

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CAROL WEBER - CANTOR

**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**JANUARY 12, 2025**

**10 AM**



Epiphany means “manifestation.” During this Season, we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

VISIT US AT:

[WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG](http://WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG)

[and on Facebook](#)

**Welcome to worship!**  
**Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.**

**PRELUDE**      O Thou, Who By A Star, by Thomas Clark      arr. E.A. Hovdesven

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

***Please stand and face the baptismal font  
near the entrance of the church.***

**P:**      Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**C:**      **Amen.**

**P:**      Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

**P:**      God-with-us,

**C:**      **we confess that sometimes we turn away  
those who seek shelter,  
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.  
We sometimes make power and wealth our idols,  
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.  
We have overlooked the shepherds,  
expecting good news in prettier packaging.  
Too often, we have valued violence  
instead of your peace.  
Turn us from our ways to your ways.  
Grant us the grace to begin again.  
Free us from all that keeps us bound,  
and forgive our sin,  
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.  
Amen.**

**P:**      Hear the good news and rejoice!  
You are God's chosen ones,  
holy and beloved, ✝ forgiven in Christ,  
and freed to respond in joy.

**C:**      **Amen**

**ENTRANCE HYMN*****Hail to the Lord's Anointed*****LBW 87; ELW 311**

1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.  
 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,  
 Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
 To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.  
 and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.  
 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

**THE GREETING**

**P:** Arise, shine, for your light has come. Alleluia, alleluia!  
 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

# KYRIE



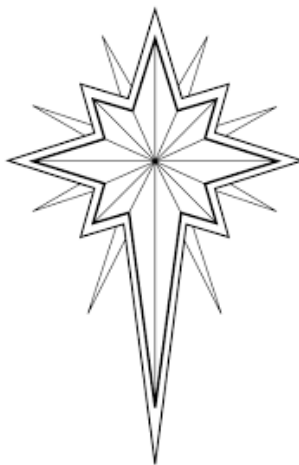
**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      **C** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

WOV, Setting 5



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



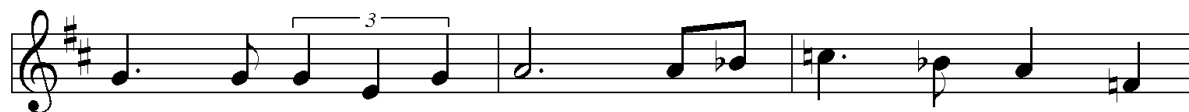
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



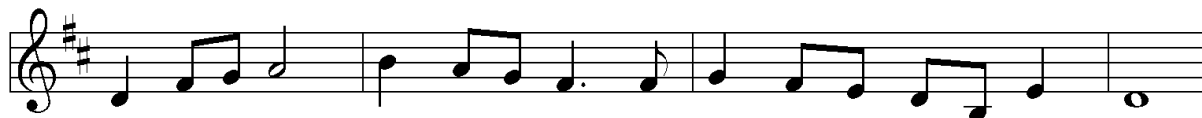
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you,**

P: Let us pray.

P: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**Please be seated.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7**

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

A: A reading from Isaiah, the 43<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

- <sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name. You are mine.
- <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire, you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.
- <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
- <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.
- <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;
- <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

A: The word of God. The Word of life.

**C : Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29

## READ RESPONSIVELY

- <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- <sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- <sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- <sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- <sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- <sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
- <sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

A: A reading from Acts, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>14</sup>Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

A: The word of God. The Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Please stand.**

**GOSPEL HYMN**

**On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry**

**ELW 249**

**Stanza 1 before the Gospel;**

**Stanza 2 after the Gospel**



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

*The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead, he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**



**Please be seated**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Peggy Niederer**

**Silence for Meditation**

**Please stand.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**When Jesus Came to Jordan**

**WOV 647; ELW 305**



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune  
Text © 1980 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.



## **NICENE CREED**

**A:** Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

**C:** **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Julie Buckingham*

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

### ***A brief silence.***

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You gather us as one body in Christ as we pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the New Jersey Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian community, our friends from the Light & Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere. as they live out their callings to serve, God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery, including those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: **Amen.**

## PEACE ***Please stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.***

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

C. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

*Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.*

**Please be seated.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

*This Little Light of Mine*

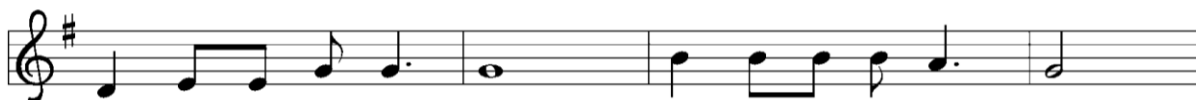
**ELW 677**



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

**Please stand.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you,**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

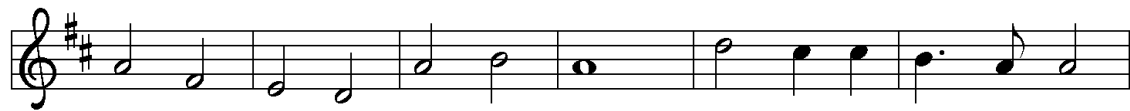
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**


## THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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, Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this in 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORDS PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

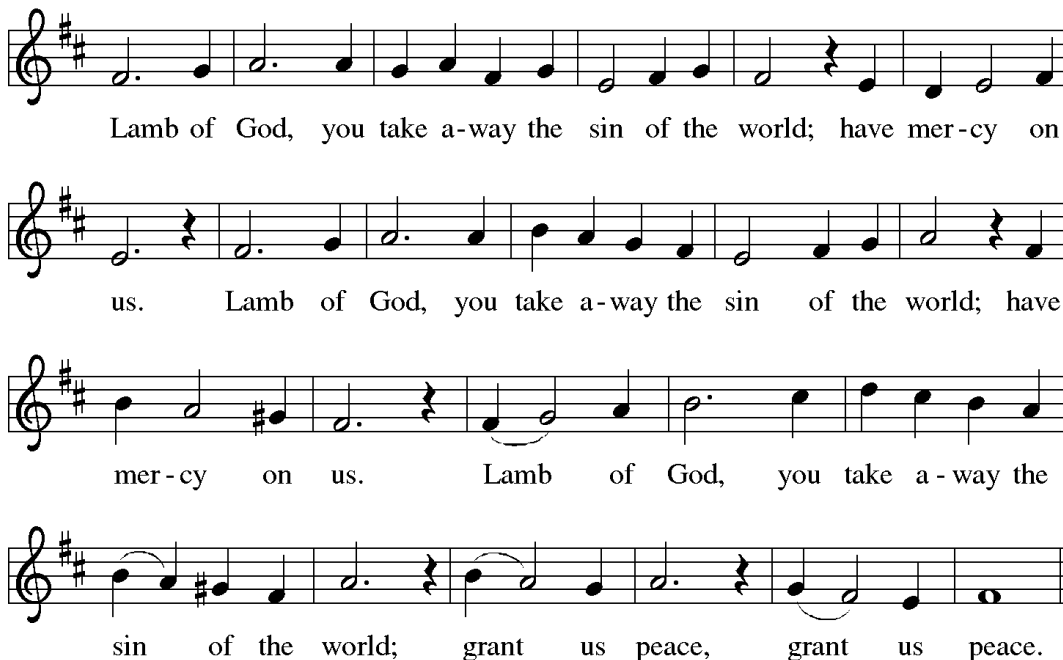
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.  
Come, eat this meal of gladness.  
Come to the table where all are welcome.

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



## CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

**Please come forward for Communion, beginning with those in the back pews, alternating sides, leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you. Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.**

**A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.  
The center contains purple grape juice.  
White wine is in the remainder of the tray.**

**After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.**

*Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.*



**Please stand.**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in Christ's grace.

**C:** Amen.

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:** *Nunc Dimittis* *LBW, Setting 2*

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -

pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the

na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,

and will be for - ev - er. A - men

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** Let us pray.  
Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

**C:** Amen.

## BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God ✝ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

C: Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING HYMN

### *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

ELW 304



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spir - it on you  
2 God called you, "My be - lov - ed Son"; you are God's ser - vant  
3 Straight-way and stead - fast un - til death you then o - beyed the  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spir - it, Lord; your cross on us be



came, as peace - ful as a dove, and yet as  
true, sent to pro - claim the reign of heav'n, God's  
call to serve with free and will - ing heart, to  
signed, that like - wise in God's ser - vice we may



ur - gent as a flame, as ur - gent as a flame.  
ho - ly will to do, God's ho - ly will to do.  
give your life for all, to give your life for all.  
per - fect free - dom find, may per - fect free - dom find.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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## **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God**

## **POSTLUDE**

A Time For New Beginnings

by Lani Smith

### **OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO**

Karen Bartholomew, Guest Organist  
Janet Thalman, Greeter  
Jack Martinez - Crucifer  
Julie Buckingham, Liturgical Cantor  
Sue Papera, Liturgist & Reader  
Julie Buckingham, Prayers of Intercession  
Erika Ilgenfritz, Altar Guild



### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PART 2 AFTER MASS TODAY**

Included on the Agenda:

1. Mission & Ministry Reports
2. Grace's Voting Member(s) to the NJ Synod Assembly,  
which will be held Thursday through Saturday, June 5-7, 2025  
at the Hilton, 3 Tower Center Blvd. East Brunswick, NJ
3. Proposed Amended Congregation's Constitution



**Thursday, January 16, 2025, at Noon  
Via Zoom**

***A Study on the Readings for Next Sunday***

**Isaiah 62:1-5**

*As bridegroom and bride rejoice, so shall God rejoice over you.*

**Psalm 36:5-10**

*We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD. (Ps. 36:8)*

**1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

*There are a variety of gifts but the same Spirit.*

**John 2:1-11**

*The wedding at Cana.*



**Bishop's Challenge**

“God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply,  
and fill the earth and replentish it...”

Genesis 1:28

*In care of God's creation:*

*We invite you to take your bulletin home for meditation  
and to remember those on our prayer list. If you choose not to,  
please place the bulletin on the table at the back of the church or place it  
in the large plastic bin on the floor near the mailboxes after Mass.*

*All cardboard and paper are recycled from those locations.*

*A recycle receptacle for plastic and glass is in the Memorial / Coffee Room*



## PRAYERS

**Joan Costello** (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); **Carol Weber**; Carol's family: **Doris Baumann**, **Darla Lambson** (leukemia); **Brad Gohmann** (cancer); Zulema's friends and family: **Donald Lazlear** and his family, **Katie and Surella Borowski**; **Rose Davis** (cancer); **Marc & Bella Yaffe** and **Leslyn Cooke**; **Susan Bethke** (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); **Marion Soohoo** (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Sue Papera's friends and family: **Arlene Rizzo** (cancer) and Arlene's family; **Chris Palmer** (health concerns); **Caleb** (mental health issues); **Jenny L.** (health issues); **Carol Mulvaney** (breast cancer); **Michael Mulvaney** (prostate cancer); **Edward Foley** (back surgery); Janet's family and friends: **Jason and Paul Thalmann**; **Beverly Philip** (severe dementia), **Kathy O'Brien**, **Bert Maltz** (health concerns), **Michele Rusciano**; **Al & Mark Crovatto**; **Anita & Harold Bontekoe** (health concerns), Mary Ellen's family and friends: **Susan Beever**; **Dominick Capalba** (6 year old with brain cancer); **Patty Fitzgerald** (terminal lung cancer); Kay Roseen's family: **Jessica and Casey O'Neil** (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law who work for the State Department); **Marcia & Chuck Hendron** (Kay's parents – memory care); **John Steffen** (Lorli's brother with health concerns); **Tammy** (Lorli's niece with an immune disorder); **Judy Letwink** (Lorli's nephew's Mother-in-law recovering from a stroke); **James Ilgenfritz** (Erika's son); **Peter Schelbli** (Erika's nephew with cancer); Friends of the congregation: **Kevin** (cancer), **Doris Feirer**, **Arouss Darpinian** (health concerns); **Chris Niederer** (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); **Nancy Barbee** (Pastor's friend with lung cancer); Dennis **Keohane** (Catherine's uncle); **Willi Lewis' Aunt Kelly** (health concerns); **Donna Maxwell**, **James Mingo** (Donna's grandson - health concerns); **Hana Kim** (health concerns); **Mary Sue Kaplow** (health concerns); (baby) **Hannah Muñiz** (a hospice patient where Jack works); **Chris** (Ruth DiCicco's daughter) & **Bob Wheeler**; (**Paul Whelan**, **Evan Gershkovich**, and **Alsu Kurmasheva** (recovering after release from Russian Prisons); the hostages in Gaza; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, or war: the people of Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan, Sudan and organizations and individuals who are providing resources and care for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health care workers; national and regional relief workers and firefighters and all affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

***Let Lynn or Pastor know of changes needed on the prayer list.***



## **COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025**

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

**Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356**

**Friday, January 17, 2025**

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

**Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346**

**Friday, January 17, 2025**

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

**Confession of Peter**

**Saturday, January 18, 2025**

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

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