

# Grace Lutheran Church

7610 NE Fremont St.  
Portland, OR 97213

Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace  
and as a family of believers for over 110 years...  
as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry





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**Church Campus:** 7610 NE Fremont St, Pastor – Gary Kraklow (360.518.2996 – gkraklow@comcast.net)

**School Campus:** 2252 SE 92nd Ave, Principal - Justin Eternick (920.988.1999 – call /text)

**Preschool:** 2252 SE 92nd Ave, ECE Director Tammy Godish (503.312.4230 – call /text)

## Epiphany January 5, 2025

*Grace ~ “I am not ashamed of the gospel...”*



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

*Grace ~ “These are written that you may believe...”*



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

*Grace ~ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...”*



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Pt. 3:18**

## Opening Hymn

CW RED 79 HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR

How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar  
The light in Judah shining.  
O David's Son of Jacob's race, My Bridegroom and my King of grace,  
For you my heart is pining.  
Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, O victorious Prince of graces,  
Filling all the heav'nly places.

O highest joy by mortals won, True Son of God and Mary's Son,  
The highborn King of ages!  
In your blest body let me be, E'en as the branch is in the tree,  
Your life my life supplying.  
Sighing, Crying For the savor Of your favor  
Resting never Till I rest in you forever.

O mighty Father, in your Son You loved me ere you had begun  
This ancient world's foundation.  
Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in spirit him I see,  
I joy in tribulation.  
What bliss Is this! He is living, To me giving  
Life forever; Nothing me from him can sever.

Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, beginning without end,  
The first and last, eternal!  
And you at length --O glorious grace --Will take me to that holy place,  
The home of joys supernal.  
Amen, Amen! Come and meet me, Quickly greet me! With deep yearning,  
Lord, I look for your returning.

Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of music ring  
In God's high praises blended.  
Christ will be with me all the way, Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day  
Till trav'ling days are ended.  
Sing out, Ring out Triumph glorious, O victorious Chosen nation;  
Praise the God of your salvation.

Order of Worship: Service of the Word (CW 93 Red Pg. 38)

### Invocation

**M:** The grace of our LORD † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of  
the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## Confession of Sins

- M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

## Absolution

- M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our LORD Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C:** **Amen.**

## Prayer and Praise

- M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the LORD.

### OH, TASTE AND SEE

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The final note of the piece is a whole note on the G line of the staff.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Hymn

CW RED 81 (1) ARISE AND SHINE IN SPLENDOR

**Arise and shine in splendor; Let night to day surrender.  
Your light is drawing near. Above, the day is beaming,  
In matchless beauty gleaming; The glory of the Lord is here.**

## THE WORD

### The First Lesson

ISAIAH 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

<sup>2</sup> See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup> “Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the hip.

<sup>5</sup> Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought  
to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will  
come.

<sup>6</sup> Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.  
And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

## Hymn

CW RED 81 (2) ARISE AND SHINE IN SPLENDOR

**See earth in darkness lying, The heathen nations dying  
In hopeless gloom and night. To you the Lord of heaven –  
Your life, your hope --has given Great glory, honor, and delight.**

<sup>2</sup> Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup> In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup> His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup> according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Hymn

CW RED 81 (3) ARISE AND SHINE IN SPLENDOR

**Lift up your eyes in wonder --See, nations gather yonder  
From sin to be set free. The world has heard your story;  
Your sons come to your glory, And daughters haste your light to see.**

Verse of the Day

MATTHEW 2:2B

**M:** Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

Hymn

CW RED 81 (4) ARISE AND SHINE IN SPLENDOR

**Your heart will leap for gladness When from the realms of sadness  
They come from near and far. Your eyes will wake from slumber  
As people without number Rejoice to see the Morning Star.**

## The Gospel Lesson

MATTHEW 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

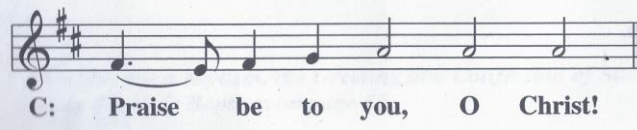
<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold,  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore your foll'wers be.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to your lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before You whom heav'n and earth adore,  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek your mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare At your cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'nly King.

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 your glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;  
You its light, its joy, its crown, You its sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King!

Sermon – Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

MATTHEW 2:1-12

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will 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.

## THANKSGIVING

The Offering

An opportunity to give online can also be used at:  
*Paypal.me/GracePortland* or by utilizing this QR code:





## Prayer of the Church

- M: LORD God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.
- C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**
- M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.
- C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**
- M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.
- C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**
- M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.
- C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

## *Special Intercession Prayers*

- M: Hear us, LORD, as we bring you our private petitions.
- M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our LORD, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.
- C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## **The LORD's Prayer**

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation.  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Hymn**

## **CW RED 82 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE**

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,  
Manifested by the star To the Magi from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem, In your birth at Bethlehem.  
Anthems be to you addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,  
And at Cana, Wedding Guest, In your Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine.  
Anthems be to you addressed, God in man made manifest.**

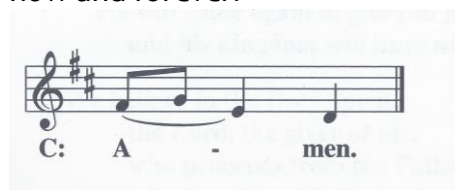
**Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill.  
Anthems be to you addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**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 trumpet hear; All will see the judge appear.  
You by all will be confessed, God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see you, Lord, Mirrored in your holy Word.  
May our lives and all we do Imitate and honor you  
That we all like you may be At your great epiphany  
And may praise you, ever blest, God in man made manifest.**

## **Prayer**

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our LORD, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



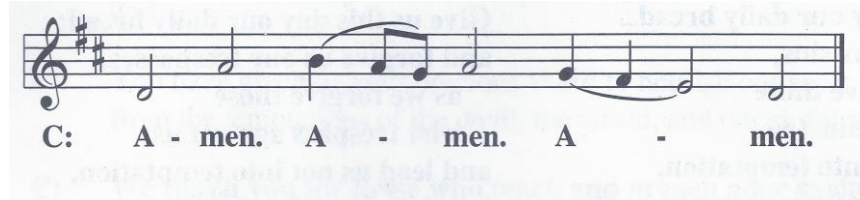
## **Benediction**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the LORD with gladness.

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and † give you peace.



**Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story;  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing -Yonder  
shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Magi, leave your contemplations;  
Brighter visions beam afar.  
Seek the great desire of nations;  
You have seen the Savior's star.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In his temple shall appear.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**