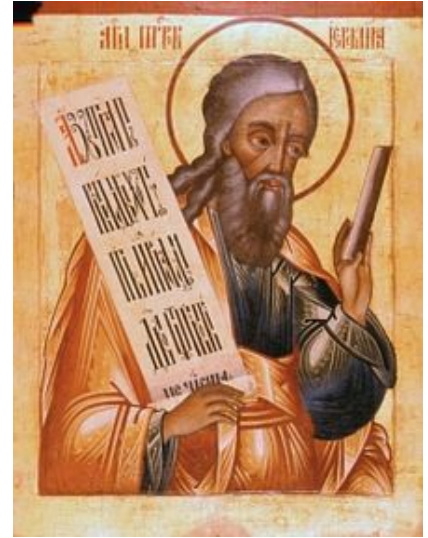


Grace Lutheran Church
2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-3893
Sunday, January 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Barker
Musicians: David, Gracie & Samuel Underwood
Lay reader: Judy Gregory
ASL interpreter: Dottie Watts
Communion assistants: Judy Gregory & Bert Felland
Projectionist: Jarlene Kriehn
262 654-9143 ☎ gracekenosha.com



GATHERING

AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME STATEMENT

- ☐ Let us affirm our welcome statement.
- © Grace Lutheran Church commits to live as a community of people seeking reconciliation and wholeness in our life together and in our ongoing outreach to the world. We commit to the work of anti-racism, anti-ableism, liberation, and environmental justice for all of God's beloveds.

We affirm the sacredness of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, culture, disability, age, or physical demeanor. We affirm the sacredness of those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.

You are absolutely invited to share your gifts as you join us in this lifelong journey. We welcome and embrace all who are seeking God's love and grace. We need each other and our sincere hope is by being in community together we will know the kin-dom of God has come near.

WELCOME SONG

GATHERING SONG: "Take It Easy"

Chorus: *Take it easy easy God loves you completely
Take it easy easy Rest in the shade of his wings.*

- 1: *Lay down your burdens and rest for a while
The shepherd who seeks you is gentle and kind*

*There's nothing to pay for and nothing to earn
And nothing you have to become.* Chorus

- 2: *Lay down the scales where you weigh out your life
The measures are empty. Just leave them behind
The distance between his two hands are enough
To tell you the depths of his love.* Chorus

- 3: *Lay down the armor you brought to the fight
Lay down your weapons and lay down your strife
God's on your side and he won't let you go
He already loves who you are
Won't ask you to be something more.* Chorus, twice

Coda: *Rest in the shade of his wings.* Repeat
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray.
Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

© Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE


WORD

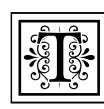
FIRST READING: "The Journey" by Mary Oliver

One day you finally knew
what you had to do, and began,
though the voices around you
kept shouting
their bad advice—
though the whole house
began to tremble
and you felt the old tug
at your ankles.
"Mend my life!"
each voice cried.
But you didn't stop.
You knew what you had to do,
though the wind pried
with its stiff fingers
at the very foundations,
though their melancholy
was terrible.
It was already late
enough, and a wild night,
and the road full of fallen
branches and stones.
But little by little,
as you left their voices behind,
the stars began to burn
through the sheets of clouds,
and there was a new voice
which you slowly
recognized as your own,
that kept you company
as you strode deeper and deeper
into the world,
determined to do
the only thing you could do—
determined to save
the only life you could save.

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SECOND READING: Jeremiah 1:1–10

 A reading from Jeremiah.

 he words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiyah, of the
priests who were in Anathoth in the land of
Benjamin, to whom the word of the LORD
came in the days of King Josiah son of Amon of
Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. It came
also in the days of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of
Judah, and until the end of the eleventh year of King

Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah, until the captivity
of Jerusalem in the fifth month.

Now the word of the LORD came to me
saying,

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not
know how to speak, for I am only a boy."

But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."

Then the LORD put out his hand and
touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

See, today I appoint you over nations and over
kingdoms,

to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "We Abide We Abide in You"

1: *We are the vineyard You have planted
Tend our leaves and wild branches:
we abide, we abide in You.
We abide, we abide in You.*

2: *Fruit growing from our strength and labor
Rain on us with grace and favor
We abide we abide in You
We abide we abide in You*

Chorus: *Where can my soul find living water
Apart from You we bear no fruit
O plant my feet down by the river
We abide we abide in You*

CCLI Song # 7097867 Isaac Wardell | Liz Vice Music LLC | Madison
Cunningham | Orlando Palmer | Paul Zach | Sandra McCracken
Hymns From The Porter's Gate; Porter's Gate Publications
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Verse: (ELW 752)

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;*

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer; especially:

- Darlene Bard
- Kate Barker
- Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
- Doug Becker (Marlene's son)
- Eric Berge (Paul's brother)
- Pat Bernacchi
- Jackie Brichacek (Nancy's sister-in-law)
- Andrew Calvert
- Cameron Carr (Karen Cassiday's nephew)
- Holly Cummings
- Eric Dangerfield
- Jan Dugdale
- Barb Ehlen
- Gregory Foster
- Judy Gregory
- Shirleen Gulick
- Cogan Holly Hall
- Aggie Hartnell (Bert's mother)
- Christine Hill

- Sydney & Skyler Houston
 - Dick Kauffman
 - Norma Larson
 - Rubel Pierce (Randy's father)
 - Rex Reeve
 - Carolyn Reynold's children Eddie, Santino, and Lytosh
 - Martha, Joel, and Jeanette Sanchez
 - Cynthia Schwartz (Norma's daughter)
 - Patti Shields
 - Jill Swails
 - Marcia Swanson
 - Joyce Swift
 - Andrew Tate
 - Ron and Linda Wadham
 - Steve & Heather Waldron
 - Henry, Florence, and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn's brother and sisters)
 - Charles and Timothy Walker
 - Dottie Watts
 - Chris Webb (Bert's sister)
 - Pam Wisse
 - Kristi Weiss.
- God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives: *especially Florence Wieske; and Thomas Aquinas, whom we commemorate today.* We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

PEACE (ELW p. 206)

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. 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.

C Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might. 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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

*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 debts
As we forgive our debtors*

*And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory forever
And ever. Amen*

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

COMMUNION

P The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
R7 Amen.

COMMUNION SONG: "Be Still"

*Be still, be still
Know that I am God
Be still, be still
Know that I am God*

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COMMUNION SONG: "Centering Prayer"

Chorus: *I wanna be where my feet are
I wanna breathe the life around me
I wanna listen as my heart beats, right on time
I wanna be where my feet are*

1: *I chase my worries
I flee my sorrows
But what you give me is now
So take my burdens
and my tomorrows
I wanna be where my feet are.* Chorus

2: *I run to capture
the next horizon
but what you give me is here
I get no farther
and still I find you
I wanna be where my feet are*

Bridge: *The ground below me
is how you hold me*

I wanna be where my feet are (repeat)

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CCLI #7064722

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P 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.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✚ bless you and remain with you always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG "I'll Not Be Shaken"

1: *For God alone I wait in silence*

*My soul is still before the Lord
He is my rock and my salvation
My fortress strong I trust in Him*

Chorus 1: *I'll not be shaken I'll not be shaken
For all my hope is in His love
From God alone comes my salvation
I'll wait and trust His steadfast love*

2: *Put not your hope in gain of riches*

Seek not your rest in empty wealth

Portions of the liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission: annual permit #SAS17083.

*The rich are weak the poor are mighty
Who turn to God alone for help*

Chorus 2: *I'll not be shaken! I'll not be shaken*

*For all my hope is in His love
From God alone comes my salvation
I wait and trust His steadfast love!
I wait and trust His steadfast love! repeat*

Coda: *I wait and trust his steadfast love! I wait and trust his steadfast love!*

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C Thanks be to God.

Opportunities This Week at Grace

Sunday, January 28	Pastor Barker at church		
	9:30 am	Worship service	sanctuary/Facebook
	10:30 am	New members class	
	7:00 pm	NA	Rainbow Room
Monday, January 29	Pastor Barker at church		
	9:00 am - noon	Welcome Center volunteers	lower level
	9:00 am	Prayer group	library
	5:30 pm	Kenosha Education Justice Coalition	TBD
Tuesday, January 30	Pastor Barker at church. Paul in office 9:00-2:00		
	8:00 am - noon	Welcome Center volunteers	lower level
	4:00 - 5:30 pm	Welcome Center food pantry	courtyard, parking lot
Wednesday, January 31	Pastor Barker at home. Paul in office 9:00-2:00.		
Thursday, February 1	Pastor Barker at home. Paul in office 9:00-2:00.		
	8:30-9:15 am	Welcome Center breakfast	Rainbow room
	2:00 - 5:00 pm	Infant Moses diaper ministry	Room 102
Friday, February 2	Pastor Barker at home. Paul in office 9:00-2:00		
Presentation of Our Lord	8:30-9:15 am	Welcome Center breakfast	Rainbow room
Saturday, February 3	Pastor Barker at church		
Sunday, February 4	Pastor Barker at church		
	9:30 am	Worship service	sanctuary/Facebook
	10:30 am	Pot luck brunch	narthex/Rainbow Room
	10:30 am	New members class	
	7:00 pm	NA	Rainbow Room

Thank you to Paula and Randy Pierce for sponsoring Sunday bulletins in January!

We will start a new members class this Sunday right after worship. Please see Pastor Barker if you are interested in joining the Grace family.

Attendance January 21: >32

Krisan Knapp will step down as our Treasurer this year. She is willing to help train the next Treasurer before she steps down. Please let Pastor or somebody else on Council know if you are interested in being our church Treasurer.

Grace Lutheran Church’s annual congregational meeting is scheduled after the worship service on Sunday, February 11. Council members and service groups are asked to submit their reports to the church office (graceoffice@wi.rr.com) by this Wednesday, January 31, so that members can pick up copies of the annual report on February 4.

Kenosha Education Justice Coalition Community School 101 session meets at Grace at 5:30 p.m. Monday, January 29.

On Sunday, February 4, we will have a potluck to celebrate Council President Dawn Houston. She is finishing up her council term this month. She has been VP or council president for the last 11 years at Grace, and we want to celebrate this historic tenure. Please sign up to bring dishes.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Grace worship services, including disposition of ashes and the sacrament of Holy Communion, will be at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Fish Bake will be rescheduled to Friday, March 8. Watch for updates in the newsletter.

Karen Kempinen will lead “Why Native Plants” at 6:00 p.m. Monday, February 19 at Grace. Learn about the role of native plants in habitat creation, native species preservation, and climate change mitigation.

We invite everyone to sit in the first eight pews on each side of the sanctuary—this will

make the acoustics of our congregational singing much stronger.

Our compressor went out on the upstairs part of our HVAC system. This is an essential part of the system and must be repaired. The repair cost is \$4,100. We appreciate everyone who has generously donated towards this repair already, and we hope those who have not donated will consider making a donation—every donation helps get this paid for.

January 21 offerings/receipts:

General	\$ 1,201.76
Benevolence.....	\$ 40.00
Initial offering/envelopes.....	\$ 6.00
New Year’s Day	\$ 20.00
Donations from friends:	
General.....	\$ 70.00
Holy Assembly building usage.....	\$ 500.00
<u>Minus internet transaction fees.....</u>	<u>\$(22.31)</u>
Total	\$ 1,815.45
2023 weekly budget: \$2,671.70	

We are now at GraceLutheranKenosha on Facebook – the page with the mustard sprout icon.



FUNDRAISER! **SUNDAY, FEB. 11, 2024**
CHILI SUPPER

Pre-Ordering Required
Pick up, Take home, Reheat, Enjoy!

FEATURING:
RICH'S FAMOUS CHILI
PASTOR KATHY'S VEGAN CHILI

- CORNBREAD
- TOPPINGS
- HOMEMADE COOKIES FOR DESSERT



TICKETS:
\$15/EA. OR \$25 FOR TWO

PLACE ORDER AT CUSHKENOSHA.COM
OR BY CALLING BUNNY AT 262-654-7337
CASH / CHECK ACCEPTED FOR PAYMENT AT PICK UP
LAST DAY TO ORDER IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Delivered to your car - 3:00-4:30pm
St. Mary's Lutheran Church - eastside
2001 - 80th St. Kenosha

Grace Welcome Center has a part-time opening for a Fund Development Coordinator. GWC is also in need of two breakfast cooks on Thursday and Friday mornings. Email Denise at DRussell.GraceWelcomeCenter@gmail.com for more details.



Greater Milwaukee Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2024 TOGETHER IN MISSION

Saturday 2/10 @ 8am - 3pm
Ascension Lutheran, Waukesha

Register by 1/28 @ 11:59pm at
tinyurl.com/GMS-TIM-2024

You're invited to our synod's annual learning gathering of pastors, deacons and lay leaders from across Southeast WI! Together we'll worship, celebrate our partnership in the Gospel, and attend workshops on a variety of ministry topics.

Dear colleagues,

I apologize for the last-minute notice about this, but for anyone who is asking the question, "how does my small church engage new people?" there is a free opportunity next week to be with others all over the country asking the same question.

Check out the free "Fresh Expressions" Small Church Week sessions, offered next week:
<https://freshexpressions.com/smallchurchweek>

And, check out the developing resources from our synod for churches to engage new folks here:
<https://milwaukee-synod.org/resources/for-congregations/resources-for-mission-renewal/>

If you are interested in talking more about any of these resources, please do reach out to me! I will be participating in next week's "small church week" resources, so let's keep talking about how we can all be out in our communities, listening and building new connections with new people!

Peace,

Rev. Matthew Short | he, him, his

Assistant to the Bishop for Evangelical Mission

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA

Scrip order form

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Created: 1/25/2024 11:20:14 AM

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$	Domino's \$25.00	8%		\$	Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$	Dunkin' \$25.00	3.5%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
Amazon \$25.00	1.7%		\$	Exxon \$50.00	1%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI) \$25.00	4%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Fandango \$25.00	4%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI) \$50.00	4%		\$
Applebee's® \$25.00	8%		\$	Festival Foods (WI) - Skogens \$25.00	3%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$25.00	3%		\$
Applebee's® \$50.00	8%		\$	Festival Foods (WI) - Skogens \$50.00	3%		\$	Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	Fresh Thyme Market \$25.00	5%		\$	Pizza Ranch \$25.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$25.00	8%		\$	Gordon Food Service Store \$25.00	4%		\$	Pottery Barn \$25.00	6%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	7%		\$	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$	Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$	HoneyBaked Ham \$25.00	12%		\$	Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$	Sendik's Food Market \$25.00	4%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$	JCPanney \$25.00	5%		\$	Sephora \$25.00	5%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$	Jiffy Lube \$30.00	8%		\$	Shell \$25.00	1.5%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	7%		\$	Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
BP \$50.00	1.5%		\$	Kwik Trip \$25.00	4%		\$	Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	L.L. Bean \$25.00	16%		\$	Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$50.00	8%		\$	Lane Bryant® \$25.00	8%		\$	Subway Restaurants \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Burger King \$25.00	6%		\$	Little Caesars Pizza \$20.00	8%		\$	Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$	Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Casey's \$25.00	3%		\$	Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$	Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Cheddars \$25.00	8%		\$	Marcus Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$	TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	McDonald's \$10.00	2%		\$	The Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Chewy \$25.00	5%		\$	Meijer \$25.00	3%		\$	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$25.00	1.25%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	Menards \$25.00	3%		\$	Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	9%		\$	Mobil \$50.00	1%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	11%		\$	Nike \$25.00	11%		\$	Wendy's \$25.00	6%		\$
Columbia Sportswear \$50.00	12%		\$	Nordstrom \$25.00	4%		\$	Williams Sonoma \$25.00	6%		\$
Cousins Subs \$10.00	0%		\$	Office Depot / Office Max \$25.00	5%		\$				
Crate & Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$				
CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	8%		\$	Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$				
Dairy Queen \$25.00	6.5%		\$	Panda Express \$25.00	8%		\$				
Dave & Buster's \$25.00	13%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$				
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$				

Make Checks Payable To: **Grace Lutheran Church**

Total Due All Columns: \$