



January 18, 2026 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

AS WE GATHER

Last week, we celebrated the Baptism of our Lord. This week, we get a similar account from the Gospel of John. But in this account, John the Baptizer points to Jesus and says, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. As we think about the sin which Jesus takes away, this begs a couple questions: How do we deal with sin? How does God deal with sin? These questions are what we will discuss in our sermon this morning as we “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

WELCOME

HYMN *LSB 905, “Come, Thou Almighty King”*

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together, as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.
People: **Christ, have mercy.**
Pastor: Lord, have mercy.
All: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 204).*

All: 1. To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing – our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2. To You, O sole begotten, the Father's Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry, where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.

3. For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, be worshipped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High, in God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 49:1–7*

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." ⁵ And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 40:1–11*

Pastor: I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

People: **He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

Pastor: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

People: **Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!**

Pastor: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

People: **In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.**

Pastor: Then I said, “Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.”

People: **I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.**

Pastor: I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

People: **As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!**

EPISTLE READING *1 Corinthians 1:1–9*

¹ Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING *John 1:29–42*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” ³⁵ The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹ He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴² He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 550, "Lamb of God"*

SERMON *"Behold, the Lamb of God" (John 1:29-42)*

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: **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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For... let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

OFFERING

HYMN *LSB 781, "We Give Thee But Thine Own," stanzas 1-2*

THE COMMUNION CONFESION

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:

People: **I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is truly 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)

PREFACE

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 truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 208)*

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You ... His body and blood.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 210)*

All: 1. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

2. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 628, "Your Table I Approach"

LSB 611, "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

LSB 547, "The Lamb"

SONG OF SIMEON (*Music and words in hymnal, LSB 211*)

All:

1. O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace, for I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill, the glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.
2. All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son, all glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One; for as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding through all eternity.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN LSB 809, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Service adapted from Divine Service Setting 4, LSB 203-212. Prayers of the Church adapted from LSB 265.



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of January 18, 2026

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

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen

Cell: 832-727-3135 daniel.heitshusen@gmail.com Pastor's Day Off; Friday

Family for the Week: David Lampe
Peace, Shell Knob

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Bruce Banks – (friend of Teri Ediger)

Becky – (daughter of Diane and Bill Thompson)

Jeannie Bennett – (relative of Teri Ediger – health and healing)

Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)

Treasa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)

Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson – health and healing)

Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)

Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)

Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)

Joe Pennington – (brother-in-law of Bill Michel – health and healing)

Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)

LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)

Bonny Gray – (sister of Cynthia Swoyer-Wolf – health and healing)
Pastor Hagen – (health and healing)
Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)

Tim Tucek – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)

Long Term

Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Mary Ann Campbell – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Betty Gordon – (health and healing)

Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister-in-Law – health & healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	January 18th	Happy Half Hour – 9:00 am Fellowship – 9:30 am Service with Communion – 10:00 am
Monday	January 19th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study - 1:30 pm
Wednesday	January 21st	Bible Study – 6:00 pm
Thursday	January 22nd	Elders - 10:00 am Council - 11:00 am Confirmation - 5:30 pm
Friday	January 23rd	Pastor's Day off
Sunday	January 25th	Happy Half Hour – 9:00 am Fellowship – 9:30 am Service – 10:00 am
Monday	January 26th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

Birthdays: Jan. 25-Peggy Lilienkamp

Anniversaries: NONE

January

18: Rob & Marlo Springer
25: Bill & Joanne Michel

18: Bill Michel
25: David Lampe



Sheltering Hope is an organization here in Aurora. They recently voted to form the following committees in 2026 to meet their goals: Jobs committee, Mentorship committee, and Transportation committee. If you are interested in learning more about Sheltering Hope and/or serving on one of the committees, please see Pastor Heitshusen for more details.

Wednesday Evening Bible Class: We will be meeting for Wednesday Evening Bible class starting **this** Wednesday, January 21st, at **6:00 pm**. We will continue going through the Gospel of John. Come and join us!

Thank you! Dear members of Grace Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift. It means a lot to us. We are blessed to be part of God's people here at Grace, and I am honored to be your pastor. We pray the Lord continues to bless each of you this new year.

The Heitshusens