



# Grace

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Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about **“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”**

If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **9:15a.m. and 10:30a.m. services** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.

You can follow the whole service here in this folder as well as on the displays. Some parts of the service will be found in the burgundy “Lutheran Service Book” hymnals in the pew back.

## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 10, 2021

### Today in Worship

- We consider the mysteries highlighted by the Readings for the Feast of the Epiphany. The Wise Men, or Magi, mysteriously show up in Jerusalem, and these strangers are looking for the King of the Jews. The King of the Jews is mysteriously an infant, born to a humble family in Bethlehem, not in Jerusalem. And this King of the Jews mysteriously invites all people from all nations into His kingdom. These mysteries, hidden for the ages, is revealed in Jesus, the Light of the world.
- God’s Grace to you as you partake of Your one and only Savior Jesus this day.

### Ringing of the Bells

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #399

“The Star Proclaims the King is Here”

1. The star proclaims the King is here; But, Herod, why this senseless fear?  
For, He who offers heav’nly birth Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.
2. The eastern sages saws from far And followed on His guiding star;  
And, led by light, to light they trod And by their gifts confessed their God.
3. Within the Jordan’s sacred flood The heav’nly Lamb in meekness stood  
That He, of whom no sin was known, Might cleanse His people from their own.

4. And oh, what miracle divine, When water reddened into wine!  
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.

Δ 5. For this His glad epiphany All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit evermore.

## Invocation & Opening Sentences

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Arise, shine, for your light has come!

**C** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

**P** All the nations shall come to the light of Christ.

**C** Kings shall bring Him gifts.

**P** For Christ reveals the mystery hidden through the ages,

**C** that all nations are partakers of the promise in Jesus Christ.

## Confession & Absolution

**P** Through the Gospel, all people are fellow heirs of salvation and members of the same Body. Yet there have been times when we have failed to live in unity, when we have failed to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ with respect and honor. Our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection*

**P** Heavenly Father,

**C** we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have created division and discord. We have hidden the light of Christ from others. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us with the light of Christ, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy sent His Son, Jesus, into our world to shine as a light for all people, including You. Jesus has died for your sins and is risen for your righteousness. Therefore, 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.

**C Amen. We are partakers of the promise. We are forgiven in Christ.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known to the Gentiles Your only-begotten Son. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

*“The nations shall come to Your light.”*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the Epiphany of our Lord is from Isaiah, chapter 60.

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.

<sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

*"The mystery hidden for ages."*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from Ephesians, chapter three.

<sup>1</sup> For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

*"The Magi visit Jesus"*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." <sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*8:00 Service*

## **The Apostles Creed**

**☑ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

*9:15 / 10:30 Service*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**☑ 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.**

# Message for Children from God's Word

## Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book #394  
"Song of Thankfulness and Praise"

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifest by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
3. Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
4. Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;  
All will then the trumpets hear, All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.
5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

*Responses after each petition:*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**



# Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #397  
"As with Gladness Men of Old"

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading on ward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we Ever-more be led by Thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way,  
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*



9:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m. Service

## Service of the Sacrament

*The Lord's Supper* is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



### The Lord's Prayer

### Words of Our Lord

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

## Pax Domini *"The Peace of Our Lord"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei *"Lamb of God"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 210

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #395

*"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"*

1. O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light,  
Aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, Rich in blessing!  
Rule and might o'er all possessing!

2. Come, heav'nly Bride-groom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine;  
There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be  
As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying.  
Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness May perplex us And distress us,  
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

3. Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above  
A ray of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood  
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food. You are our dearest treasure!  
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For You teach us  
God's own love through You has reached us.

4. Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth's foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation.  
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving Life forever,  
Keep us Yours and fails us never!

5. O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending! For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6. What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transports us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

## The Closing Prayer

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, dear Father in heaven, that You continue to guide people of every nation to the One who is the Light of the world. Having heard your life-giving Word, grant that we who have seen this light may reflect His glory in all we say and do; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**G** Amen.

## Announcements

### Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #397

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

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As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before thee whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever seek they mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.
4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way, and, when  
earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where  
they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light; Thou its light,  
its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down; There  
forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

# Grace

## BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday – 9:15 am Adult Bible Study-Gym  
9:15 am Youth Bible Study-Youth Rm.

Monday – 9:30 am in the fellowship hall  
5:30 am in the classroom

Thursday-9:30 am in the classroom

Join the “Grace Lutheran Church Monroe”  
Facebook page for up-to-date information.

Proclaiming God’s GRACE  
through faith and love