

Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings MI 49058



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Lights Up on Jesus

When there is a lot happening on stage, theater directors help the audience pay attention to what is important. They might position the supporting characters so they face or point to the star of the scene. Stage lighting also directs attention. Sometimes this is as dramatic as following an actor with a spotlight. Sometimes it is subtle. Stage lights are turned up where the audience should focus and dimmed elsewhere.

“Let your light shine before others,” Jesus says (Matt. 5:16). Those who have read ahead in Matthew might wonder how “Let your light shine” fits with Jesus’ direction to secretly donate (Matt. 6:4), pray (v. 6), and fast (v. 18), so as not to draw attention to yourself.

The rest of Matthew 5:16 provides the explanation. We are to let our light shine “so that [others] may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Who is our light? Jesus. Why do we let our light shine? To help others see and experience God’s saving love. How does the light of Jesus shine in our lives? Through actions that consistently and authentically show our love of God and neighbor.

The baptism liturgy concludes with a welcome. The newly baptized might be presented with a candle lighted from the paschal candle representing the light of Christ. A member of the congregation can then say, “Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 231).

Baptism powers the light of Jesus in us. This light grows as we live into the baptismal covenant: to live and worship in Christian community; to witness to the good news of Christ through word, deed, and service; and to strive for justice and peace in the world.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Our Participation Card has two sides to complete. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees.

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 2017

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.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre- Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able.

Gathering Hymn

God Whose Almighty Word

ELW 673 (red book)

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.**

Prayer of the Day

☞ 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. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 58:1-12

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.

☞ A reading from **Isaiah:**

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 quarrel 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,

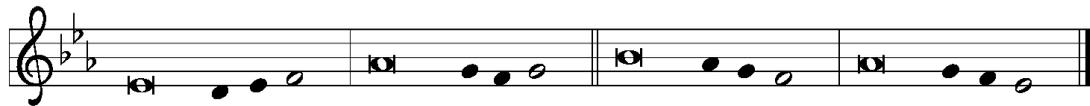
and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. ^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

☒ God, we thank you for your Word,

☑ **the story of your grace.**

Psalm 112:1-10



¹**Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!**

²**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion. ☒

⁵**It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.**

⁶**For they will nev- | er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any | 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.

⁹**They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor.**

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine away;
the desires of the wick- | ed will perish. ☒**

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.

A A reading from **Corinthians:**

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. [¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

L God, we thank you for your Word,

G the story of your grace.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-20

n 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.

☞ The Holy Gospel, according to **Matthew**.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.**

Sit

Children's Sermon/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

This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677 (red book)

5SAE-6

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

A Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

A brief silence.

A Eternal God, you are one-in-three and three-in-one. Strengthen the ministry of the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. Solidify ecumenical partnerships as they work to break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Reformation Lutheran Church in Coldwater, First United Methodist Church in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul.* Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Send relief where storms and floods overwhelm. Provide shelter and safe habitat for all creatures. Protect seeds and bulbs for the spring and fall harvest. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Ignite the nations with the flame of your justice. Enlighten the leaders of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank with your wisdom; guide government officials to seek economic justice in their communities. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, especially Myrina Clements, Kayla Pohl, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Comfort the afflicted, compassionate God. Accompany all who wait on death row. Reconcile families torn apart by crime or addiction. Heal the brokenhearted, the newly diagnosed, and all who suffer. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, especially *Victoria Steadman, Danny Gillons, Abigail Kopf, Debra Wood, George Ulrich Jr, Kenzie Rudesill, Kris Gilbert, Gale Morway, Jennifer Andersen and the family of Reba Lydy.* Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Fill those who form the faith of others with insight and energy. Multiply the fruit of their labor. Grow disciples eager to feast on your living word and embody it each day. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A 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.

A Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A We thank you for all the saints who dared to shine with the light of Christ. Compel us to shine freely and witness to your abundant grace each day. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

P Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

G Amen.

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☑ **And also with you.**

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

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

Create in Me

ELW 187 (red book)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me.
Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your
Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of six lines of music. The first line contains the first two phrases. The second line contains the third phrase. The third line contains the fourth phrase. The fourth line contains the fifth phrase. The fifth line contains the sixth phrase. The sixth line contains the seventh phrase and ends with a double bar line. There are rests at the beginning of the first and sixth lines. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it in the sixth line.

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

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

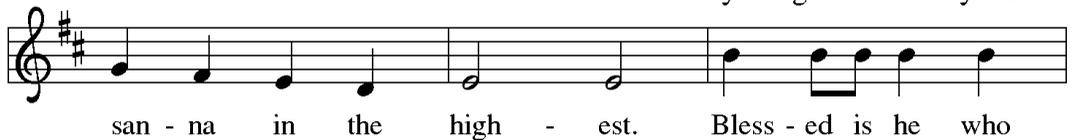
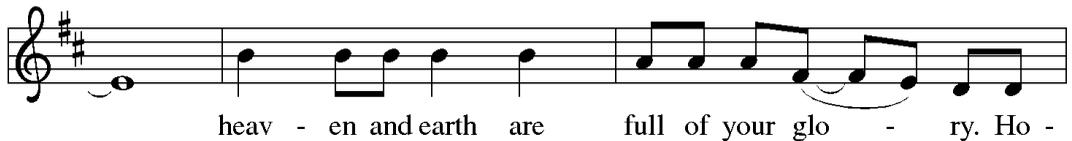
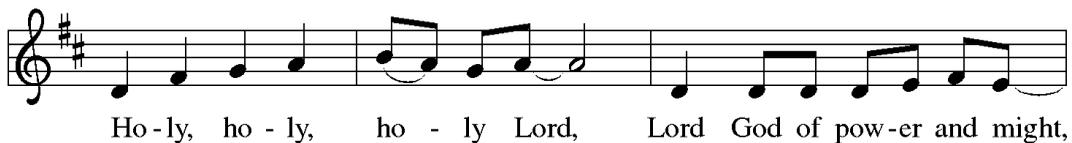
P Lift up your hearts.

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 and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

☞ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

☞ **We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.**

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

☞ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☞ Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able.

☞ **We ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine.**

☞ May we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

☞ **To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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.

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

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715 (red book)

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

WOV 649

We Are Called

ELW 720

Stand

Prayer after Communion

Ⓐ O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. 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.**

Congregational Announcements

Blessing

Ⓟ 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.

☑ **Amen.**

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Song

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

WOV 763 (blue book)

Dismissal

Ⓐ Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 77

Weekly Giving: \$2,544.00

Budget Amount: \$4,226.98

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar, elbow macaroni and saltine crackers.

Offering Envelope box #45 has been misplaced. Please take a moment to check your offering envelope number this next week as it may have been picked up by accident. If you find box #45, please drop it off in the office.

Red Cross First Aid & CPR training on Feb 24 & 25. See the foyer board for specifics and to sign up. Contact Kim Domke, 269-908-0024, with questions.

Building Renovation – Phase II – begins February 18th. If you are available to help in any capacity, please contact Doug Neeb, 269-685-7831. There are jobs for all capabilities. We would also like to have several volunteers who are willing to prepare and bring in lunch for the work crew.

Community Outreach has planned a Lenten devotional written by members of Grace. If you would like to participate, check the display in the Gathering Area for details. Dates and texts are listed which you can choose and directions for the devotional are also posted. Pastor Mike Kemper is the editor.

Vacation Bible Experience - It is never too early to begin making plans for VBE... Our first organizational meeting will be coming up soon. We are looking for a new Coordinator this year. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to this ministry opportunity. Grace has LOTS of folks willing to help and support the coordinator so no fears that you will be left alone. If this is your calling, please contact Jana Bishop at 269-838-3348 or mark.jana.bishop@gmail.com.

Youth Committee - We are looking for people interested in serving on the Youth Committee. The Committee is tasked with overseeing youth and family ministry activities at Grace. Being a member of this committee is not a commitment to lead a youth group, teach Sunday school, head up events such as VBE or the Christmas Program but rather a commitment to participate in committee meetings, brainstorm on how we can provide ministry to the youth of Grace and those beyond our doors and to pray for those who are “boots on the ground” doing the work of ministry. If God is calling you to be a part of this committee please contact Jana Bishop by February 15th at 269-838-3348 or mark.jana.bishop@gmail.com

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:00am
Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Mark Anton
Cantor	Steve Kaiser	Vickey Argo
Lector	Mary Kuhlman	Kristi Winick
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Sandy Mosteller
Acolyte/Crucifer	Katie Pohl	Gabe Barnaart
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Ed Domke, Gwen Hansen Sandy Mosteller, Joe Longcor
Greeter/Coffee Hr. Children's Church	Steve/Peg Kaiser Volunteers	Eve Wright Children's Church Tom, Hope, Emma Peck
Chancel Team	Chris Bush, Lisa Golnek	

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, February 12, 2017

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Phil Poholski
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	Chris Bush	Joyce Daugherty
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Hope Peck
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr. Children's Church	Jack/Carol Vos Volunteers	Ingrid Morgan, Kristi Winick Children's Church Eve Wright, Shayna Gibbons
Chancel Team	Chris Bush, Lisa Golnek	

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, February 5	Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am Adult Forum 9:30 am Children's Church 10:45 am Youth Group 6:00-7:30 pm
Tuesday, February 7	Executive Board 5:30 pm Worship Committee 6:30 pm
Wednesday, February 8	Prayer Group 6:00 pm
Thursday, February 9	Clapper Kids bell choir 3:45-5:00 pm Grace Notes adult bell choir 5:45-7:00 pm
Sunday, February 12	Noisy Offering