Grace Lutheran Church 239 E North St Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-1:00 pm

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music February 9, 2025

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 9, 2025

The season of Epiphany has begun 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. Today's green color reminds us, even in the middle of winter, we can continue to grow.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Welcome

Gathering Music

Arise in body or spirit.

Greeting

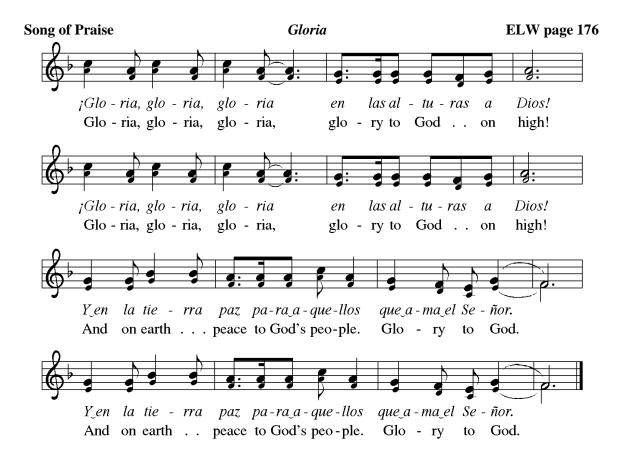
The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- P The light of God given, experienced and shared be with you all.
- **G** And also with you.
- A The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- **G** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Gathering Song Let the Whole Creation Cry ELW 876 1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!" the Lord, proph-ets burn-ing with the Ser - vants striv - ing for 2 word. 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold. Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!" be - long add their voic - es those to whom the arts to the song. this wor - ship take their parts; chil-dren's hap - py hearts in and let Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove. ev er bright and fair in love: -Pow'rs of knowl-edge and the glo-rious cir-cle draw; of law, to from the north south-ern pole the might - y to let cho-rus roll: sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice. all who wait, sing,"The Lord is good and great!" all who work and God a - lone!" "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly glo - rv One; be to

Dialogue

- ▶ Those who dwell in the land of deep darkness on them light shined.
- **•** We have seen Christ's light, the light from God is Jesus.
- A Jesus said, "I am the light of the world....
- **G** 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.
- G Amen.



Prayer of the Day

- A Let us pray... Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe.
- Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"

L A reading from Isaiah.

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ² Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴ The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.





¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with [|] my whole heart; before the gods I will [|] sing your praise.

² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things. 🗷

³ When I called, you | answered me;

you increased my strength within me.

⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise [|] you, O LORD, when they have heard the words [|] of your mouth.

⁵ They will sing of the ways ¹ of the LORD, that great is the glory ¹ of the LORD.

⁶ The LORD is high, yet cares [|] for the lowly, perceiving the haughty [|] from afar. 🕅

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you [|] keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ You will make good your pur- | pose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.

Second Reading

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

L A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them-though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.



Please arise in body or spirit. **Gospel Acclamation**

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Gospel Reading

Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

The Holy Gospel, according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ² he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶ When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

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

Please arise in body or spirit. **Song of the Day**



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Please be seated.

Prayers

We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **God of grace.** The assembly prays, **Hear our prayer.**

A With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

▲ God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. Bless our leaders and collaborators, *especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistant Chrisy, our synod companion Peace Lutheran Church, Charlotte; Nashville Baptist Church; Nashville United Methodist Church; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of grace,

G Hear our prayer.

▲ God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace,

G Hear our prayer.

▲ Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Seth Domke (Domke), and Nathen Schick (Markwart).* God of grace,

G Hear our prayer.

- Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind, especially Jennie Anderson, Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Bonnie Ehredt, Greg Franks, Lori and John Giacalone, Ruby Gibbons (preparation for baptism), Lisa Golnek, Heather Gore, Joy Jenks, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Betty Lou Leonhardt, Dana Lepien, Larry Maupin, Dawn McElgunn, Sandy Mikolajczyk, Martha Misak, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, James Neiderheiser, Lisa Nurenberg, Darlene Olson, Kali Ranguette (pregnancy), Tammy Rodriguez, Ron Smith, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Brenda Watson, and Deborah Wilke. Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace,
- **G** Hear our prayer.

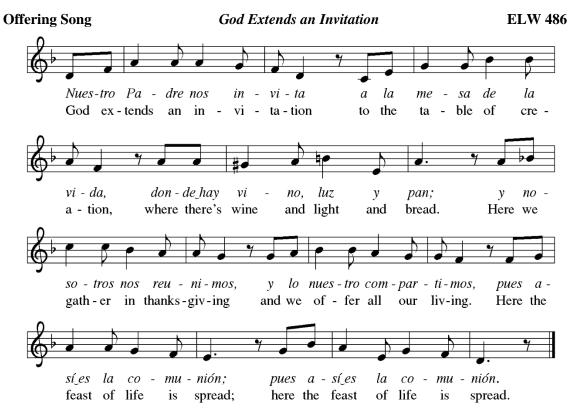
- ▲ Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace,
- **G** Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- A We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace,
- **G** Hear our prayer.
- P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- G Amen.

Please arise in body or spirit. Sharing the Peace of God

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



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Offering Prayer

- Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.
- **G** 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.

Great Thanksgiving

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** 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:

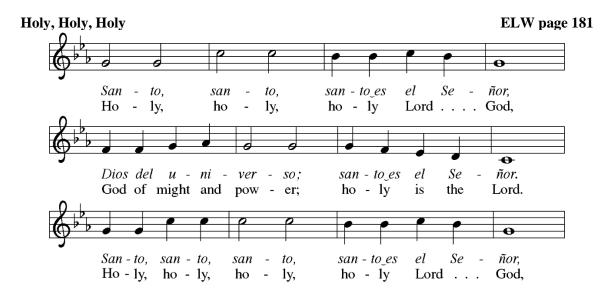




Table Prayer

- P 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.

G 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.
- **G** Be for us our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

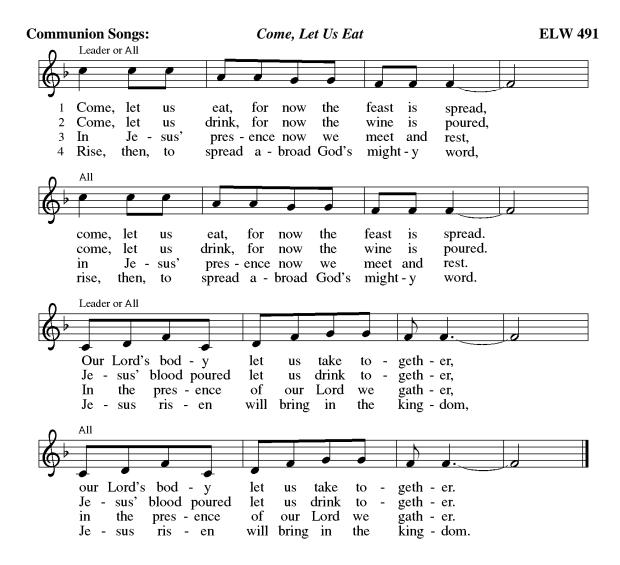
- P Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

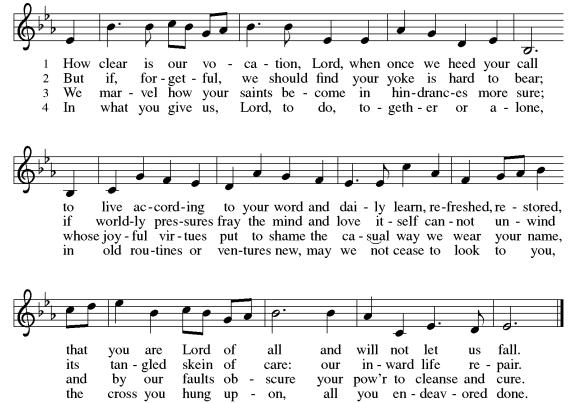
- P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

Please be seated. Lamb of God





How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord



Prayer after Communion

- A Let us pray... Giver of every gift,
- 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

Arise in body or spirit Blessing

- God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you
 H bless you and remain with you always.
- G Amen.



Sending

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

Postlude

<u>9:30 am</u> Assisting Minister – Mark Anton Lector – Dave Neeb Musician – Cindy Olson Cantor – Ken Scheck Pastor – Ken Scheck Fellowship – SOUP-ER BOWL LUNCH!

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A Too-Small God?

Does the Lord's presence make you uncomfortable? This question may seem odd: after all, don't we call our worship spaces "sanctuaries"? Our readings today, however, feature people who, in their contact with God, are moved to express their unworthiness. A vision of divine glory overwhelms Isaiah with the holiness of "the Lord of hosts," before whom he is "a man of unclean lips" (Isaiah 6:5). After condescendingly agreeing to follow Jesus' fishing directions, Simon discovers just how little he knows and cries out, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:8). Paul tells how he had rejected what God did in raising Jesus from the dead. All three faced revelations of God's greatness that dwarfed their expectations. These surprises evoked responses quite foreign to our culture of self-affirmation: a consciousness of their own unworthiness before such a glorious God.

While we probably don't want people diving under their pews during worship, a God before whom we feel fully composed and confident is not the "holy, holy, holy . . . Lord of hosts" (Isaiah 6:3) seen by Isaiah. Do we settle for a tame God, one who happens to approve of everything we do and disapprove of whatever we don't like?

As these stories continue, they show us that a full vision of God's holiness need not leave us shaking in terror. God's true glory is mercy. A heavenly being cleanses Isaiah's lips, and he is sent to Israel as God's messenger. Undeserving Paul becomes an apostle. Jesus tells Simon, "Do not be afraid," and he receives a vital role in the Savior's mission (Luke 5:10).

The gospel reveals that God's holiness does not destroy sinners but, rather, consumes sin through forgiveness. Before we could ever deserve it, the waters of baptism wash us with grace. God's greatness becomes small for us in the Christ child, in the simple words of absolution, and in a taste of bread and wine. Forgiven and healed, we—blessed despite our unworthiness—are now sent to share the good news.

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Worship is at 9:30 am, with Adult Forum following

Council has voted to keep the one service for the foreseeable future.

Parish Administrator is Anna Scheck; office hours 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday-Thursday.

Soup-er Bowl Sunday soup lunch is today after worship. We will be choosing the team we want to win by putting money into that team's basket. Will it be the Philadelphia Eagles or Kansas City Chiefs who will collect the most money? Of course, the real winner is the ELCA World Hunger Program. We will determine who the champion is for the best soup by voting with tickets that will be placed in a basket by your favorite soup. All are welcome.

Game Day before we go home and watch the big game, please join in playing some board and card games. All ages are welcome.

Medicare information is available today at noon. An agent from Senior Citizens Benefits is meeting with Pauline Obasi here at Grace, and all are welcome to come and ask about benefits, options, and what is new with Medicare.

Lift Every Voice invites you to Lifestories – Tribal Government and US & MI Government with Native American Affairs Representative & Bill Griffey, Gun Lake Tribe Education Director on February 17 at 6:00 pm in the community room at the Hastings Public Library.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is Hastings High School's musical this spring. SAC invites you to attend the 2 pm showing on Saturday, March 15, and we'll go to a local restaurant to share a meal afterwards. Sign up on the bulletin board. We ask that you buy your own tickets at https://hastings.ludus.com/index.php. Contact Bill Freedlund if you need help ordering your tickets.

Welcome to Club Grace featuring the Superheroes Blood Drive is on February 25 from 10am-4pm. Registration is open, call 1-800-733-2767 or go to https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html. Please consider giving blood and spread the word to those who may be interested! Sign up to work or provide snacks on the bulletin board.

Outreach Committee will meet tomorrow, February 10 at 3:00 p.m.

Executive Committee will meet this Tuesday, February 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. 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 Jesus, who calls us to follow sharing God's forgiveness, love, and grace.

Stewardship Information



Attendance: 33Views: 182Weekly Giving: \$2,040.00Budget Amount: \$4,366.17Green Team: \$45.00January Online Giving: \$2,335.92

Grace Projects Goal	\$ 25,252.00
Received To Date	- <u>\$ 3,200.00</u>
Total Needed	\$ 22,052.00

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$10

Noisy Offering is being collected today and benefits Barry County Cares.



*Knorr Alfredo Pasta *Slim Jim's *Granola Bars *Individual Hot Chocolate **Hand2Hand** Thank you for your generous support of Hand2Hand this month. February's need items are microwave popcorn, Yoo-Hoo chocolate milk, Knorr alfredo pasta, Slim Jim's, granola bars, and individual hot chocolate. February donations are due February 23. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

Women of Faith meets on Tuesdays at 11:00 am here at Grace. Join us on February 11, 18, and 25. We are finishing up our study on the women of the New Testament, and we'll start "Listening to God" on February 25. All women are welcome.

Brothers of Grace meets this Thursday, February 13 at 6:00 pm. All men are welcome.

The nursery is available weekly during the 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.

Adult Forum Please join us after worship next week with Pastor Ken, with a study on Hosea.