

# Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St  
Hastings MI 49058



Website: [www.grace-hastings.org](http://www.grace-hastings.org)  
Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
February 11, 2024

# *Transfiguration of Our Lord*

## *February 11, 2024*

*Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.*

### Gathering Music

### Welcome/Worship Instructions

*Arise in body or spirit.*

### Gathering Song

*How Good, Lord, to Be Here*

ELW 315

### Greeting

- P** The light of God given, experienced and shared be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**
  
- A** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- C** **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
  
- P** Those who dwell in the land of deep darkness – on them light shined.
- C** **We have seen Christ’s light, the light from God is Jesus.**
  
- A** Jesus said, “I am the light of the world...”
- C** **Those who follow me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”**
  
- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, and wind sweeping over the waters.
- C** **Amen.**

*Refrain*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

*Last time*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the  
 2 That we may live out your im -  
 3 For peace in our hearts, for  
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;  
 passionate re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;  
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;  
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,  
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts.
- ☩ **Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## First Reading

**2 Kings 2:1-12**

*Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

📖 A reading from **2 Kings**:

<sup>1</sup>Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

<sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 50:1-6




### Refrain

Out of Zi - on, per - fect in beau - ty,

God shines forth in glo - ry.

<sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the <sup>1</sup>LORD, has spoken;  
calling the earth from the rising of the sun <sup>1</sup>to its setting.

<sup>2</sup>**Out of Zion, perfect <sup>1</sup>in its beauty,  
God shines <sup>1</sup>forth in glory.** 

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will <sup>1</sup>not keep silence;  
with a consuming flame before, and round about a <sup>1</sup>raging storm.

<sup>4</sup>**God calls the heavens and the earth <sup>1</sup>from above  
to witness the judgment <sup>1</sup>of the people.**

<sup>5</sup>“Gather before me my <sup>1</sup>loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed <sup>1</sup>it with sacrifice.”

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare the rightness <sup>1</sup>of God’s cause,  
for it is God <sup>1</sup>who is judge.** 

## Second Reading

## 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

☒ A reading from **2 Corinthians**:

<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

☒ The Word of the Lord.

☒ Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

## *Come and See*

ACS 976

The musical score is written for a voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "What are you looking for? Come, see, come and see. What are you looking for? Come and see. Come and see." The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

## Gospel Reading

**Mark 9:2-9**

*Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.*

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children's Time

*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. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.*

## Message

*Silence for reflection*

Arise in body or in spirit to sing the hymn.

**Song of the Day**

**You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd**

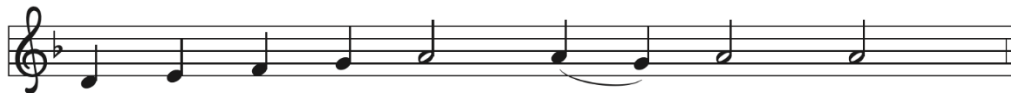
**ACS 954**



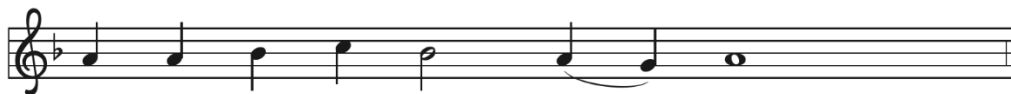
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
stripped of might up - on the cross,  
sit in pow - er at God's side,  
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



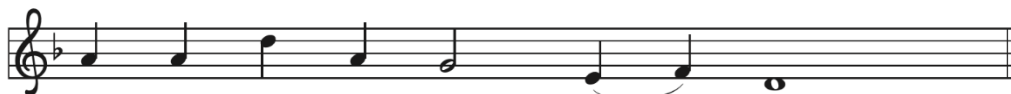
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.  
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,  
have a love that reach - es wide.  
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
you, who are both gift and cost.  
you, who are our pil - grim guide.  
you, who are our death and life.



*You may sit or kneel for prayer.*

## **Prayers**

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **We lift our hearts to you.** The assembly prays, **Reveal your love, O Lord.***

☞ As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

☞ We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. We lift up *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David; our synod companion churches Victory Trinity Lutheran Church, Ludington; Nashville Baptist Church; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* We lift our hearts to you.

☞ **Reveal your love, O Lord.**

☞ We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. We lift our hearts to you.

☞ **Reveal your love, O Lord.**

☞ We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke).* We lift our hearts to you.

☞ **Reveal your love, O Lord.**

☞ Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. We pray for any who are sick and suffering *especially, Pastor Michael Anton, Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Diana Brown, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Lisa Golnek, The Family of Charlene Hall, Lorraine Handsbarger, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Virginia Henion, Andy Lamb, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Rick Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Annette Poholski, Jennifer Rohr, Mike Shoemaker, the Family of Marian Sorby, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Al Throop, Russ Trongo, and Brenda Watson..* We lift our hearts to you.

☞ **Reveal your love, O Lord.**

☞ We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

☞ Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we

remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. We lift our hearts to you.

☑ **Reveal your love, O Lord.**

☐ Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

☑ **Amen.**

*Arise in body or spirit.*

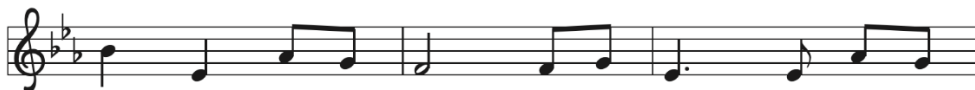
**Offertory Song**

*Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken*

**ACS 966**



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



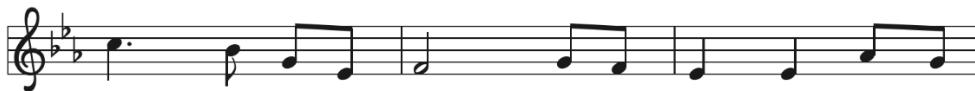
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

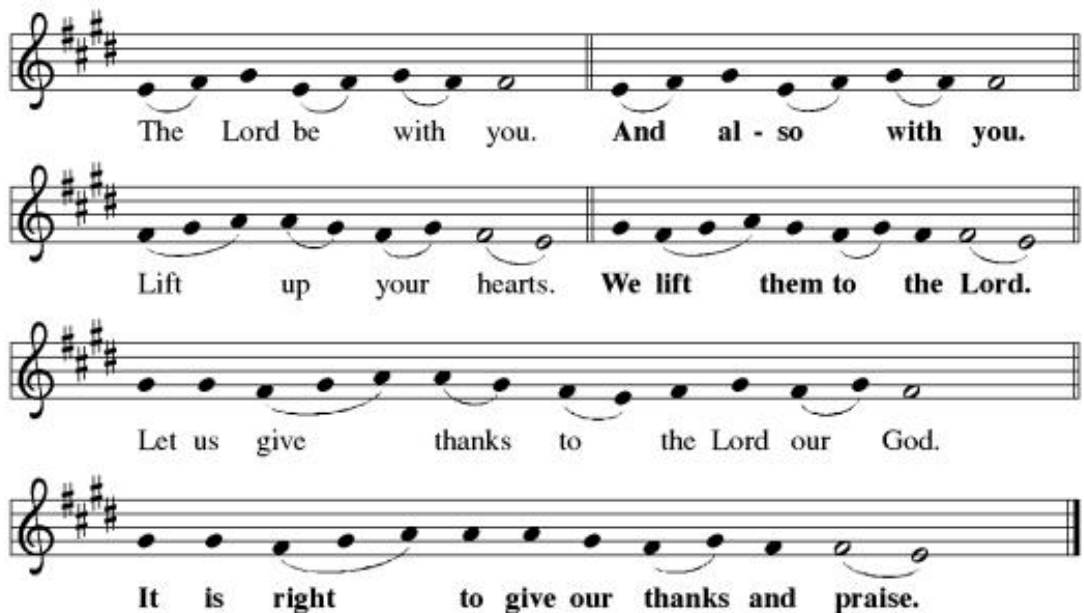
## Offering Prayer

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.
- Ⓒ **In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Sharing the Peace of God

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

## Great Thanksgiving



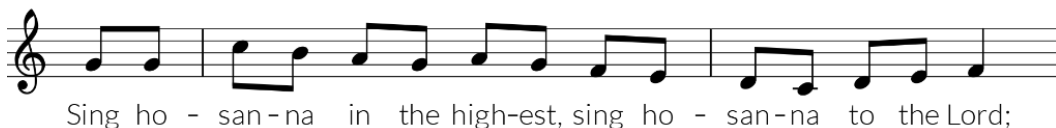
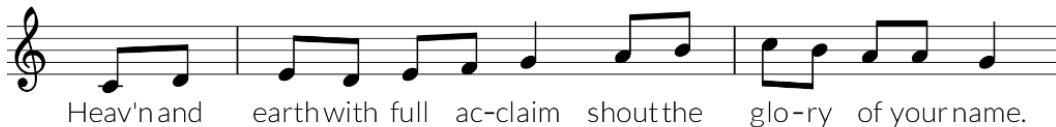
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

- Ⓐ 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:



### Table Prayer

- ☞ Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace.
- ☞ **From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.**
- ☞ 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. Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await Christ's coming again in righteousness and peace.
- ☞ **Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share.**
- ☞ We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame. We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit.
- ☞ **Be for us our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

- P** Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- C** **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

- P** At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Sit.*

## Communion Songs

*Beautiful Savior* ELW 838  
*When Morning Gilds the Skies* ELW 853

## Prayer after Communion

- A** Giver of every gift,
- C** **Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body . Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## Mission Minutes - Prayer (10:45 only)

*Arise in body or spirit*

### Blessing

- P** God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you ✚ bless you and remain with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

## Sending Song

*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*

ELW 318

## Sending

- A** Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## Just Listen

There are transfiguration moments in everyday life that can absolutely stop us in our tracks with the glory of Christ's presence: The smell of a new baby. Flowering trees blooming in the spring. The embrace of a friend when we need them most. Voices raised in cries for justice. The bravery of difficult conversations. The sacred minutes just before death. It may not be Jesus in dazzling clothes or a visit from the ancestors on a mountaintop, but by God's grace, we perceive the love of Christ shining brightly in these ordinary, yet holy, moments.

When they happen to us, what are we to do? It can be difficult, when in the presence of the divine, to know quite what to say. Peter, grasping at straws, offered to make three dwellings. You can't blame him—we all make weird choices when we are terrified! But a voice came from heaven: "Listen." It is not necessary to do or say anything. This moment is simply a gift. Our job is only to listen to Jesus.

Have you ever spent time just listening? Maybe outdoors, on a hike or in a park—listening to the sounds of creation. Or during a quiet moment in worship—the sound of cars driving by outside, or your neighbor breathing, or your own heart beating. Perhaps you have listened compassionately to a loved one who didn't need advice but just needed to be heard.

As people accustomed to *doing*, we can find it challenging to just listen. We may have learned that it is important for us to have something to say, something to offer, something to provide. But the good news of grace is that Christ's love has come to us even before we could do anything. That's why we baptize even helpless infants. That's why, when we come to communion, we do so with hands outstretched and empty, ready to receive: "This is the body of Christ." All we can do is listen . . . and say, "Amen."

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### **8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister – Mark Anton**  
**Lector – Tim Schoessel**  
**Cantor – Cindy Olson**  
**Musician – Cindy Olson**  
**Pastor – Ken Scheck II**

### **10:45 am**

**Assisting Minister – Traci Wales**  
**Lector – Kristi Winick**  
**Cantor – Kate Watson**  
**Musician – Cindy Olson**  
**Pastor – Ken Scheck II**  
**Fellowship – Diane Neeb**



**Hand2Hand Program** provides food over the weekend to students at Hastings schools. We are collecting donations of Yoo-Hoo Chocolate Milk, pudding cups, Slim Jims, granola bars, individual size instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, and ready-to-eat mac and cheese. For February, they are in additional need of microwave popcorn, individual apple sauce cups, and Knorr Alfredo Pasta. **The deadline for February is the 25<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for your continued support of this valuable program.

**Look for the Lenten Devotional** which is available in the Gathering Area. This year the title is *Lifted Up in Love* by Henri J.M. Nouwen.

**Meals for Lent** Each Lenten meal begins at 6:15 followed by worship at 7:15 pm. Join us on Wednesdays in February on the 14th, 21st, 28th, and in March on the 6th, 13th, and 20th. This Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday, is hosted by Pastor Ken and Laura.

**Ash Wednesday Here at Grace** February 14, 2024, at 7:15 p.m. meal provided before worship starting at 6:15 p.m.

**Women of Faith** meet Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. All ladies are welcome. A reminder that if Hastings Schools are closed due to inclement weather we will not meet. Thank you.

**Adult Forum** please join us today at 9:30 as we continue our study of Galatians.

**The Roundtable Companions for Racial Equity** are a local group of people dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in our community. Their fundamental belief is Every individual, regardless of their background, deserves to be valued, respected and included. In the month of February, they are hosting a series of events at the Hastings Library called *Lift Every Voice*.



**Celebrations of Cultures  
with Local Lifestories**

Create a more inclusive and accepting community to celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures and perspectives that make Hastings vibrant and unique.

**Feb 12 - Native American Lifestory**

**Feb 19 - Puerto Rican & Hispanic Lifestories**

**Feb 26 - Documentary “I am Not Your Negro”**

inspired by James Baldwin's manuscript which bios the works of civil rights leaders Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, & Martin Luther King Jr

**6:00 pm**

**Hastings Public Library Community Room**



Welcome to worship today! We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the ONE who reveals God’s presence in our lives. It is by God’s grace that we are made a child of God, who is blessed by God’s rich grace, mercy, and peace.

### Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 42  
 Weekly Giving: \$1,425.00  
 January Online Giving: \$2,296.73

Views: 384  
 Budget Amount: \$4,366.17  
 Grace Projects: \$500.00

**Grace Projects** As you know, we have fully funded a new HVAC system for the Fellowship Hall. The Congregation Council has voted to have a fundraiser to replenish the funds we raised. Much like the roof deductible, we are seeking to make sure we have funds for any future property needs. The cost of the HVAC was \$25,252. We appreciate any contributions toward this future need of caring for our building.

**Noisy Offering** will be collected today to benefit Barry County Cares. You may place coins and other money into the silver bowl located in the front during the singing of the offertory song. Noisy Offering is taken every second Sunday.

**Please Join Us** today as we celebrate Raylan Gibbon’s First Communion. Cake reception to follow.

**Social Activities Invites You** The 2024 Hastings High School Play is "Matilda". Grace plans to attend on Saturday, March 9th at 2:00PM. This year we ask that you purchase tickets on your own from the high school. We plan to go to dinner after the play. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you are interested in going to dinner so reservations can be made. Please indicate if you need a ride.

**The nursery is available weekly during the 10:45 worship service.** Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service.

**Community Ash Wednesday Service** February 14, 2024, at **12 noon** will be held at Green Street United Methodist Church. Please join our ecumenical partners in providing unity in the body of Christ by attending. The theme of the worship service is **Forgiveness**. Pastor Ken Scheck will be doing the sermon. Information about the other community Lenten services is located on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

