



Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Third Sunday after Epiphany

**Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Go Light Your World

Praise Team

Announcements

Blessing of new drum set

Eternal, caring God,
we give thanks for our freedom to worship;
and for the faithfulness and generosity of spirit
which built up this community of faith.
Honoring that faithfulness and generosity,
we dedicate these drums
to your worship and praise,
and the glory of your name,
O Lord our God. ***Amen***

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Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**
Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.**

We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.

We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.

Turn us to seek your face.

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn

Arise, Shine

by Chris O'Brien & Margaret Davis

Arise, shine, for your light has come, Arise, shine, for your light has come.
Arise, shine, for your light has come, Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Nations will come and kings will bow, as the glory of God shines on you,
Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, see the King of kings, the Lord of lords,
See the Prince of Peace shine on you.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, Arise, shine, for your light has come.
Arise, shine, for your light has come, Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Nations will come and kings will bow, as the glory of God shines on you,
Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, see the King of kings, the Lord of lords,
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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Prayer of the Day

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Isaiah 9: 1-4

A reading from Isaiah:

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27: 1, 4-9

(read responsively)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Jesus, Name Above All Names

by Naida Hearn

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Gospel

Matthew 4: 12-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Priscilla

Hymn of the Day

Cry of My Heart

by Terry Butler

It is the cry of my heart to follow You, it is the cry of my heart to be close to You,
It is the cry of my heart to follow, all of the days of my life.

Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord, so I can walk in Your truth,
Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord, and make me wholly devoted to You.

It is the cry of my heart to follow You, it is the cry of my heart to be close to You,
It is the cry of my heart to follow, all of the days of my life.

Open my eyes so I can see, the wonderful things that You do,
Open my heart up more and more and make me wholly devoted to You.

It is the cry of my heart to follow You, it is the cry of my heart to be close to You,
It is the cry of my heart to follow,
All of the days of my life.

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 of Intercession**

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.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick. We pray for all who are affected by natural disasters. Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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.

*Peace

Jesus said to his disciples, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.*"

The peace of the Lord be with you, always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

Sung

Invitation to Communion

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

Hymn during Communion

Thy Word

by Michael W. Smith & Amy Grant

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me,
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near, please be with me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

I will not forget, Your love for me and yet, my heart forever is wandering,
Jesus be my guide, and hold me to Your side, and I will love You to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,
And a light unto my path, You're the light unto my path.

Blessing after Communion

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace, from now unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

*Prayer after Communion

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Praise Team

Sending Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine

by Graham Kendrick

Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness shining,
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth You now bring us,
Shine on me, Shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire,
Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth Your Word, Lord and let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, from the shadows into Your radiance,
By the blood I may enter Your brightness, search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
Shine on me, Shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire,
Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth Your Word, Lord and let there be light.
Send forth Your Word, Lord and let there be light.

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*Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Some of the prayers of intercession are based on the text of "O Splendor of God's glory bright" (ELW 559). Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress.
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