



GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021
8:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word. We are blessed by your presence, just as you are. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome God's people of all races, social statuses, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve. We worship online in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and encourage you to follow along in this document as you also watch or listen to the live stream of our service. May the Lord bless our worship this day.

Grace Council Statement on Racism

The events that have unfolded in our nation in recent months have reawakened us to the deep divides that still exist within our country. Racism, manifested in individual acts and present throughout systems, continues to prevent us from being the beloved community that God intends. Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ compels us to speak. We speak against the sin of racism. We speak in solidarity with Black people and all people of color, each of whom is precious to God. We stand with and for Black people within our church and school and in the larger community.

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ into the world in the hope that, by the Spirit's power, God's Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. We look with hope and anticipation to a season of growth and change as Grace becomes a more faithful witness to God's wide welcome in Christ. We see this as the beginning, not the end, of the conversation. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us, and for the courage to follow.

As We Gather

In the midst of a global pandemic, we hear of Jesus healing a woman with a fever. He goes to Simon's mother-in-law, takes her by the hand, and lifts her up in newness of life. She is healed. Healed, she begins to serve. This recently-ill woman understands what her son-in-law and the other disciples do not: When Jesus heals you, he doesn't leave you the way you were. He makes you more like him. To be healed by Christ is to live for others, not yourself. She gets it (and the men don't). As we look with hope to the end of this pandemic, we pray that God does not simply restore us to who we were, but that God frees us to live beyond ourselves, looking to the needs of others. The new normal of a life lived in Christ is serving others to the glory of God.

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Michael D. Costello

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us
and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(green) LBW #559

1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can-celed sin; he sets the pris-'ner free.
 5 To God all glori-y, praise, and love be now and ev-er giv'n

the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 His blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a-vails for me.
 by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B 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.



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.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Everlasting God,

you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.

Make us agents of your healing and wholeness,

that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.



✝ WORD ✝

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21–31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1–12, 21c

ANTIPHON: The Lord heals the brokenhearted.

Hal

Hopson

- L** Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!*
- How pleasant it is to honor | him with praise!
- C** **The Lord re- | builds Jerusalem;***
- he gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**
- L** He heals the | brokenhearted*
- and binds | up their wounds.
- C** **He counts the number | of the stars***
- and calls them all | by their names.**
- L** Great is our Lord and might- | y in power;*
- there is no limit | to his wisdom.
- C** **The Lord lifts | up the lowly,***
- but casts the wicked | to the ground.**
- L** Sing to the Lord | with thanksgiving;*
- make music to our God up- | on the harp.
- C** **He covers the heav- | ens with clouds***
- and prepares rain | for the earth;**
- L** he makes grass to grow up- | on the mountains*
- and green plants to | serve mankind.
- C** **He provides food for | flocks and herds***
- and for the young ravens | when they cry.**
- L** He is not impressed by the might | of a horse;*
- he has no pleasure in the strength | of a man;
- C** **but the Lord has pleasure in | those who fear him,***
- in those who await his gracious favor. | Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16–23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE: Matthew 8:17

John Ferguson

L Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

G REFRAIN (*below*)



L The servant of God took our infirmities and bore our diseases.

G REFRAIN

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:29–39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

As soon as [Jesus and his disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

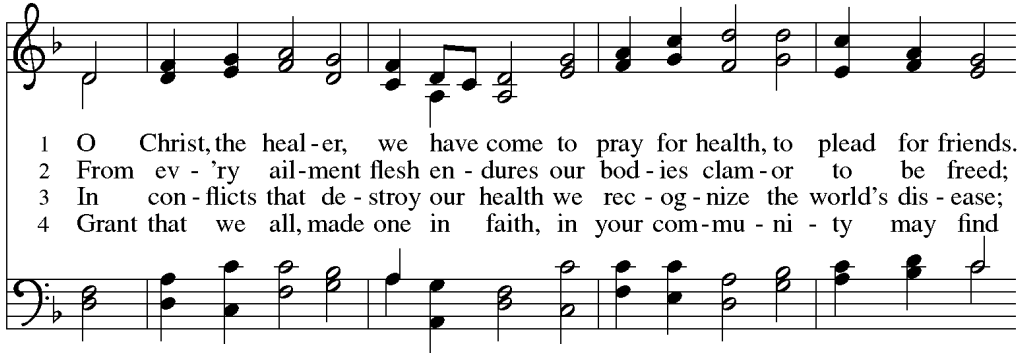
CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: The New Normal

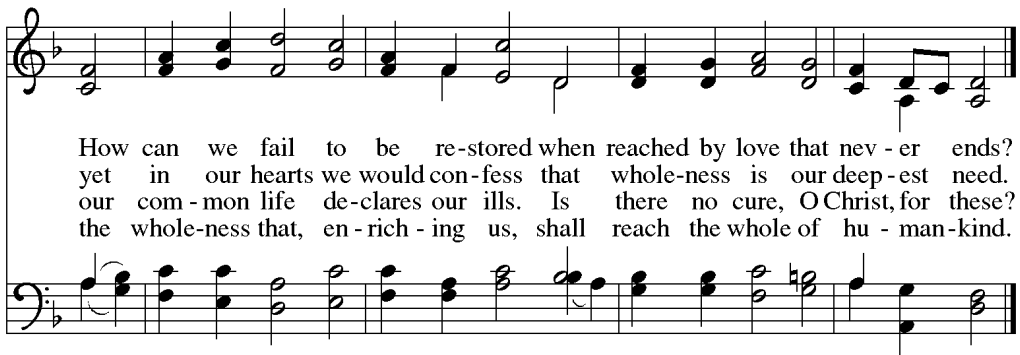
Pastor David R. Lyle
Mark 1:29–39

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Christ the Healer, We Have Come

ELW #610



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep - est need.
our com - mon life de-clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

ANTHEM: O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

O radiant Christ, incarnate Word,
Eternal love revealed in time:
Come, make your home within our hearts,
That we may dwell in light sublime.

Our bartered, busy lives burn dim,
Too tired to care, too numb to feel.
Oh, come and shine upon our shadowed world:
Your radiance bathes with power to heal.

Robert Buckley Farlee

Your glory shone at Jordan's stream,
The font where we were born anew,
Attune your church to know you near;
Illumine all we say and do.

O Light of Nations, fill the earth;
Our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace,
As stars once led the way to you.

Ruth Duck

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

- A** Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- L** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- 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.

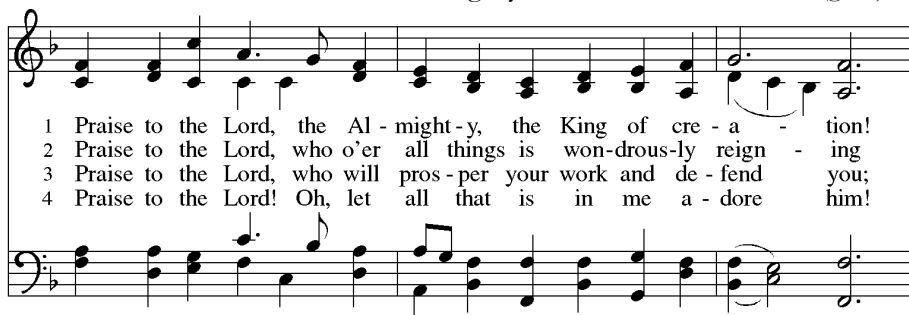
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

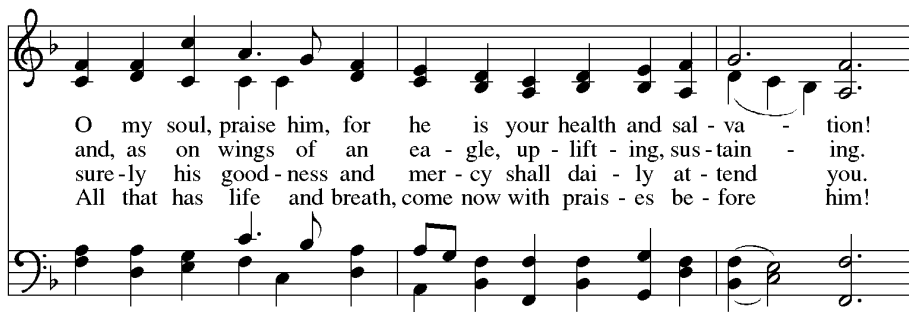
✠ SENDING ✠

BENEDICTION

- P** Almighty God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C Amen.



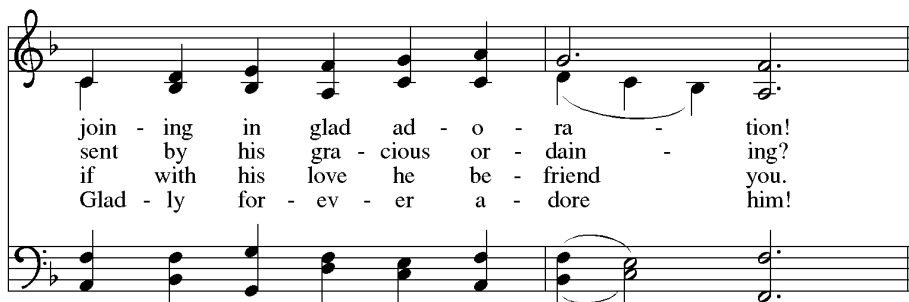
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

DISMISSAL

Ⓐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Paul Manz

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, presiding minister

The Rev. David R. Lyle, preaching minister

Jo-Ellyn Dorsey Swanson, assisting minister

The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor

Ellen Pullin, soprano

Bill Pullin, baritone

Eunice Eifert, videographer

Julie Hinz, sound board operator

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LET US PRAY. . .

Those who are sick and recovering from illness

Rose Mary Anderson	Ed Borg	Kathy Hayes	Chrissy Nelson
Tina Baird	Rosemary Cheatem	Patricia Herendeen	Paul Nelson
Annalise Balock	Marilyn Gotsch	Joan Koerber	Tim Sandvoss
Cathy Barker	Angela Gruendler	Jerry Koenig	Pat Scala
Jim Barker	Carl & Donna Gruendler	Beth Smoots McClanahan	Rich and Bonnie Stasack
Len Berghaus	David Gruendler	Karen McMahon	
Anne-Marie Bogdan	Sarah Gruendler-Ladner	Jennifer Murtoff	
Felipe Altamirano (<i>friend of Cathy and Paul Schnittker</i>)		Elsie Locke (<i>grandmother of Troy Medlin</i>)	
Mardie Anderson (<i>friend of Christie Nelson</i>)		Karen Luebbe (<i>mother of Jenny, sister of Stan Reddel</i>)	
Valerie Anderson (<i>friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke</i>)		Joyce and John Lunde (<i>friends of Susan Messerli</i>)	
Vera Leora Barnett (<i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i>)		Anne Matthys (<i>mother of Susan Curran</i>)	
James Beglin (<i>cousin of Cathy Schnittker</i>)		Leone, Gracie, and Brian Maxwell (<i>cousins of Tom and Deb Maxwell</i>)	
Tony Beneventi (<i>friend of Evelyn Grams</i>)		Linda Merril (<i>cousin of Sue Foran</i>)	
Karen Berglund (<i>friend of Carol Stanger</i>)		Monika Nash (<i>daughter of Don and Verna Offermann</i>)	
Stephanie Bogue and Elva (<i>friends of Pat Anderson</i>)		Jacob Pletan (<i>great-nephew of Ruth Rehwaldt & Gick Schmidt</i>)	
Florence Breed (<i>cousin of Irmgard Swanson</i>)		James Powers (<i>friend of Al Swanson</i>)	
Ken Briggs (<i>friend of many at Grace</i>)		Susan Prather (<i>cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott</i>)	
Mike and Beth Bullock (<i>parents of Keith Bullock</i>)		Zach & Ellie Radosevich (<i>grandchildren of Ginny & Frank Swaba</i>)	
Linda Castaing (<i>friend of Marnie Rourke</i>)		Phillip Rice III (<i>friend of Pat Anderson</i>)	
Family of Jim Cozzi (<i>friends of Diana Sicuro</i>)		Ronald Riley (<i>friend of Al Swanson</i>)	
Linda DeMeyere (<i>friend of Randy and Ellie Schnack</i>)		John Rohleder (<i>friend of Sandy Grams</i>)	
Peggy Dickenson (<i>mother of Paul Eichwedel</i>)		Florence Saeger (<i>friend of Karl and Ruth Reko</i>)	
David Eastman and family (<i>brother of Pat Anderson</i>)		John Schuurman (<i>friend of Timothy Douma</i>)	
Patti and Neal Enslin (<i>friends of Marilyn Heppner</i>)		Lindsay Shaner (<i>brother of Bob Shaner</i>)	
Emily Ford (<i>daughter-in-law of Cynthia Hill</i>)		Mary Lu Shipstad (<i>friend of Marilyn Heppner</i>)	
Benjamin Galiher (<i>nephew of Paul May</i>)		Ken and Lori Shoup (<i>friends of Marilyn Heppner</i>)	
Alvin Garber (<i>brother of Larry Garber</i>)		Zina and Huxley Shoup (<i>friends of Marilyn and Ken Heppner</i>)	
Ray Garmatz (<i>son of Margaret Garmatz</i>)		Ruth Soppet (<i>friend of Bob and Kathryn Jandeska</i>)	
Ann Gesme (<i>mother of Karen Brunssen and Martha Nielsen</i>)		Nancy Stelling (<i>friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten</i>)	
Stacy Gibb and family (<i>friends of Kristin Vogen</i>)		Lee Stephens (<i>brother of Tony</i>)	
Mike Guss (<i>friend of Lance and Stephanie Wilkening</i>)		Jennifer Sylvester (<i>daughter of Janet Sylvester</i>)	
Jerry Haase (<i>friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke</i>)		Martin A. Thieme (<i>brother of Susan Franzone</i>)	
Jill Hanssen (<i>niece of Ann Mason</i>)		Jan Thomson (<i>sister-in-law of Christine Phillips</i>)	
Harry Heppner (<i>brother of Ken Heppner</i>)		Rev. Mark Van Scharrel (<i>friend of Karl and Ruth Reko</i>)	
Alice Hollis (<i>friend of Marge Sanger</i>)		Mary Lou and Ron Wagoner (<i>sister and brother-in-law of Stan Reddel</i>)	
John Hunt (<i>friend of Ken and Marilyn Heppner</i>)		Brian Walden (<i>relative of Pat Gulik</i>)	
Mia Rose Jones (<i>granddaughter of John and Loretta Lattyak</i>)		Kim Walsh (<i>niece of Cathy Schnittker</i>)	
Doug Kelner (<i>friend of Irmgard and Al Swanson</i>)		Verna Walsh (<i>aunt of Dan and Deanna Marotz</i>)	
Don Kersten (<i>brother of Phyllis Kersten</i>)		Bob Weaver (<i>husband of Gretchen</i>)	
Sally Kindsfater (<i>sister of Mary Jane Endicott</i>)		Lucy White (<i>friend of Mary Beth Logas</i>)	
Andrew Korcek (<i>friend of Eunice Spurgat</i>)		Tim White (<i>brother of Beverly White</i>)	
George Kozuchowski (<i>friend of Timothy Douma</i>)		Elise Wojack (<i>niece of Pat Gulik</i>)	
Arnold Krubsack (<i>brother of Irmgard Swanson</i>)		Kathie Wolff (<i>friend of Tim Douma</i>)	
Kathryn Krubsack (<i>niece of Irmgard Swanson</i>)		Randi Woodworth (<i>sister of Tammy Bretscher</i>)	
Maxx Kusper (<i>friend of Deb Maxwell</i>)		Veronica Zurowski (<i>mother of Tom</i>)	
Alyssa Kutak (<i>granddaughter-in-law of Galen Gockel</i>)			
Lily (<i>friend of Carrie Douma</i>)			

Benevolence ministries

Hope for Grieving Children

For those who mourn

Jim Maggio (*brother of Joe Maggio*)

Those serving in the armed services

Timothy Berghaus (*grandson of Len and Judy Berghaus*)

Kevin Buss (*nephew of Christa Krout*)

Reid Beveridge (*son-in-law of the Schnacks*)

David Danford (*son of John and Karen*)

E. Michael Garcia Goetting (*son of Mary Goetting*)

Matthew Garmatz (*grandson of Margaret Garmatz*)

Bradley Larson (*cousin of Rhea Sprecher*)

Sonny Putman (*nephew of Susan Franzone*)

Rusty Robb (*grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/Roberta Gillespie*)

Jason Brown (*nephew of Tim and Sue Sandvoss*)

Matthew Shinkwin (*friend of Eunice Spurgat*)

Christopher W. Sylvester (*grandson of Janet Sylvester*)

Those in the foreign service

Julie Kmet (*friend of Ed and Susan Schumacher*)

Kari Paetzold (*niece of Jim and Sharman Galezewski*)

Those studying abroad

Colleen Lattyak (*Germany*)

Drew Krueger (*England*)

Those who are homebound

Barbara Bunjes

Christopher Davis

Marie Gierke

Ronald Gresens

Gloria Hillert

Carolyn Martin

Joanne Nelson

Barbara Rinnan

Kathleen Wrobel

Those who need encouragement

Bruce Burnside (*friend of Bob and Margaret Burke*) in Oakhill Correctional Center

Cheryl Luchetta (*friend of Joan Koerber*) in Logan Correctional Center

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

NAME(S) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Check all that apply:

- ☐ I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace Church.
- ☐ I am interested in a path toward membership.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace School.
- ☐ I would like to receive Grace’s weekly e-mail,
Sunday Is Coming.
- ☐ I would like one of the pastors to contact me
via (check one) ☐ Phone or ☐ E-mail.

GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
& SCHOOL

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Phone: (708) 366-6900
Fax: (708) 366-0966
www.graceriverforest.org
gracechurch@graceriverforest.org

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ

David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor
Troy E. Medlin, Associate Pastor
F. Dean Lueking, Pastor Emeritus
Michael D. Costello, Cantor
Jeremy Zimmer, Assistant Cantor
William Koehne, Principal
Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus
Pat Gulik, Parish Nurse
Julie Modrich, Children’s Ministry Coordinator
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance
Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager