



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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# Guest Pastor: Jon Leach - Truth in Love Ministries

# The Third Sunday of Epiphany - January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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

#### **INVOCATION**

- M: In the name of the Father
- C: whose glory is declared by the heavens,
- M: and of the Son
- C: who calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth,
- M: and of the Holy Spirit
- C: who empowers us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Amen.

## Hymn

CW21 Blue #633 (1): Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To receive the food of your Holy Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in your likeness That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All your purposes for your glory.

# CONFESSION OF SIN

- M: Gracious Lord, through your Word you have revealed to us again and again the unsearchable riches of Christ, but again and again we confess that we have failed to recognize how richly we have been blessed.
- C: "To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." -Eph 3:8
- M: We confess that we have often failed to fully appreciate all you have done for us in Christ, and have failed to share the message of your love and grace with others as we should.
- C: "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" -Romans 10:14
- M: We confess that so often we have overlooked the needs of those who live near us and have shown so little concern for those who are far away.
- C: "Against you, you only, have I sinned, and I have done this evil in your eyes. Be gracious to me, God, according to your mercy." -Psalm 51
- M: Lord, increase our faith. Through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament give to us a heart that loves you more each day, a faith that grows stronger in every circumstance, and a life that clearly reflects the vast riches of your love.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility. Test our thoughts and our attitudes In the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority. Words of pow'r that can never fail, Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

## **ABSOLUTION**

- M: Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. 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. -Eph 2:4-9
- C: For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. -Ephesians 2:10

#### Hymn

HYMN

CW21 Blue #633 (3): Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, That will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises, And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built And you fill the earth with your glory.

# Prayer of the Day

M: Heavenly Father, You have called us from many races and tongues to be witnesses of the Good News of Your Son to every nation, tribe, language and people. Help us to share your precious Gospel with all who have not heard of your great love for them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# The Word

## GOD'S WORD FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.<sup>10</sup> I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

## Hymn

### CW21 Blue #745 (1): Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

Hark! the voice of Jesus crying, "Who will go and work today? Fields are ripe and harvests waiting; Who will bear the sheaves away?" Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward he offers thee. Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I --send me, send me?"

### **GOD'S WORD FROM THE EPISTLES**

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup> For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. <sup>3</sup> Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. <sup>5</sup> Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?"<sup>[b]</sup> (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> "or 'Who will descend into the deep?"" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: <sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is

Romans 10:1-14

Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. <sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." <sup>14</sup> How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup> And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!

#### Hymn

#### CW21 Blue #745 (2): Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus; You can say he died for all. If you cannot rouse the wicked With the Judgment's dread alarms, You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia! the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment. Alleluia!

### GOD'S WORD FROM THE GOSPEL

<sup>17</sup> As Jesus was setting out on a journey, one man ran up to him and knelt in front of him. He asked, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
<sup>18</sup> Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except one—God. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments. 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.""

<sup>20</sup> The man replied, "Teacher, I have kept all these since I was a child."

<sup>21</sup> Jesus looked at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

2 Peter 2:9

Mark 10:17-27

<sup>22</sup> When he heard this, he looked sad and went away grieving, because he had great wealth. <sup>23</sup> Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

<sup>24</sup> The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus told them again, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in their riches to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup> They were even more astonished and said to one another, "Who then can be saved?"

<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "For people, it is impossible, but not for God, because all things are possible for God."

## Hymn

#### CW21 Blue #745 (4): Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do," While the multitudes are dying, And the Master calls for you. Take the task he gives you gladly; Let his work your pleasure be. Answer quickly when he calleth, "Here am I --send me, send me!"

### THE CREED – THE SECOND ARTICLE

- M: As God's witnesses, let us confess the message of Christ he has entrusted to us:
- C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn

#### Facing A Task Unfinished

Imported Song Music and words by Frank Houghton – 1930; Refrain – Getty Music OMF International This Arrangement © Music Ministry 2018 Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822 "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

# An Impossible Problem with a Perfect Solution

# Thanksgiving

#### THE OFFERING

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

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (CW RED PG. 129)

#### THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. M: 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.





#### **Closing Prayer**