

**Luther League** will meet on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the church for the monthly meeting. All high schoolers are welcome.

**2026 MISSION TRIP to Tanzania:**

On March 2nd Pastor Wayne will be giving the sermon at both services and during the Adult Sunday School hour will discuss information regarding a 2026 mission trip to Tanzania. Whether you are interested in going on the trip or not, this is a great opportunity to ask questions, learn more about the ministry, and hear the amazing stories of God's love. After the late service, Pastor Wayne will stick around to have further discussion about the mission trip. The Mission Committee will provide lunch for those that want to stay and hear more about the upcoming trip. For those individuals that are interested in staying to learn more and eating lunch, please sign the sheet at the back of the church or let a Mission Committee member know. We would love to get a large group back to Tanzania!

**The Backpack program** is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups. There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.

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Strive to excel  
in building up  
the church.

1 Corinthians 14:12



*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Jackson Center, Ohio  
February 9, 2025  
Traditional Service  
8:00 am*

Welcome to  
**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*  
February 9, 2025 ~ 8:00 A.M.

**Welcome to Our Guests**

As God called the prophets and as Jesus called the disciples, the Holy Spirit has called us to this time of worship and to life in God's love always. Welcome. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

**As We Gather**

In and of ourselves, we are a people of unclean lips. How dare we speak the Word of God to others, sinful as we are? Nevertheless, there is an "alien righteousness," a cleanness that comes to us from another. It is he who asks, "Who will go for us?" Therefore, when he calls, we may answer: "Send me," knowing that we have been made clean in Christ ([John 15:3](#)). He knows his purpose for us and will not forsake his work through us—the work of his hands, not our own. This is how God builds his Church. He calls people to take his word to others. It may seem like we are out of our depth (and so we are) but he is with us. So at his word, we may respond with the confidence that he is truly at work in his Church through those whom he calls.

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*\* Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome

\*Opening Hymn:

**"You Servants of God"**

LBW # 252

## The 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. (1 John 1:8-9)

*Silent time for reflection and confession of sin*

P: Most merciful Father,

**C: Although in Christ our light has come, too much we prefer the darkness of sin. We do not let your holy light shine in our lives so others may see our good works and glorify you. We are deeply sorry and humbly repent. Forgive us and fill us with your Spirit. Give us once again the joy of your salvation; and send us out to proclaim your strong saving love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Arise, shine, for your Light has come; and the glorious mercy of the Lord shines round about you. In the name of and by the authority of our Savior Jesus Christ, I announce the forgiveness of your sin. May the Holy Spirit strengthen your faith, heal your spirit, and equip you to proclaim the greatness of the Lord until he comes in glory. Amen.

\*Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray,

**All: Holy Lord, in your loving kindness you have poured on us grace upon grace. It was by your wisdom that we were created and by your power that we have been called into discipleship in Christ Jesus. Help us to be fishers of people, fully devoted to you, so that all will know your abiding love. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

**“Do You Know My Jesus?”**

Adult Choir

## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8

ESV pg # 571

Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138 (read responsively)

**138** I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

**<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

**<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

<sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**Praise the LORD!**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20

ESV pg # 960

Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (sung)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Glory to you, O Lord** (sung)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** (sung)

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Shelly

Sermon Prayer

P: May the Spirit of the Lord be in my heart and on my lips so that I may sincerely and humbly, courageously and effectively proclaim the Good News.

**C: And may the Spirit of the Lord touch our ears that we may listen carefully. Touch our minds that we may understand correctly and touch our hearts that we may respond to that message courageously.**

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Sermon

Pastor Shelly

Apostles Creed

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.

\*The Prayers of the Church (stand)

Lord's Prayer

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

## Thanksgiving

We give thanks for the saving Word and all God's gifts.

Gathering of the Gifts

\*The Offering Hymn **“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”** LBW # 486

\*The Offertory **“Doxology”** LBW # 565

\*Offertory Prayer Page 67

Pastor: Merciful Father,

**All: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us- our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

\*The Benediction

Temple Talk International Health Partners Paula Lofstrom

Mission and Ministry Moments

\*Song **“On What Has Now Been Sown”** LBW # 261

\*Sending

P: Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Organ Postlude

## ***Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve***

**Your offering to the Lord's work through Grace.** There is a box for offering located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord's work.

**Jingle Offering** – Today there will be a “special” offering for our area “Fish Pond Food Pantry”. Any loose change that you have, please place in the labeled jar at the back of the church. Remember that this loose change offering will be used to continue to provide assistance for area families who are in need.

Grace Lutheran Church **2024 Annual reports** are available for pick up at the back of the church.

**Lost in Found basket**, at the back of the church, is overflowing with misplaced items. Stop and pick up any items that you may have lost.

**Catechism Connection** Continuing on Wednesdays in February, our catechism youth will be studying the Office of the Keys (think confession of sin and Christ's forgiveness) and then the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Through both of these God provides forgiveness of sin and therefore life and salvation. We will be taking a deeper look at how this is so. We meet 6:15 – 7:45 pm each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. Sundays' studies this school year focus on "apologetics." Which means why do we believe what we believe as Christians. Thanks to Lori Wiswell, Greg Woolley, Bonnie Kaufman, and Pastor Shelly for their connections with our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth. Game Night on January 22 was great FUN!

### **Adult Sunday Morning Sunday School at 9:15**

In February Adult Sunday School begins a series on the Lord's Supper. How is it that we receive the bread and wine? Is it really Jesus' body and blood? Do we need to do something? Sunday school begins at 9:15 am each Sunday; the adults meet in the sanctuary.

**Calling All Young Adults Ages 18-30** You and your friends are gathering **Today, Sunday, February 9 at 9:15 am** in the Fellowship Hall (north end). Purpose: young adults doing life together as followers of Jesus. Our focus topic will be **Relationships – Yours with God and Your Parents.**

### **We are in need of Deacons for our Grace worship**

So, what is a Deacon, you ask? A deacon is a server during worship. Here at Grace Lutheran, a Deacon assists with serving Holy Communion, receiving the offering, counting the offering after worship, assisting the worshipers when needed, assisting with Baptism. Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 am and other special worship times throughout the year. Contact Chris Stengel 8:00 am or Greg Woolley 10:30 am if you will serve as a deacon as needed. Training is available.

### **WOC February Collections**

If you have **full, queen, or king size FLAT sheets** that you no longer need, the WOC could use them for making our quilts for NALC disaster. They do not need to be in perfect condition. Please put them in the baskets in either vestibule. Thank you!!!

**Cookies for Alpha Center** any kind of cookies are accepted. Please bring to the church kitchen **by Today, February 9th** and label for the "Alpha Center". All cookies are acceptable. Any questions please contact Darlene Woolley, chairperson.

**Health Care Kits for NALC Disaster Response** One bath towel, One wash cloth, One bar of soap in original wrapping, One toothbrush, One pack of dental floss, One tube of toothpaste (or 2 travel size), One comb, One deodorant, Two travel sized Shampoos, One nail clipper. \*pack all items in 2 gallon ziplock bags (WOC will purchase these- just place all items in a grocery bag and deposit in vestibule basket) Any questions please contact Barb Wical, Chairperson.