



February 4, 2024 - Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

As We Gather: Living at a time when it seems the Church is under attack, we might long for a time when everyone was looking for Jesus. Whether they know or realize it, the world is looking for Jesus, that is, for an answer to sin, fear, loneliness, pain, and death. Jesus is that answer. For this reason, our Lord had to continue to preach at the next town and the next. For this reason, we continue to proclaim the unchanging Gospel year in and year out, for it is the only Gospel by which any can be saved. May the Lord grant us zeal for His house and His kingdom!

Welcome

Hymn: OSB # 49 "Glorify Thy Name"

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 13:5; 147:6*

Pastor: I have trusted in Your steadfast love;

People: **my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.**

Pastor: The LORD lifts up the humble.

People: **He casts the wicked to the ground.**

(Moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.)

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast (*Words and music in hymnal LSB page 155*)

Refrain (*Song begins with the refrain.*)

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

- 1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.**
(*Refrain*)
- 2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His.**
(*Refrain*)
- 3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:** (*Stanza 4*)
- 4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.**
(*Refrain*)
- 5. For the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia.** (*Refrain*)

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: O Lord, strengthen our faith that we rely on You for all things, and that we be confident of Your almighty power and eternal love in all circumstances; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

First Reading - Isaiah 40:21-31 (*Isaiah reminds us that God who created the universe is able to defend and support His people.*)

²¹Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? ²²He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. ²³He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. ²⁴No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. ²⁵"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. ²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, "My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God?" ²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting

God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 9:16-27 (*Paul's commitment to sharing Christ with others causes him to change his approach to reach different people.*)

¹⁶For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel. ¹⁹Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. ²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. ²⁵Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ²⁶Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. ²⁷No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading - Mark 1:29-39 (*Jesus continues His mission by healing people, taking time for prayer, and going to various villages.*)

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" ³⁸Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come. ³⁹So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn: OSB # 55 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Sermon: Mark 1:29-39 “Help Available to Each of Us”

Nicene Creed:

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Offerings

Communion Confession (*1 Corinthians 10:17, Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:23-32*)

Pastor: The Lord’s Supper is God’s gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ’s body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord’s Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

All: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God’s forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. (*Augsburg Confession-Article X*)

The Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is our privilege and our delight to join in the angelic chorus of praise and thanksgiving to You, O Lord, mighty God, everlasting Father, for You have made known Your salvation through Your Son, Jesus Christ, who has brought healing to our afflictions and set us free to serve You and make known Your wondrous love. With the saints and angels and all the heavenly host, we sing Your praise now and to the end of the ages:

Sanctus: “Holy, Holy, Holy” (*Words and music in hymnal LSB page 161*)

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Holy Lord, mighty Lord, from Your goodness has come all things and by Your power they are still preserved. Though we deserved nothing of Your kindness, You sent forth Your Son, born of the virgin by the Holy Spirit, to fulfill all righteousness, to atone for our sin and for the sin of the world, once for all, by His all-sufficient sacrifice upon the cross, and to rise from the dead to deliver to us also everlasting life. Gathered in His name, we pray You to bestow upon us the fruits of His redeeming work as He promises in His own testament.

People: Amen.

Words of Institution

Proclamation of Christ *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: Recalling His incarnation from the virgin, His obedient life, His death upon the cross, His rest in the tomb, His resurrection on the third day, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His coming again as Lord and Judge of all, we pray You to keep us within the fellowship of Your people here on earth and to deliver us to everlasting life, to the marriage feast of the Lamb without end, and into the joy of Your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to call You Father and to pray:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God" *(Words and music in the hymnal LSB page 163)*

**All: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymns: OSB # 16 "Blessed Assurance"
OSB # 261 "In The Garden"

Thank the Lord *(Words and music in hymnal LSB page 164)*

**All: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgivings.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Post Communion Prayer

All: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. And we pray that You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Hymn: OSB # 11 "Because He Lives"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of February 4, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597

pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: James Sharp & Brett Arrasmith Families
Peace, Shell Knob

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Family of Bob Jones - (Bobby Jones' father, for peace and comfort)

Prayers of Thanks:

Cheryl Trinett – (Ardella Frerichs' daughter – prayers of thanks)

Prayers for Health and Healing:

June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)

Complete Prayer List:

Don Munden – (Bill Munden's brother – health and healing from upcoming surgery)

Becky Baxter - (Friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)

Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)

Debbie Porter – (Friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – recovery from frostbite)

Jim Troyke – (Health and healing with upcoming surgery)

Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)

Janet Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from surgery)

Norma Kaiser – (Friend of Gwen & Harold Lampe – health and healing from a stroke);

Jill Bode – (Nice of Rachel Sanford – health and healing from cancer)

Alice Troyke – (health and healing from a fall)

Joyce Ellyne – (friend of Cathy Munden– health and healing)

Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing)

Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken hip)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)

Linda Kennell – (Pastor Kennell's mother – health and healing)

Bob & Bev Hess – (health and healing from a fall)
Paul Gripka - (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing from back surgery)
Kathy Brown – (friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel’s Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard’s friend – health and healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Mike Wilson – (friend of Jodi Wright – health and healing from cancer)
Dean Hadley – (health and healing)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer’s Great-grandson - health and healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle’s cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Tessie Holle – (Kathy Holle’s cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Jeff Flatten – (great Nephew of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Danata Hopkins – (continued health and healing)
Pete Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Ellie Armstrong – (friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health and healing)
Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing from cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	February 4th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service with communion
Monday	February 5th	Braille in Freistatt - 9:00 am Braille in Freistatt - 1:00 pm LWML in Freistatt – 1:30 pm
Wednesday	February 7th	Pastor in Office Bible Study – 7:00 pm
Thursday	February 8th	Pastor in Office
Sunday	February 11th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service

Birthdays: Bob Brents-Feb. 9

Anniversaries: NONE



Grace will be doing a Shine project as last year in helping out at Camp Barnabas. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. The event date and details will be set shortly. Please consider signing up to help out.

New Church Directory: Grace will be doing a new Church Directory. We would like to have pictures of new members and any current members wishing a new picture. Contact Charlie Chambers to get new photos.

Women of Grace: You are invited to attend the LWML Annual Prayer Service on Monday, February 5, at 1:30 pm in the church at Freistatt. The title of the Prayer Service is “Grace, Mercy, Peace”, written by Rev. Michael Mattil, now retired having served churches in Texas and Oklahoma. After the Prayer Service we will have a short business meeting since our January meeting was postponed due to weather. We hope to see you there. All women are welcome.

LWML - 2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 5

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, Texas \$50,000

The Disaster Response Team of Trinity Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas, responds to help victims of natural disasters. They are called to serve, have a presence on the ground, and assist with cleanup. While providing help, they listen to the victims and share the love of Jesus and bring hope, encouragement, and healing through God’s Word and prayer. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-5.

Portals of Prayer – now available beneath the church mail boxes.



February

GREETERS:

02/04: Rob & Marlo Springer

02/11: Stan & Sharon Crandall

02/18: Bill & Joanne Michel

02/25: Charlie & Edee Chambers

USHERS:

02/04: Bill Michel

02/11: Don Wolf

02/18: Charlie Chambers

02/25: David Lampe