Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

All Creation Sings Holy Communion Setting 12

> February 5, 2023 10:30 am



Grace Lutheran Church Wenatchee, WA

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation



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."

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

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY: Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

WELCOME

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Lord Whose Love in Humble Service Setting by Michael Burkhardt

Please stand as you are able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,

中 one God,

the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

G Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

G Amen.

GATHERING SONG

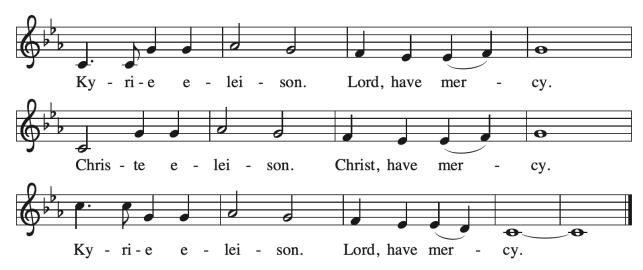


Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **G** And also with you.

KYRIE



SONG OF PRAISE 1 Glo - ry God, for yours is the earth; to you, 2 Glo - ry God, to for yours is the earth; you, 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; d. yours is birth. the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the yours the ho san - nas, the dy - ing, birth. re ra - di the worth. yours the a _ noint - ing, ant Ours the for Word giv - en joic ing frame: re _ ---Ours the claimed; re joic ing for na - ture re Ours the joic re _ ing for spir - its a flame; the thanks giv ing to your ho - ly ours name. Ours be tell of deeds great - ly the ing done; _ yours be the glo 0 God, yours a - lone. ry,

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

G Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to guarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Word of God, word of life.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112:1-9

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who [|] fear the LORD and have great delight in [|] God's commandments! ²Their descendants will be mighty | in the land; the generation of the upright | will be blessed. ³Wealth and riches will be ¹ in their house, and their righteousness will | last forever. ⁴Light shines in the darkness ¹ for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion. ⁵It is good for them to be gener-¹ ous in lending and to manage their af-¹ fairs with justice. ⁶For they will nev-¹ er be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance. ⁷They will not be afraid of any ¹ evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting [|] in the LORD. ⁸Their heart is established and [|] will not shrink, until they see their desire up- | on their enemies. ⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands ¹ fast forever; they will hold up their ¹ head with honor.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him"-

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Word of God, word of life.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5: 13-20

- **P** The holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass

from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 712, Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press. Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress. THE APOSTLES' CREED

- **P** With the whole Christian Church on earth, let us confess our faith.
- **G** 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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

- P Merciful God,
- **G** receive our prayer.
- We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
- C Amen.

PEACE

- **P** The peace of Christ be with you always.
- **G** And also with you.

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright Claudio Monteverdi Flutes: Karen and Lisa Zanol

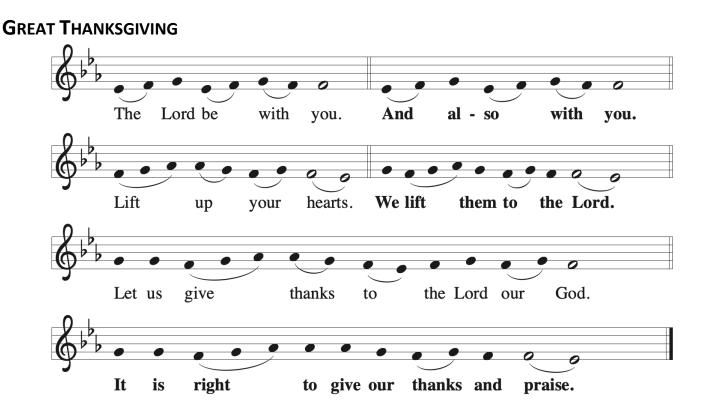
Please stand as you are able

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

G Amen.



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying: Your mercy endures forever.
- **G** Your mercy endures forever.
- **P** By your promise

you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness. Your mercy endures forever.

- **G** Your mercy endures forever.
- **P** By your promise

you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures forever.

G Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

G Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

 Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine.
 Bless us to be a blessing.
 Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
 Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.

G Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

 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.

Please be seated

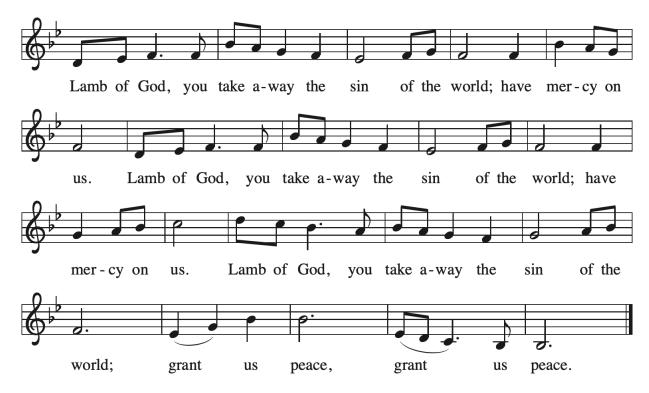
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

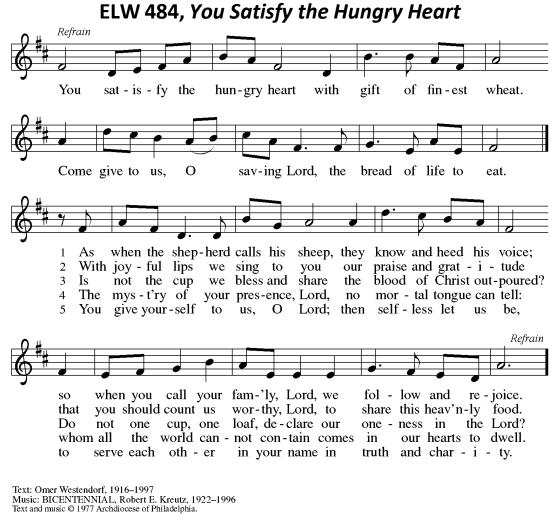
COMMUNION

- The body of Christ, given for you.The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- **C** Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN



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Please stand as you are able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

G Amen.

SENDING

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

SENDING OF COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

- God, the Source of glory,
 God, the Word of life,
 God, the Spirit of truth
 + bless you all, now and forever.
- **G** Amen.



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

G Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary John Travers

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Presiding Minister: Organist: Lector: Tech: Rev. James Aalgaard Judy Olson Joyce Owens Marlena La Paz

Flowers today are given in memory of Susan Salley.



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