



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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The Second Sunday of Epiphany January 15th, 2023

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

Hymn:



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.
- **M:** I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.
- C: Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.
- M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.
- C: But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Confession

- **M:** As baptized children of God we confess our sins:
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

- M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Hymn:

CW21 Blue #814 (1-2): Just as I Am, without One Plea

Just as I am, without one plea But that thy blood was shed for me And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-7

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. I am placing my Spirit on him. He will announce a just verdict for the nations. ² He will not cry out. He will not raise his voice. He will not make his voice heard in the street. ³A bent reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out. He will faithfully bring forth a just verdict. ⁴He will not burn out, and he will not be broken until he establishes justice on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his law. ⁵ This is what the true God says, the LORD who creates the heavens and stretches them out, who spreads out the earth and everything that it produces, who gives breath to the people on it and life to those who walk on it. 6 I am the LORD. I have called you in righteousness. I will hold on to your hand, and I will guard you. I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to be a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes of the blind,

to bring the prisoners out from the dungeon, and to bring those who sit in darkness out of prison.

HYMN:

CW21 Blue #814 (3): Just as I Am, without One Plea

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 5: 1-11

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the God who has given birth also loves one who has been born of him. ² This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep his commands. ³ In fact, this is love for God: that we keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴ because everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. ⁵ Who is the one who overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He did not come by the water alone but by the water and by the blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ In fact, there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and these three are one.

⁹ If we accept the testimony of people, God's testimony is even greater, because it is the testimony that God gave about his Son. ¹⁰ The one who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in him, but the one who does not believe has made God out to be a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God gave about his Son. ¹¹ This is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

HYMN:

CW21 Blue #814 (3): Just as I Am, without One Plea

Just as I am; thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down. Now to be thine, yea thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Titus 3:4-7

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward mankind appeared, ⁵ he saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs in keeping with the hope of eternal life.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by John at the Jordan. ¹⁴ But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?"
¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, because it is proper for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John let him. ¹⁶ After Jesus was baptized, he immediately went up out of the water. Suddenly, the heavens were opened for him! He saw the Spirit of God, descending like a dove and landing on him, ¹⁷ and a voice out of the heavens said, "This is my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with him."

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.

HYMN:

CW21 Blue #686: Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

Water, blood, and Spirit crying, By their witness testifying To the One whose death-defying Life has come, with life for all.

In a wat'ry grave are buried All our sins that Jesus carried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has ferried Us across death's raging flood.

Dark the way, yet Christ precedes us, Past the scowl of death He leads us; Spreads a table where He feeds us With His body and His blood.

Through around us death is seething, God, His two-edged sword unsheathing, By His Spirit life is breathing Through the living, active Word. Spirit, water, blood entreating, Working faith and its completing In the One whose death-defeating Life has come, with life for all.

THE SERMON

Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

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

During the offering we will show this month's WELS Connection video.



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,

M: Dear Lord, with these words you tenderly invite us to believe that you are our true Father and that we may pray to you boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

C: Hallowed be thy name.

M: Help us to know you through your inspired Word and to live by it as children in your family.

C: Thy kingdom come.

M: Give us your Holy Spirit to rule in our hearts, and use us to extend your kingdom of grace to others.

C: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

M: Make us zealous to carry out your will as gladly as the angels do, and to conform our will to yours.

C: Give us this day our daily bread.

M: Merciful Lord, since you are the provider of all things necessary for our bodies; fill us with trust.

C: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

M: Continue to erase our sins, and help us gladly to forgive and to do good to those who wrong us.

C: And lead us not into temptation.

M: We know the devil seeks to destroy our souls and the world lures us to ruin by appealing to the desires of our flesh. Guard us from the poison of misbelief and the trap of unrepented sin.

C: But deliver us from evil.

M: (Include any special prayer requests) Keep safe our bodies and souls, our property and honor, and above all send the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith in Christ which leads to life everlasting.

C: For thine is the kingdom,

M: For all these petitions we look to you as King of Kings and Lord of your church.

C: and the power,

M: You alone hold the power to grant our requests.

C: and the glory forever and ever.

M: We worship you from whom all blessings flow and relying on Jesus, who paid for all our sins and made us acceptable in your sight, we pray with confidence:

C: Amen. It shall be so.

BLESSING

- M: 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.
- C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

CW21 Blue #380: Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun





