

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

Worship Committee e-mail: gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com

Phone: (269) 945-9414
(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

First, He Lifted Her Up

We don't know if she had the flu, pneumonia, or some other infection. We know she had a fever and was sick in bed. Everyone can relate to that feeling: having no energy, the aches, chills, and sweats. It's a terrible feeling, and you can bet the last thing she wanted to do was get up.

While she was still sick and feverish, Jesus took her by the hand and lifted her up. Maybe she felt too weak. Maybe everyone thought it was too soon. First, he lifted her up. Then her fever left her and she served her guests in her home.

Being lifted up is both literally and figuratively true in this story. Sometimes we need to be lifted up in our hearts and our spirits when we feel weary or worn down. Sometimes Jesus comes to us with good news and we still feel the fever of our wayward souls or the aches of wrongs done to us. We don't always welcome the lifting up that Jesus does because we think we need to be healed first. But often the healing comes *after* the lifting up, the word of forgiveness, the acceptance of our imperfect condition, the encouragement to get up even though we think we cannot.

This is how God's grace works. It comes to us before we are ready to receive it and lifts us up before we think we can or should be up. This grace heals us, breaks our fever, sets us free. And what happens next? We are motivated and energized to serve, to offer what we can in gratitude. Are you feeling unworthy or unready for God's grace in your life? Jesus is here to lift you up first, then you'll know what good news really means.

5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2018

The season of Epiphany begins January 6th (the 12th day after Christmas) and marks the revelation of the baby Jesus as the Son of God. The Epiphany season, therefore, celebrates the spread of the Good News from its source in the Jewish community to all nations on earth. The color is green, for growth, as Scripture texts explore the mission of the church in the world.

<i>Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.</i>

Pre- Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able.

Gathering Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW 858 (red book)

Greeting

☞ The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☛ **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Now the Feast and Celebration

WOV 789 (blue book)



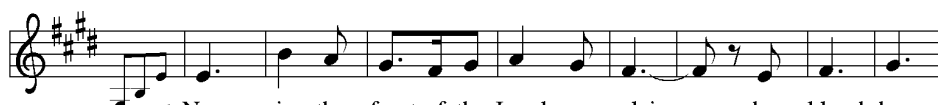
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray . . . Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.

G **Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

L A reading from **Isaiah:**

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L God, we thank you for your Word,

G **the story of your grace.**

Psalm 147:1-11, 20C




¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!

²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem,
and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the | brokenhearted
and binds | up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars
and calls them all | by their names.** 

⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power;
there is no limit | to God's wisdom.


⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly,
but casts the wicked | to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp | to our God,

⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.** 

⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}| Hallelujah! 

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

A reading from **1 Corinthians**:

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

📖 God, we thank you for your Word,
📖 the story of your grace.

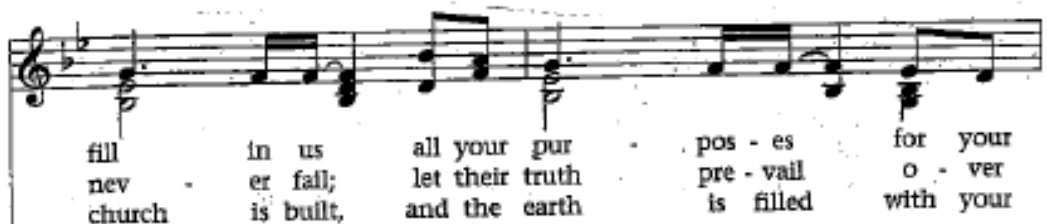
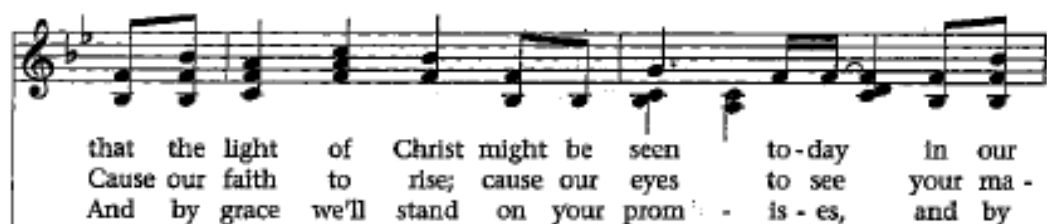
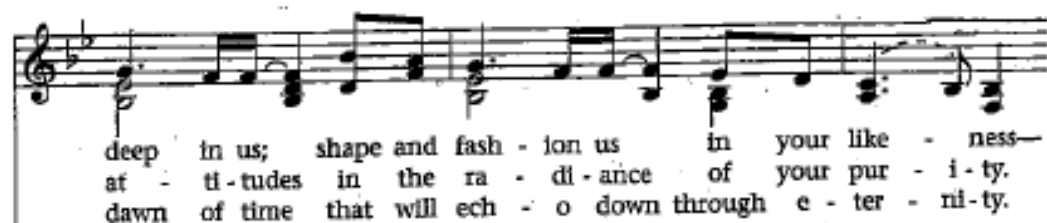
Stand

Gospel Acclamation



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights

of your ho - ly Word. Take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our
of your plans for us. Truths un - changed from the



Gospel Reading

Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals them and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

▮ The Holy Gospel, according to **Mark**.

☩ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.

³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

▮ The Gospel of the Lord.

☩ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children's Message/Children's Church

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children's sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message.

Message

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843 (red book)

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

☩ Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

☩ For the church, its pastors, deacons, musicians, artists, teachers, seminarians, and all proclaimers of the gospel, that your gift of steadfast love and mercy will spread throughout the world. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including Bishops Elizabeth, and Craig, Assistants David, Sarah and Chrysanne; *Trinity*

Lutheran Church in Millersburg, St Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken. Let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ For the earth and all living creatures, for those preparing fields for planting, and for favorable weather, that all of us who care for this life will find voice to help creation thrive, let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ For all rulers of the earth in local, regional, national, and international offices, and those without the power of official office, that they will be given the courage to work for the protection of all people and act as servants of all. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten*. Let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ For all who suffer this day: the sick and wounded, the grieving and brokenhearted, the hungry and exploited, those with malaria, and all who need our prayers, that they will be consoled and healed by health care workers, counselors, family, and friends. Comfort all in need in body, mind, or spirit, including *Hope Palmer-Weston, Bill and Judy Heil, Sharon Duits, Rick Palmer, Mary Golnek, Barb Benner, Kris Gilbert, Barb Macaully and Caleb*. Let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ For those in our congregation celebrating special events, for those missing from our worship today, and for friends and family both near and far, let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ Be attentive, gracious God, to the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

▲ Let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

▲ For those who gather in fellowship and festivities, for the ministries of this congregation in our community and throughout the world, that in all our service we see ourselves centered around Christ, let us pray.

☞ Have mercy, O God.

☐ Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ Amen.

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill out a Participation card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 583 (red book)

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions.

C Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Stand as you are able

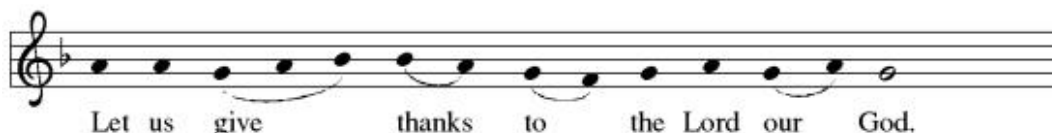
Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Great Thanksgiving



P It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, through Jesus Christ, who is your light made manifest to all the nations, and so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nå - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

Eucharistic Prayer

℟ Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

☩ When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

℟ At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; He 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.

☩ For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

℟ Remembering, therefore, his life, death and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

☩ Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

℟ Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

☩ Amen

Lord's Prayer

℟ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☩ Our Father in heaven, holy 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

℟ We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

Sit

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us.

Additional Verses:

You break the chains of hatred and fear:

You are the way of justice and peace:

You are the way of mercy and love:

You are the bread of life for us all:

You pour your Holy Spirit on us:

Final time:



Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

On Eagle's Wings

ELW 787 (red book)

In the Singing

ELW 466

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

Stand

Prayer after Communion

- A** O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.
C You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Congregational Announcements

Stand as you are able.

Blessing

- P** The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.
C Amen.

✦ During the Sending Hymn, those who wish (especially children) are invited to come forward to make music and dance in the area in front of the pews on the left. There are instruments and scarves in and near the basket by the wall. ✦

Sending Song

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

ELW 860 (red book)

Dismissal

- A** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
C Thanks be to God.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 116 Weekly Giving: **\$3,570.00** Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar, saltine crackers, boxed instant mashed potatoes and cake frosting.

"Soup Bowl Celebration" immediately after second service today. Please join us in remembering the hungry this Super Bowl—and toss your donation to help fight hunger into a soup pot after worship. **Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran in the memo: ELCA World Hunger**

Wednesday Night Lenten Dinners – please see the sign up board to organize and make a dinner during Lent. Talk to Diane Neeb (269) 945-9470 or Kim Domke (269) 908-0024 with questions.

Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction on February 11. Team Grace for Houston is having this fundraiser as an opportunity for fellowship, fun and fundraising. Please join us after the second service, so that we can help send 10 individuals from to Houston to grow deeper in faith and service to God and the Houston community.

American Red Cross CPR, AED, First Aid class to be held at Grace Lutheran on the weekend of February 23 and 24. Are you prepared to save a life? Would you like to brush upon your skills? Check the Gathering Space bulletin board for more details, or speak with ARC instructor Kim Domke, (269) 908-0024.

Renovation Update - Being good stewards of God, there was a decision to go ahead with the purchase of carpet that was needed for the church. The price for the carpet has risen steadily during our fundraising efforts and the church was faced with another price increase in the near future. The original debt amount was \$16,258.38. To date we have received **\$2,875** in generous donations from our members. The remaining debt for the carpet is **\$14,083.38**. We would be blessed if you would be willing to help pay down this debt we owe to ourselves. Thanks for your consideration. If you would like to write a check, please remember to write ‘carpet fund’ in the memo line.

Hastings Food Pantry, located at the Green Street Methodist Church, was able to serve 1,128 Barry County households in 2017 and provide them with a food ‘safety net’, thanks in part to your generous food and monetary donations. Using the Food Bank formula, in 2017, Grace donations saved the pantry \$3,574.64 (1,647.3 lbs of groceries). Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, February 4	Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am Children's Church 10:45 am Soup-er Bowl for ELCA World Hunger
Tuesday, February 6	Communication Team 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm Executive Committee 5:30 pm
Wednesday, February 7	Worship Committee 6:30 pm
Thursday, February 8	Clapper Kids 3:45 – 5:00 pm Grace Notes 5:45 – 7:00 pm
Saturday, February 10	Team Grace for Houston 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Mark Anton
Cantor	Mark Anton	Vickey Argo
Lector	Chris Bush	Gwen Hansen
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Anton	Emma Peck
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Gwen Hansen, Sandy Mosteller Joe Longcor
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	<i>Volunteer</i>	Eve Wright
Children's Church		Shayna Gibbons
Chancel Team	Chris Bush	Lisa Golnek

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, February 11, 2018

Assisting Ministers	Mark Anton	Phil Poholski
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	John Burdick	Victoria Steadman
Communion Server	Melissa Patton	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Lance Ogden
Usher	Dan & Gavin Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Melissa & Molly Patton	Kristi Winick, Ingrid Morgan
Children's Church		Kate Watson
Chancel Team	Chris Bush	Lisa Golnek

