

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2006 60<sup>TH</sup> STREET, KENOSHA, WISCONSIN 53140-3893  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD  
PASTOR: REV. JONATHAN BARKER  
MUSICIANS: GRACIE, DAVID & SAMUEL UNDERWOOD  
LAY READER: BOB WALDRON  
ASL INTERPRETER: DOTTIE WATTS  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: BERT FELLAND  
PROJECTIONIST: JARLENE KRIEHN



## GATHERING

WELCOME.

WELCOMING SONG. Carolyn Reynolds

### 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 kingdom of God has come near.**

### GATHERING SONG: "God the Maker"

1: *We bring our time we bring our treasure  
We lay them down before Your throne  
You will make them something greater  
More than we could ever know*

2: *We bring our gifts we bring our power  
Place them in Your sovereign hand  
You will take what we have given  
You will use it for Your plan*

Chorus: *Glory be to God the Maker  
Glory be to God Creator  
Take our time use our treasure  
Turn them into something greater  
Glory be to God the Maker*

3: *Though our hearts are weak from failure  
Broken dreams and failed attempts  
Show us that in every season  
You will fill our emptiness*

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### GREETING (ELW p. 203)

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

Let us pray.  
Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**READING: 1 PETER 2:9-12**

**B**ut you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. <sup>12</sup>Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

 The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**SERMON:** Rev. Jonathan Barker

**HYMN OF THE DAY "Instrument of Peace"**

Refrain: *Lord make me*

*An instrument of peace*

*An instrument of peace* (repeat)

1: *Where is there hatred let me sow love  
Where there is darkness let me sow light  
For in the giving we shall receive  
And in the dying we're given life.* Refrain

2: *Where there is sorrow, let me sow hope.  
Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.  
Where there is injury, your pardon give  
Your consolation to those in pain.* Refrain

Coda: *Amen Amen*

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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.*

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**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.**

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** We pray for any who are sick and suffering, 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)
- Mary Jean Preston
- 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.

Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

**P** We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways

that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

*HERE OTHER INTERCESSIONS MAY BE OFFERED.*

**P** Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died (*especially*). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. 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** (ELW p. 209)

**MEAL**

**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.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. 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. Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C Amen.**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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: "The Lord Is My Light"

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:  
in God I trust, in God I trust.**

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:  
in God I trust, in God I trust.**

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## COMMUNION 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 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** 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.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING SONG: "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**

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## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

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Grace Lutheran Church's annual congregational meeting is scheduled after the worship service this morning. Copies of the annual report now available in the narthex and at GraceKenosha.com include budget figures that were revised since the first printing last week.

## Opportunities This Week at Grace

<b>Sunday, February 11</b> Transfiguration of Our Lord	Pastor Barker at church 9:30 am          Worship service          sanctuary/Facebook 10:30 am        Congregational meeting 11:30 am        New members class 7:00 pm          NA                                  Rainbow Room
<b>Monday, February 12</b>	Pastor Barker at church 9:00 am - noon   Welcome Center volunteers          lower level 9:00 am          Prayer group                                  library
<b>Tuesday, February 13</b> Mardi Gras	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 pantrycourtyard, parking lot
<b>Wednesday, February 14</b> Ash Wednesday	Paul in office 9:00-2:00. 1:00 pm          Ash Wednesday service          sanctuary/FB 6:30 pm          Ash Wednesday service          sanctuary/FB
<b>Thursday, February 15</b>	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
<b>Friday, February 16</b>	Pastor Barker at home. Paul in office 9:00-2:00 8:30-9:15 am    Welcome Center breakfast          Rainbow room
<b>Saturday, February 17</b>	Pastor Barker at church
<b>Sunday, February 18</b>	Pastor Barker at church 9:30 am          Worship service          sanctuary/Facebook 10:30 am        Church council meeting                  library 7:00 pm          NA                                  Rainbow Room

New members class continues this Sunday right after the annual meeting. The next session will be on March 10. Please see Pastor Barker if you are interested in joining the Grace family.

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.

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.

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 Church Fish Bake Friday, March 8 4:30-7:00

### Adult \$15    Child \$5

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • Cod                                    | • Mac and Cheese  |
| • Baked Potato                           | • Corn            |
| • Cole Slaw or Corn                      | • Apple Sauce Cup |
| • Rye Bread                              | • Juice Box       |
| • Dessert                                | • Dessert         |
| • Drinks: Coffee, Water<br>Lemonade      |                   |
| • Soda will be available<br>for purchase |                   |

## You can dine - in or take it to go

Stop by the Grace office from 9:00 am-2:00 pm Tuesday -Friday to purchase tickets



# Bridges of Hope:

## Reflections on the Power of Partnership

### 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONS

*Ash Wednesday - Good Friday*






[outreachforhope.org/lenten-devotions](https://outreachforhope.org/lenten-devotions)

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.

Attendance February 4: >28

Men’s Group will meet after worship on March 3 to plan a chili fund raiser.

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.

Birthdays this week:

Feb. 15      Debra Dreger  
Feb. 16      Adrienne Hix

Receipts last week:

General offering.....	\$ 1,562.00
Benevolence.....	\$ 17.00
Ash Wednesday .....	\$ 10.00
Fish bake .....	\$ 200.00
From non-members:	
General offering.....	\$ 900.00
Grace Welcome Center .....	\$ 200.00
Via Thrivent Choice .....	\$ 211.00
<u>Minus internet transaction fees.....</u>	<u>\$ (28.50)</u>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 3,071.50</b>

Breaking the Chains, a synodically authorized worshipping community inside the Felmers Chaney and Kenosha Correctional Centers will hold its annual meeting next Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Greendale. All Greater Milwaukee Synod members are invited; RSVP Steering Council President Pamela Gustafson at [pamelag1972@gmail.com](mailto:pamelag1972@gmail.com).

# Council Candidate Biographies

My name is **Bert Felland** and I have been a member of Grace for over 43 years. I was baptized and joined the church as an adult when I was dating my now husband Brian. We have been married for 40 years and have two grown sons, Ben and Alex. My involvement at Grace over the years include:

- \*Teaching Sunday School
- \*Driving elderly to church
- \*Communion Assistant
- \*Reader
- \*Vice President of Council
- \*Counter
- \*Summer volunteer at Infant Moses
- \*Volunteer at many Grace activities
- \*GWC interview team member

My Professional Side:

- \*Graduated from UW-Parkside with a degree in Psychology/Education
- \*Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction
- \*Earned National Board Certification

I've been with Kenosha Unified my entire teaching career. I taught at the original Bain Elementary for my first 12 years of teaching and have been at Bose for 28 years. All of my experience has been teaching Kindergarten and First grade!

If elected, I hope to lead by living out our Welcome Statement. Our Grace family has grown and flourished because of our commitment to our church and our outreach to our community.



Bio: **Vivienne Clyne**

My family and I have been members of Grace Lutheran Church for the last 12 years. We were drawn to Grace because of the church's relationship with the ELCA Outreach Center and the INNS program. There have been many changes over that time that I have been privileged to witness, support, or be a part of.

My belief in God is centered round walking in the good works inspired by God and the teachings of Jesus. I have served on Council for the last eight years and am in awe of how much our church has grown in our continued commitment to outreach. With the growth of the Shalom Center (this allowed a permanent place for the INNS program) and the ELCA outreach center moving into their own building - Grace looked for and was open to new outreach opportunities. From Infant Moses, to the development of the Grace Welcome Center, programs for children, Climate and Social Justice, we are a congregation that has chosen to do the work of God in community. I am also grateful to be part of a church family that believes in inclusivity and the rights of all people to be seen and heard as reflected in our Mission Statement.

I look forward to continuing to serve as member of Grace in the future.



Dear Grace Lutheran Church congregation:

My name is **Gregory Foster**, and I have been a member of this church for the past seven (?) years.

During this time I had the pleasure of joining the choir. It was easy for me to see and hear that there was joy within their hearts for the work that they do.... And seeing that joy, tapped me into the warm feeling of connection that I have found among all of you.

During the COVID pandemic, our Sunday services became virtual, and I volunteered as a reader.

I had the opportunity to join the Council as an Evangelist. What marvelous works the Spirit brings when so many allow its light to shine through them! I felt that they touched my life with their wisdom as much as I touched theirs.

I started the Mend's Group and helped organize the chili fundraisers, and continue to donate my time and energy on a weekly basis. It still strikes me with the feeling of awe and wonder!! What marvelous works the Spirit brings when so many allow its light to shine through them.

God is very present and the Spirit is alive and working through each of us through our interactions with one another.



Hello,

I'm **Senja Underwood**, and I'm thrilled to share a bit about myself and my eagerness to take on the role of Vice President on the Church Council.

At 48, I feel deeply connected to the Grace Lutheran community. My husband David and I have shared 26 wonderful years together, raising our three incredible children – Gracie (19), Samuel (16), and Augustus (11).

My journey of service began at the Grace Welcome Center, where I discovered the joy of giving back through volunteering at the Tuesday pantry. This experience ignited a passion for community involvement, leading me to take on the role of Application Coordinator. Through this, I gained valuable insights into our neighbors' challenges and developed a stronger commitment to compassion.

Coordinating the Church Craft and Vendor Fair was a highlight for me. Witnessing our congregation come together, sharing their talents, and fostering a sense of togetherness was truly heartwarming.

In my professional life, I work full-time as an Administrative Assistant for the Admissions Department at Carthage College. Here, I've honed strong organizational and administrative skills, which I believe will be a great fit for the responsibilities of Vice President on the Church Council.

Currently, I serve as an At-Large Member on the Church Council. The trust and support of our congregation mean everything to me, and I approach my responsibilities with humility and gratitude. Grace Lutheran and its congregation are like family to me. The warmth and encouragement I've received here have made it a second home. I am truly honored to be a part of this community.

As I consider the possibility of serving as Vice President, I'm excited about the opportunity to contribute more deeply to the growth and well-being of our church family. I am eager to leverage my administrative skills and knowledge to explore more efficient and innovative ways for our church to become an even more welcoming and inclusive home for all members of our community.

Thank you for considering my candidacy for Vice President. I am genuinely excited about the opportunity to work collaboratively towards building a stronger, more vibrant community that reflects the values of love, compassion, and inclusivity that define Grace Lutheran.

With Love and Peace,  
Senja Underwood