

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026

*Modified ELW Setting 10*

Grace Lutheran Church  
Wenatchee, WA



## Welcome to Grace!

*The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.*

*We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.*

*You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.*

*As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.*

**Holy Communion:** We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!

**If you are worshipping with children:** Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options especially for our young worshipers. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers. We have a Cozy Corner, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed nursery available during our worship gathering. You will find it downstairs, through the first door to the right at the bottom of the stairs.

**Our Mission Statement:** "To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.



## Introduction to the day

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

## +++ GATHERING +++

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

### PRELUDE

*Siciliano*

J. S. Bach

*Please stand as you are able.*

### CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

ELW #522, *As We Gather at Your Table*  
*Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.*



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-passion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILON, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlietjes en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

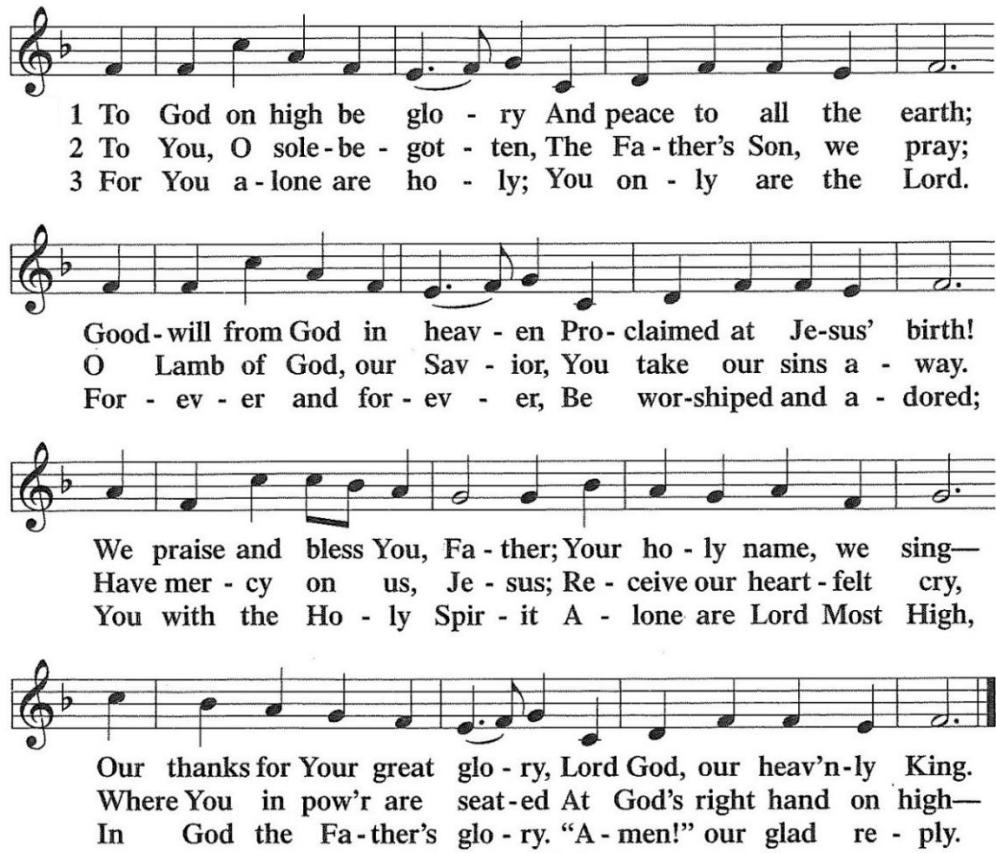
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

+++ WORD +++

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.*

A reading from Micah.

<sup>1</sup> Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the Lord has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> "O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!  
<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

<sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the Lord  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

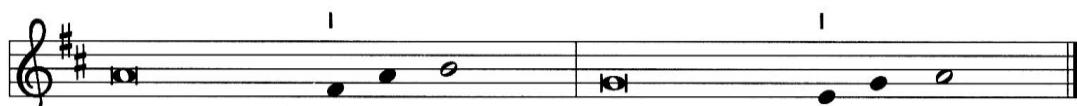
<sup>7</sup> Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 15 All sing.**



<sup>1</sup> Lord, who may dwell in your <sup>1</sup> tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your <sup>1</sup> holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> Those who lead a blameless life and do <sup>1</sup> what is right,  
who speak the truth <sup>1</sup> from their heart;

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil <sup>1</sup> to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- <sup>1</sup> on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who <sup>1</sup> fear the Lord.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take <sup>1</sup> back their word.

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- <sup>1</sup> gainst the innocent.  
Those who do these things shall never be <sup>1</sup> overthrown.

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup> The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

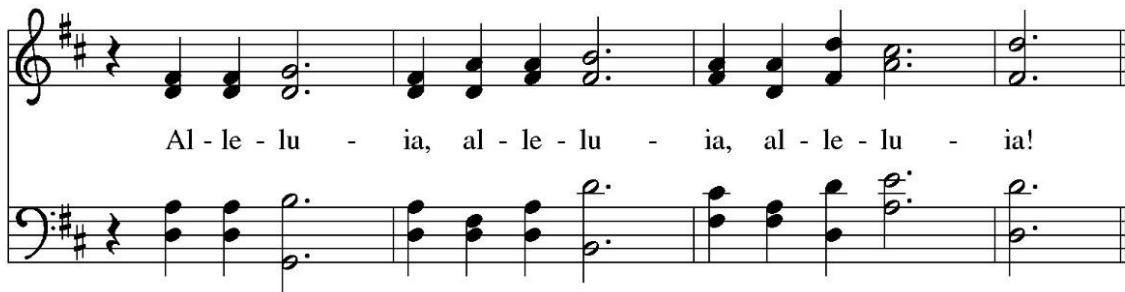
<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.  
 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
 11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### *Build a Longer Table*



## APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our Christian faith:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

***After each portion of the prayers:***

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**+++ MEAL +++**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

**OFFERING SONG**

*What Does the Lord Require of You?  
All sing repeatedly, following the choir's leadership.*

Part I

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

Part II

Jus - tice, kind - ness,

Part III

To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

walk hum - bly with your God.

and walk hum - bly with your God.

Text: Jim Strathdee, b. 1941

Music: MOON, Jim Strathdee

Text and music © 1986 Desert Flower Music, PO Box 1976, Carmichael, CA 95609

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

*Please stand as you are able.*



*To donate electronically, use this QR code.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right ... join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac - claim shout the glo - ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Sabaoth* (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."  
*Hosanna* is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed.... Do this for the remembrance of me. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial**  
and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,**  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

*Please be seated.*

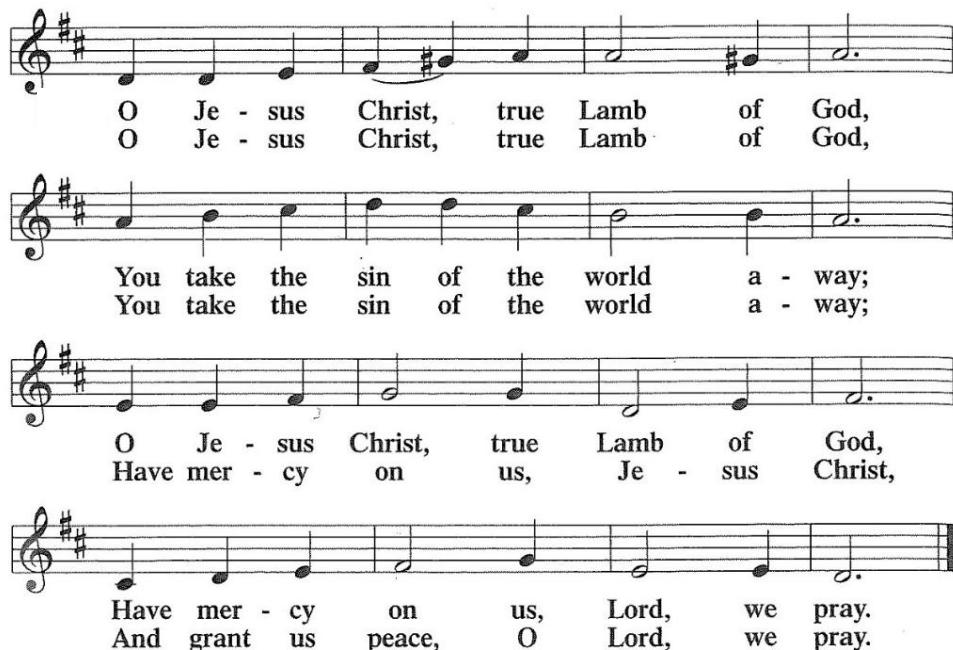
## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus Christ,  
Have mercy on us, O Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**DISTRIBUTION SONG***Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table*

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries  
2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -  
3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand  
4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;  
ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled  
dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:  
be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -  
with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -  
they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -  
who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they  
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his  
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con- verge a -  
breaks it - truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.  
fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.  
round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.  
wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: COPELAND, Michael Corzine, b. 1947

Text © 2002 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2000 Michael Corzine, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

**DISTRIBUTION SONG**

ELW #714, *O God of Mercy, God of Light*  
*Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.*



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and  
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost  
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for  
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
 word and thought may work a work for you.  
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

***The choir sings an alternate setting of stanza 5.***

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
 may we each other's burdens share;  
 may we, where help is needed, there  
 give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
 all those who live to live in love,  
 till you receive in heav'n above  
 all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.  
 Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In the sacrament of his body and blood

you have drawn us to your heart.

Send us from this table with delight,

that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,

and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### +++ SENDING +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Please be seated.*

### MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

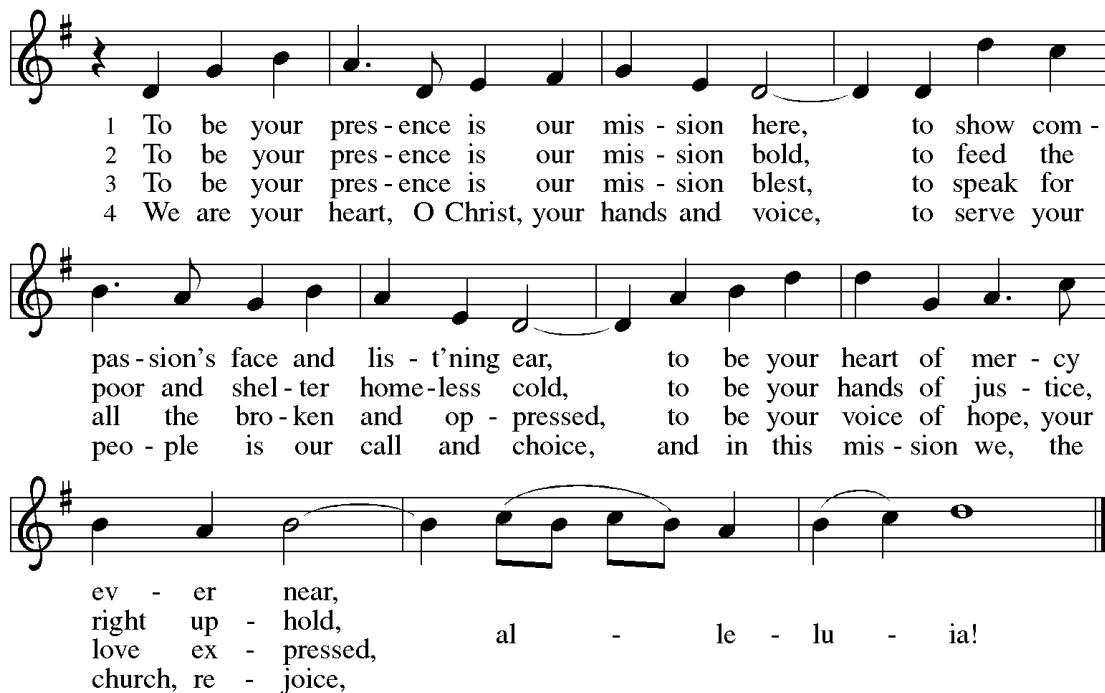
*Please stand as you are able.*

### BLESSING

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

ELW #546, *To Be Your Presence*



1 To be your presence is our mission here, to show com-  
2 To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the  
3 To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your  
pas-sion's face and lis-t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer-cy  
poor and shel-ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus-tice,  
all the bro-ken and op-pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo-ple is our call and choice, and in this mis-sion we, the  
ev-er near,  
right up hold,  
love ex- pressed,  
church, re- joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Prelude and Fugue in G Major*

J. S. Bach

## **Serving in Today's Worship**

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Preacher:	Rev. Lisa Kipp, Lutheran World Relief
Pastoral Intern:	Laura Olsen
Lector:	Lisa Zanol
Altar Guild:	Denise Miller
Communion Assistant:	Karen Zanol
Tech:	Asher Campbell

+++

**A note regarding livestreaming at Grace:** With your participation in our worship services, we assume you have granted us permission to include you in our videos. If you have a concern about being included, please let the staff know, and we will help find a solution that meets your needs.

+++

## **Acknowledgements**

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46052.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License #A-706965 and CCLI #11172667.

*Gloria in excelsis* Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955 © 2001 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Alleluia* Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525-1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823-1889. P.D.

*Build a Longer Table* Text: David BJORLIN, b. 1984 © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music: French carol. P.D.

*Sanctus* Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955 © 1998 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021 © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

*Agnus Dei* Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955 © 1998 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Georg Joseph, 17<sup>th</sup> cent. P.D.

#### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. James Aalgaard  
Deacon Ruth Anderson  
Intern Laura Olsen  
Jen Pearson-Gale  
Ann Martinson-Bartlett

Pastor  
Director of Music Ministries  
Pastoral Intern  
Office Administrator  
Office Assistant

[pastor@glcwen.org](mailto:pastor@glcwen.org)  
[deacon@glcwen.org](mailto:deacon@glcwen.org)  
[intern@glcwen.org](mailto:intern@glcwen.org)  
[office@glcwen.org](mailto:office@glcwen.org)

---

Grace Lutheran Church  
1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee WA 98801  
509-663-2189  
[www.glcwen.org](http://www.glcwen.org)

