
2. What Is This Lovely Fragrance? – Tunes: Quelle Est Cette Odeur Agréable and Es Ist Ein Ros

WELCOME

WELCOME TO WORSHIP (Bell Choir) Cathy Mokelbust (arr.), “Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow” from *Celebrate the Season* (2013) – Tune: Rise Up Shepherd

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin....Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God...and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *When a Star Is Shining*

(ACS 915)



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
3 Lead us on, O Day - star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
where a voice for - got - ten cries, “Pre - pare the way!”
guide us through the shad - ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait - ing, and the old hopes rise,
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion’s sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
 there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
 bring us to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn - ing where the



prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord... be with you all. C: And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE VS. 1-2 *Jesus, the Light of the World*

(ACS 914)



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je - sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new - born king,” Je - sus, the Light of the world.
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light, come where the dew - drops of mer - cy are bright.



Shine all a - round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Go Tell It on the Mountain (Vs. 3 only)*

(ELW 290)

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

GOSPEL **Matthew 2:1-12**

P: The holy gospel, according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*The gospel is announced*)

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

(WOV 646)



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Refrain

Oh, star of won-der, star of night, star with roy - al beau-ty bright;
west-ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of mercy, **C:** hear our prayer.

P: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts....through Jesus Christ our Savior. **C:** Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty...join their unending hymn:

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Vs.1-2 only)

(ELW 283)



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

P: Holy one.... mystery of faith: **C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread...for his coming. **C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God,...peace on earth. **C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory...now and forever. **C: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION SONG *Away in a Manger (Vs. 3 Only)***(ELW 277)**

3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

COMMUNION SONG *As with Gladness Men of Old***(ELW 302)**

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Vs. 2 Only)* (ELW 276)

1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

Swift-ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:

Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
 Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We give you thanks, almighty God ... for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 SONG *This Little Light of Mine*

(ELW 677)

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (Bell Choir): Katherine J. Larson (1937-2025), “Celestia: Bright and Glorious is the Sky” (1995) – Tune: Dejlig er den Himmel Blaa

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O Come, All Ye Faithful, Text and Music: John Francis Wade, Text tr. Frederick Oakeley; *Away in a Manger*, Text: North American, 19th cent., Music: James R. Murray; *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Text and Music: African American spiritual, refrain: John W. Work Jr; *We Three Kings of Orient Are*, Text and Music: John Henry Hopkins Jr.; *As with Gladness Men of Old*, Text: Willima C. Dix, Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher; *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, Text: Polish carol, tr. Edith M.G. Reed, Music: Polish carol; *Jesus, the Light of the World*, Text: Charls Wesley, George D. Elderkin, Music: WE’LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditonal arr. George D. Elderkin; *The First Noel*, Text and Music: English traditional, Music: arr. John Stainer. PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Music Notes:

Today’s instrumental music is provided by the Bell Choir. The **Pre-service Music** selections are all familiar carols of the season arranged by Cathy Moglebust, who has developed and directed handbell music programs since 1983, with more than 400 compositions and arrangements in print. Her music has been broadcast on the “Today” and “Good Morning, America” televisions programs. She holds her BA and M. Ed degrees from South Dakota State University. The **Postlude** is Katherine Larson’s setting of “Bright and Glorious is the Sky.” After a peal introduction, the Danish tune is presented, first straightforwardly, then underneath an ostinato pattern in the higher bells. The third verse is heard with increasing speed before the piece concludes with a raucous peal.

The **Hymn of the Day** is by John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), who wrote both the text and the tune (“Three Kings of Orient”) in 1857 and first published it in 1863. Educated at the University of Vermont and General Theological Seminary in New York City, he was an Episcopal priest, the first church music instructor at his alma mater, and the founder of the *Church Journal*.

Next week: The Chancel Choir warms up at 8:15am and sings for worship at 9:00am. The Worship and Music Team meeting is after worship at 10:15am. There are no rehearsals for any music group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Today's Worship Leaders</u>	<u>Next Sunday Worship Leaders</u>
Greeter: TBD	Greeter: TBD
Readers: Pam Johnson	Readers: TBD
Wine: Nancy Perez, Kim Nagel	Wine: DawnMark Bacon-Johnson, TBD
Usher: TBD	Usher: TBD
Comm. Set Up: Bev Leidel	Comm. Set Up: TBD
Coffee Fellowship: TBD	Coffee Fellowship: Mutual Ministry Team

This week at Grace

- Sun 1/11 Epiphany
8am Bell Choir Warmup
9:00am Worship ~ Bell Choir rings
10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:15am Children's Education
- Mon 1/12 2pm Violin Lessons
6pm Scouts
- Tue 1/13 12:10pm Devotional Service
3:30pm Violin Lessons
5:30pm Scouts
6:30pm Council Meeting
- Wed 1/14 3:30pm Violin Lessons
6:30pm Saved by Grace Vocalists Only rehearsal
- Thu 1/15 12pm Bible Study
- Sun 1/18 8:15am Chancel Choir Warmup
9:00am Worship ~ Chancel Choir sings
10:15am WAM Team Meeting
10:15am Grateful Giving Team Meeting

Grace's Welcome Statement: Grace Lutheran Church is a religious community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live. Grace is a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation, which means we welcome the participation of people of all ages, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, education backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join us in serving God, proclaiming our faith, and caring for all creation.

Notice of Annual Meeting: All are welcome, especially voting members, to join us on **Sunday, January 25 at 10:15am.** We will receive the 2025 Annual Report, elect new leaders for 2026, and vote on the 2026 Budget.

Annual Reports: The 2025 Annual Report is available on the communication desk. Please note, any team reports that are not included will be available next Sunday.

Kleenex Offering: It is that time of year again! Every 6 or 7 years we do a Kleenex offering, which has been a huge success, and an important ministry in our congregation. These boxes of Kleenex being handy at an arm's reach have been a blessing to many. We are down to our last few boxes since we did this the last time in 2020. So, we're going to have another Kleenex offering to replenish our supply. When you are out and about, please consider purchasing some extra Kleenex and donating it to the church. You can bring them with you if you come for worship or you can drop them off at any time during the day. Thank you for your help and participation in this important ministry.



Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge: If you have any new or gently used coats, boots, or other cold weather clothing you would like to donate, please consider dropping it off at the church to be donated to Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge. There is a box near the Luther room for these items.

Growing in Grace: Families involved in our children's education ministry, don't forget to check our ministry website for updates on events, Education classes, and volunteer opportunities! You can also email Katy Koppa for updates at kathrynkoppa@gmail.com.

Call 877-232-2376 or use the QR code here.



Sunday Coffee Fellowship Information: We're looking for friendly faces to help with coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings. It's an easy but important ministry towards hospitality. There is a great guideline to follow and support is provided!! Just set up coffee, bring a few treats, one always gluten free, and help create a warm, welcoming space for connection after worship.

If interested, please sign up using one of the following options:

- Communication desk signup sheet
- Online with SignupGenius using the link in the Grace Notes or the QR code here
- Call the office and let Sandy know
- Theresa and Jen will also be reaching out by phone as well
- You can also reach out to: Jen Bartz ~ 414-550-5231, Theresa Umhoefer ~ 262-227-8840





Guest House Sandwiches: We assemble sandwiches for the guests at the Guest House *twice* each month – on the first and third Wednesdays at 9am. Join us for this opportunity to serve and to enjoy fellowship with one another on **January 14.**

Isaiah 55 Food Pantry (All Peoples Church): Donations to the food pantry are appreciated more than ever as the need continues to increase. You may drop food and hygiene items off in the bins just outside the Luther room.



Worship Volunteers: Calling all readers, wine servers, ushers, greeters, communion setup folks and coffee fellowship helpers! There is a hard copy of the SignupGenius form on the communication desk for those that find it easier to sign up on their way in or out of church. The link sent out in the Grace Notes is still active and available, and this QR code can also be used to connect to the Signup Genius. Emails and phone calls are always welcome as well. Thank you for all your help!



Celebrations this week:

Birthdays: Anna Martin 1/11, Paul Gieschen - 1/12, Tricia Baackes - 1/14, Hildegard Quaegber - 1/17

Anniversaries: Neal & Rita Karthausser – 1/12

Special Anniversary: On January 12th, 1963 Neal and Rita Karthausser were married and will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary next week. The 63rd anniversary is often associated with water, symbolizing flowing, constant love, with sapphire as a gemstone, representing wisdom. Happy 63rd anniversary to Neal and Rita!

Members in the Military: Please keep members of Grace who are serving in the armed forces in your prayers: Bryce Umhoefer
(If you or an immediate family member is serving in the military, please let us know.)

Prayers: **Chevelle** Lutze (Veronica Junker's great-niece), **Lana** (Janie Robbins's cousin), **Andy** Roehrborn (cousin of Matt Junker), **Debbie** (friend of Dawn Omernik), **Rick** Chu (Veronica Junker's uncle), **Jerry** Karthausser, **Judy** Schwartz (friend of Delaine Jacobs), **David** Rauth, **Hayley** Kucharski, **Tucker** Kucharski, **Anna Marie** Johnson (friend of Pastor Bill), **Judy** Hogan (Ken Hogan's mother), **Anita** (friend of Geri Schesel), **Maygie** May.

