

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

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*Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
February 16, 2025
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I welcome you to worship, that together we may be wrapped in God's Word, love and grace. Amen. 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.

Focus for Today

It is election season as I write this paragraph, and I am troubled once again, by those who put their trust in people. It goes beyond the civil duty of voting to faith that a government official is the answer to all our woes. Scripture says that we should pin all our hopes on God and that we will be happy when we meditate in his Word instead of the latest news or poll. For through Christ, God will even raise us to new life. Even though the world disappoints, we will rejoice in the day of resurrection.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

"Jesus Loves Me"

Children's Bell Choir

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Gathering

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

*Gathering Song

"Mighty to Save"

*The Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Hear the word of the Lord from 1 John 1:8-10...

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

(Silence for personal confession)

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

All: O Lord, graciously hear the requests of your people. May we who are afflicted for our sins be mercifully relieved, for the sake of your glory, to find new life through the love of Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Word

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

First Lesson: Jeremiah 17:5-8

ESV pg. 645

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 1 (read responsively)

1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

⁴ **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ **for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

ESV pg. 961

*Holy Gospel: Luke 6:17-26
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

ESV pg. 862

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.

* Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

Sending

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

*Blessing

Ministry and Mission Moments

*Closing Songs *“Ten Thousand Reasons”*
 “Lord Reign in Me”

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve

Ministry and Mission Moments

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.

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.

Next Packing will be March 4, 2025 at 6:00 pm JC Methodist Church.

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

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 7th and 8th grade youth. Game Night on January 22 was great FUN!

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. **Any items not claimed by March 1st will be donated.**

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.

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!!!

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.

Jerusalem at Passover the 2025 midweek Lenten dramas. We are in need of 6 men and 3 women to read dramatic parts from the balcony. Please speak with one of the pastors if you are willing to read a part for midweek Wednesday 7:00 pm worship.

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!

OPG Men's Spring Conference March 1, 2025 in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Men, let's gather for a day to honor God, be inspired, enjoy great food, quality fellowship and go home refreshed!

Speakers: Eli Yoder - Preaching Truck driver, author of "Undeceived" - *from Amish Tradition to Christ's Redemption*.

Also pastors Jon Horn & Wayne de Wet

Theme: God ALONE is WORTHY!

Location: The Barn, 14296 SR 196, Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Registration deadline: Midnight, Sunday, February 23, register soon as we can only accommodate 45.

Cost is \$25 per person. Registration is online at www.oneplusgod.org.

To **designate Thrivent Choice Dollars**, follow these steps:

1. Log in to your Thrivent account at thrivent.com. If you don't have a user ID and password, you can register now.
2. Once logged in, **look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen.**
3. You can also direct Choice Dollars by phone by calling 800-847-4836 and following the prompts to direct Choice Dollars or hear the Thrivent Choice program Terms and Conditions.