



Grace Lutheran Church
Hastings, Michigan

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2021

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.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Jesus invites us to follow, along with the disciples. One of those who are called to follow has a friend who doubts that the Messiah has arrived. Philip invites his friend to come and see. We too should invite others to come and see. In our first reading we are invited to respond to God just as Samuel, something like, “Here I am, Lord. Speak to me. I am listening”.

Announcements

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music *A Peaceful Reflection on This Little Light of Mine*

*by Mark Albrecht
Cindy Olson, Piano*

Greeting

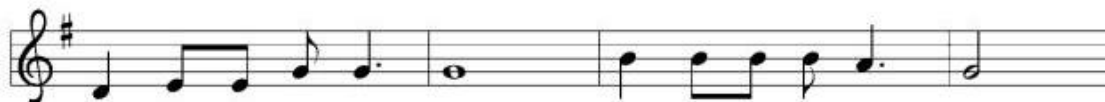
- ☞ The light of God given, experienced and shared be with you all.
- ☞ **And also with you.**



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



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
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let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Let us pray.... Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give.
- Ⓑ **May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

📖 A reading from **1 Samuel**.

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

☒ = Refrain



Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have | searched me out;
O LORD, you | have known me.

²**You know my sitting down and my | rising up;
you discern my thoughts | from afar.**

³You trace my journeys and my | resting-places
and are acquainted with | all my ways.

⁴**Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether. ☒**

⁵You encompass me, behind | and before,
and lay your | hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.**

¹³For you yourself created my | inmost parts;
you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

¹⁴**I will thank you because I am marvel- | ously made;
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well. ☒**

¹⁵My body was not hid- | den from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.

¹⁶**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written |
in your book;
my days were fashioned before they | came to be.**

¹⁷How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!
How great is the | sum of them!

¹⁸**If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours ☒**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

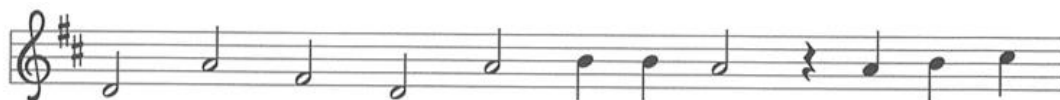
Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

📖 A reading from **1 Corinthians**.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.



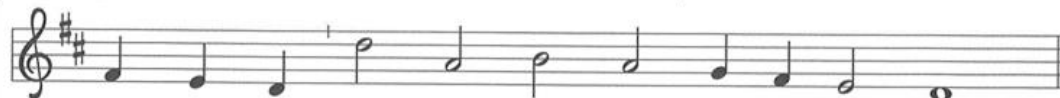
Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.

Gospel Reading

John 1:43-51

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

📖 The Holy Gospel, according to **John**.

👏 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

👏 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time

Message

Silence for reflection



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



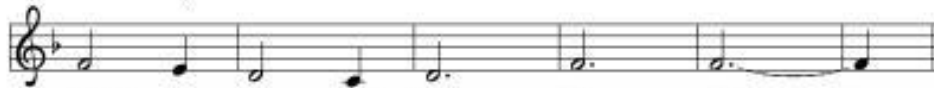
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?
 pray'r in you and you in me?
 mean in you and you in me?
 sound in you and you in me?
 grow in you and you in me.

Apostles Creed

Ⓐ We confess our faith as one body in Christ Jesus:

☑ **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

*After each petition, the Assisting Minister will end **Radiant God**. The people will speak, **Let your light shine upon us**.... as the prayer response.*

Ⓐ Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence

Ⓐ For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray. Show strength and wisdom to our church leaders, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companion St Paul Lutheran Church, Alpena; Milo Bible Church, Hickory Corners; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken*. Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

A For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home. Radiant God,

C **Let your light shine upon us.**

A For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including: *Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Austin and Aaron Endsley, Alexis and Carlos Garcia (Burdicks), Brandon and Stevi Kay Miller (McManaway), Brady and Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls), and Julia Ehredt (Schrieners, Halsteads).* Radiant God,

C **Let your light shine upon us.**

A For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound that God console all who suffer, including *Vickey Argo, Walter Brown, Gary Burdick, Penny Burdick, Joyce Domire, Allison Domke (healthy pregnancy), Erin Everly, Mike Fruth, Karl Golnek, Lisa Golnek, Don Granzow, Bill Halsted, Jerry Hansen, Larry Hansen, Joe Longcor, Bill Melcher, Vicky Saucier, Mike Shoemaker, Tim Sullivan, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Kristi Winick, and Eve Wright.* Radiant God,

C **Let your light shine upon us.**

A For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament. (*You may share your prayers at this time*)

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us (*especially Antony and Pachomius, renewers of the church*), that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action. Radiant God,

C **Let your light shine upon us.**

P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Offering of Gifts and Music

Isn't He Beautiful by John Wimber, arr. Kim Domke
Kim Domke, Bell Tree



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Offering Prayer

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
- ☒ **Nourish us with your Word, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

- Ⓐ The peace of Christ be with you always.
- ☒ **And also with you.** (*We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.*)

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.**

Mission Minutes

Blessing

- Ⓐ The God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.
- ☒ **Amen.**



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny.



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Be light for the world.

B Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Let Us Talents

by Doreen Power
 Cindy Olson, piano

Where Nothing Is Expected

At one of his life's worst intersections, when legs trembled and steps were mired in bogs of doubt, his companion looked into the man's hollowing eyes and said, "I believe in you. I know you." Have you ever needed such a word?

The list is painfully long that names all of the circumstances and places from which it is assumed nothing good can come. Perhaps you have compiled your own catalog of those who fall short, the irredeemable neighborhoods, or the situations beyond hope in the life of others. Perhaps you find yourself on someone else's list, among those whose life and plight has been dismissed as "nothing good." So it was thought of Jesus, whose life was rooted in the hillside soil of a sidetracked town—Nazareth—where nothing remarkable, not much at all, was expected to grow up. That town and its people were on the "unfavorable" list.

It is a riddle of scripture that the likes of Philip (or Peter, John, James, and Andrew—those gospel familiars) would, seemingly without discernment or a second thought, leave everything when Jesus interrupted his settled life and bid him, "Follow me." For Nathanael, it was different. He took an honest and reasonable step back. He knew all the talk about nothing good coming from Nazareth.

So many of our stories wither and so much of who we are dies when we are confronted with the "I know about you" list of painful failures instead of a loving, hopeful invitation to "come and see" (John 1:46).

There is a mighty mercy, an opening of heaven itself before our very eyes, a retelling of each "Nazareth" in our lives if we dare to "come and see" Jesus. Then that painful, long, imposed or self-inflicted list is no longer our truth because we, in seeing Jesus, begin to see ourselves and others as Jesus does. An epiphany happens: "I believe in you."

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings MI 49058



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(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
January 17, 2021

Stewardship Information

Views: 216 Weekly Giving: \$7,383.00 Budget Amount: \$4,227.24

COMMUNION OF TWO KINDS arrives for those who desire to come to the fellowship hall. Thanks to a donation of grape juice (wine was not available) Grace will be able to enjoy communion with bread and “wine”. Thanks to Joe Longcor and Vickey Argo for the donation. *Private Communion is available by appointment.* Please contact the church office **269.945.9414** or Pastor Ken directly for a time and day.

Adult Forum will continue a study on the book of **Acts** today at 10:00 am. We will continue to meet in the Gathering Area for the study.

We need your plastic shopping bags! Grace is beginning a new ministry for the homeless. We are collecting shopping bags and a group is weaving them into mats. Please place your clean plastic shopping bags into a box marked shopping bags in the coat closet near the entrance and the office. Thanks for your ministry to those who can use these mats.

When you are in the building, we ask you to wear a mask. To help keep the larger community safe, we also ask that you maintain at least a 6-foot distance from those who are not part of your household. **Thank you for loving your neighbor.**

Grace Lutheran Church has suspended onsite worship. Please join us for **Sunday virtual worship** at www.grace-hastings.org. We hope that you are being blessed by our worship of God each week. The council will vote at a future date to reimplement onsite worship.

Assisting Minister – Ethan Scheck

Lector – Chris Bush

Cantor – Anna Scheck

Minister of Music – Cindy Olson

Musicians – Chris Bush, Kim Domke, Carla Neil, Cindy Olson, Anna Scheck, Ethan Scheck, Laura Scheck, Kristi Winick, Handbell Tree Kim Domke

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Food Pantry

The Hastings Food Pantry is seeing an increase in clientele. As many jobs have been lost because of the new restrictions but in place with COVID 19 the food pantry believes there will be another rise in traffic to the pantry. Needs are:

Prayer

Chunky & Progressive Soups

Saltine Crackers

Boxes or packets of Beef or Chicken Rice

Cakes and Frosting

Brownies

Cans of Pineapple

Please join Pastor Ken in 2021, as Grace Lutheran Church is invited to read through the entire **New Testament in Chronological Order**. Not Matthew to Revelation, but James to Revelation. You may be surprised to know that many of the New Testament Letters were composed before the Gospels were written. There is an insert provided in January's GraceGram entitled 2021 Daily Reading Guide.

**THE 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE HERE
AND IN YOUR MAILBOXES AT CHURCH.**



COME FOLLOW ME!

"COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID,
"AND I WILL SEND YOU OUT TO
FISH FOR PEOPLE." AT ONCE
THEY LEFT THEIR NETS
AND FOLLOWED
HIM."

MATTHEW 4:19-20 TNIV

WWW.HEARTLIGHT.ORG

Jesus invites us to follow.