

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
February 15, 2026

# Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 15, 2026

*The season of Epiphany begins January 6<sup>th</sup> which 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

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

## Gathering Music *provided by Clapper Kids and Grace Notes*

*Arise in body or spirit.*

### Greeting

- ☐ The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and in dwelling of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**
  
- ☐ The light of God given, experienced and shared be with you all.
- ☑ **Let us share the light of God's love with others.**

## Gathering Hymn

*Light Shone in Darkness*

ELW 307

## Prayer of the Day

- ☐ Let us pray, O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children.
- ☑ **Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Special Music

*O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

arr. by Larry Sue

## First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the Lord” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

📖 A reading from **Exodus**:

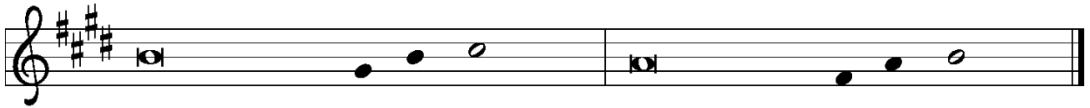
<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

👏 Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 2



📖 Refrain



You are my son; this day have I be - got - ten you.

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations | in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?

<sup>2</sup> **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes | plot together,  
against the LORD and against the | LORD’s anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> “Let us break their | yoke,” they say;

“let us cast off their | bonds from us.”


<sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing;**

**the LORD holds them | in derision.** 📖

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God | speaks to them,  
and in rage fills | them with terror.

<sup>6</sup> **“As for me, I have anoint- | ed my king  
upon Zion, my | holy mountain.”**


<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree | of the LORD,  
who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I be- | gotten you.

<sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for | your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for | your possession.** 

<sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an | iron rod  
and shatter them like a | piece of pottery.”

<sup>10</sup> **And now, you | kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers | of the earth.**


<sup>11</sup> Submit to the | LORD with fear,  
and with trembling | bow in worship;

<sup>12</sup> **lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden | blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take ref- | uge in God!** 

## Second Reading

## 2 Peter 1:16-21

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

 A reading from **2 Peter**:

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

 The Word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

**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 17:1-9**

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Time**

**Message**

*Silence for reflection*

Hymn of Day

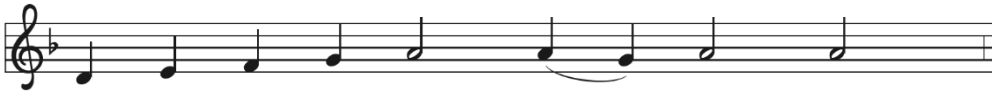
You, Lord, are Both Lord and Shepherd



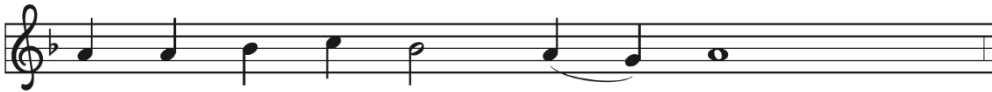
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



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!



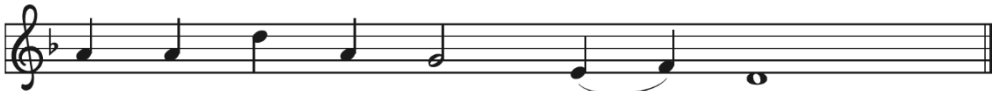
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



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.

## Prayers of Intercession

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Radiant God.** The assembly responds in prayer. **Let your light shine upon us.***

- Ⓐ As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence*

- Ⓐ Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Guide your servants, especially *Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate; our synod companion churches, Hope St. John's Episcopal/Lutheran Parish in Oscoda; Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church in Lake Odessa; Pleasantview Church in Dowling; Minister of Music Cindy, and Pastor Ken.* Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

- Ⓐ Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

- Ⓐ Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees, defend any who are in danger. 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), Hudson Schick (Markwart) and Leopold Schick (Markwart).* Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

- Ⓐ Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve *especially Jennie Anderson, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Greg Franks, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Walker Heise, Brenda and Jack Hopkins, Christine Jenkins, Joy Jenks, Carrie Johnson, Martha Klenk, Dana Lepien, Michelle Luedke, Larry Maupin, Linda Melcher, Janet Moomey, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Valeria Poholski, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Mira Thomas, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Brenda Watson & family, and Tom and Kathy.* Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

- Ⓐ Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Radiant God,

☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

- Ⓐ Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Radiant God,
- ☑ **Let your light shine upon us.**
- Ⓟ Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.
- ☑ **Amen.**

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

### Sharing the Peace

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

### Offering Song

WOV accomp. ed. pgs. 19-20

☑ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,  
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## Offering Prayer

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


## Great Thanksgiving



**P** The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**G** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Eucharistic Prayer

- P** 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.

- G** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

- P** Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray how Jesus first taught:
- G** **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

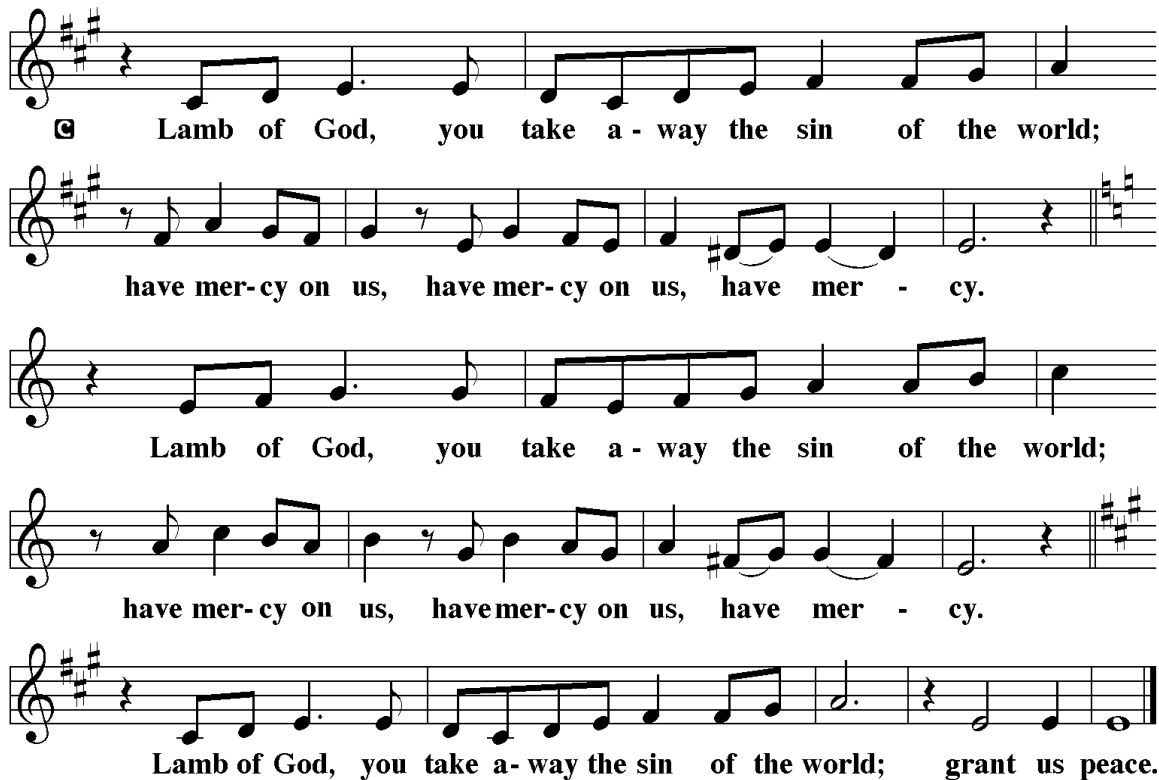
☐ Holy food for Holy people.

☑ Thanks be to God.

## Communion Songs:

### *Lamb of God*

*(WOV accomp. ed. pgs. 24-25)*



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

*Beautiful Savior*  
*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

ELW 838

ELW 671

## Prayer after Communion

☐ Let us pray . . . Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

☑ Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Mission Minutes

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

### **Blessing**

- A** Live your lives in the Light of Christ, sharing God’s rich love and grace. The blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.
- G** Amen.

**Sending Hymn**

*O Lord, Now Let Your Servant*

**ELW 313**

### **Dismissal**

- A** Go in peace. Be light for the world.
- G** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude music provided by Grace Notes**

### **9:30 am**

**Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo**

**Lector – Dave Neeb**

**Musician – Cindy Olson**

**Cantor – Paul Kuhlman**

**Pastor – Ken Scheck**

**Fellowship – Bill and Lorraine Freedlund**

**Usher – Mark Anton**

**Bell Ringers – Kim Domke, Joan Heffelbower, Jan Rounds, Gayle Marsh, Liz Allarding, Alice Allarding, Shayna Gibbons, Raylan Gibbons, Alicia Devroy, Tyler Devroy, Ethan Devroy**

**Lent begins this Wednesday with Ash Wednesday Service.** Join us for worship at 6 pm. There will be no meal this week. Starting next week, the Wednesdays in Lent will begin with worship at 6 pm with a meal following the worship. Pastor Ken will lead worship and leave shortly after to lead worship at Zion Lutheran, Woodland.

<b>Lenten Wednesdays</b>			
February 25	12 noon	Ecumenical Luncheon here at Grace	Topic MERCY
February 25	6 pm	Holden Evening Prayer	Meal to follow
<b>Join us on Wednesdays in Lent for Seeking God’s Way</b>			

**Parish Administrator** is Cindy Olson. Her office hours are 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Mon-Wed.

**Pastor Ken’s office hours** are now 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Mon & Wed.

**Women of Faith** will meet Tuesday, February 17, at 11:00 am. All women are welcome.

**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. We welcome and affirm all people, which includes the LGBTQIA+ community. 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 God. We are invited by Jesus to get up and not to be afraid. Let us be empowered by the words of Jesus and get up and share the story of God's love, since Jesus has been raised from the dead.**

### Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.

Attendance: 52  
Weekly Giving: \$1,115.00

Views: 206  
Budget Amount: \$4,363.02

**Noisy Offering: \$47.81**

<b>Grace Projects Goal</b>	<b>\$ 25,252.00</b>	<b>Repay HVAC in Fellowship Hall</b>
Received To Date	<u>-\$ 24,927.00</u>	
<b>Total Needed</b>	<b>\$ 325.00</b>	

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$25.00 (Brat sale)  
Given this week toward Outreach: \$233.00 (\$133.00 for ELCA World Hunger)

**Brown Bag Bible Study** will meet Thursday, February 19, at 12:00 noon – all are welcome to come to communion at the beginning of the study and leave if you cannot stay for the bible study. The time for communion is designed to give those who cannot come on Sunday mornings another opportunity and to deepen the experience for those who can stay for the bible study with Christ's body and blood.

**Blood Drive:** Join us as we set sail with **Graceful Cruises**. We will be departing from Grace Lutheran Church **February 23, 2026, at 10:00 am** aboard the ship **"A Bit of Grace"**. Book now by calling 1-800-Red-Cross or go online to schedule your time slot.

**There are just a few more packages of brats available, \$6.00 for a package of 4. Get them while you can!**

**"Meet Your Candidates: A Forum for All Voters"** on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Barry County Expo Center. Doors open at 6pm. There are 10 candidates, both Republican and Democratic, planning to attend. A flyer with the most current information is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Sponsored by MI Barry County Indivisible.

Our **Social Activities Committee** is planning a group outing to see **Hastings High School's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm**. Please purchase your tickets on the Hastings Performing Arts Center website. Tickets are \$11.00 plus an online service fee. If you need assistance in purchasing tickets, please contact Bill Freedlund. **There is a sign-up on the bulletin board in the Gathering for those wishing to go to dinner after the musical at Seasonal Grille.**

## What Goes Up

The law of gravity dictates that whatever goes up must come down. Even with its dazzling mountaintop revelation, the transfiguration story quickly reminds us that if Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, then not even God's beloved can escape death's inevitable pull. Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up the mountain, but very soon they will be on their way down again. Suddenly, Jesus is gloriously transformed before the three disciples; then, just as suddenly, Jesus speaks of his impending death. The transfiguration is a story of both fulfillment and foretaste. The appearance of Moses and Elijah reminds us of Jesus' promise to fulfill the Law and the Prophets, during his sermon on another mountain (Matthew 5:17). The startling turn toward talk of his suffering and death gives us a foretaste of the "mountain" at Golgotha he has yet to climb.

For the church, coming down the Mount of Transfiguration leads directly into the season of Lent and a journey that draws out more fully for us the implications of baptism. For Jesus, his baptism by John at the Jordan was just the start of a journey to be fulfilled in all the ups and downs to come. This is how transformation tends to happen—not when we insist on playing it safe, but when we dare to enter more fully into life as it is. So, too, our baptism can be fulfilled only in the light of our mortality. God's voice on the mountaintop calls us not simply to behold God's beloved Son but also to follow where Jesus leads.

All this, however, is not meant to bring us down. Jesus' transfiguration offers a glimpse of an even bigger picture that includes both gravity and grace. It foreshadows what is to come: death—and resurrection. This promise of new life is a bright cloud that leads the church now, as it did the ancient Israelites, through the wilderness ahead.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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**Lenten Devotionals, “Places of the Passion”, are available in the Gathering Area.**

**Sharing God’s Grace with All People, especially the outcast.** We, Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, Michigan, believe we are all created in God’s image and are all called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God’s love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God’s presence in their lives to join us in our common journey, which includes the LGBTQIA+ community. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, race, nationalities, ethnic background, sexual orientations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels, and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will continually strive to “Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.” Micah 6:8

The **Hand2Hand Program**, which helps feed local needy students over the weekends, requests any amount of the following:

Chicken Noodle Soup	Peanut Butter	Individual Oatmeal	Slim Jims
Snack Pack Pudding Cups	Granola Bars	Individual Applesauce Cups	
Ramen Noodles	Microwave Popcorn	Individual Mac and Cheese	

Donations are due February 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Thank you so much for all donations!**

**Zion Lutheran Church in Woodland and Grace Lutheran Church officially began a shared ministry on January 1, 2026. Pastor Ken Scheck II is now officially serving both congregations. The agreement, found in the January GraceGram, spells out a shared ministry of 50%. This will be a very different model for Grace, but it has been done in many settings throughout the ELCA. Pastor Ken will leave worship after the distribution of Communion in order to lead 11:00 am worship at Zion.**