

Events This Week - February 7 - 14, 2021

Sunday 2/7 Epiphany 5

10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only
11:00 am - Worship Team Meeting

Monday 2/8

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry
7:00 pm - AA Meeting - Social Hall

Tuesday 2/9

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry
6:30 pm - NA Online Meeting
7:00 pm - Zoom Support Team Mtg.

Wednesday 2/10

9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry
7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

Thursday 2/11

Friday 2/12
NO Grace Stitchers

Saturday 2/13

Sunday 2/14 Epiphany 6
10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only



Dedication

BULLETINS

In Honor of Our Grandson
Breiten Sundra's 20th Birthday
Given by Brenda and Bob Traa



Grace Place Pantry will receive
\$1.00 for every bag sold.

during the month of February 2021

ACME



**BUY THIS
BAG, SEND A
\$1 DONATION
TO US.**

GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY &
SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT.

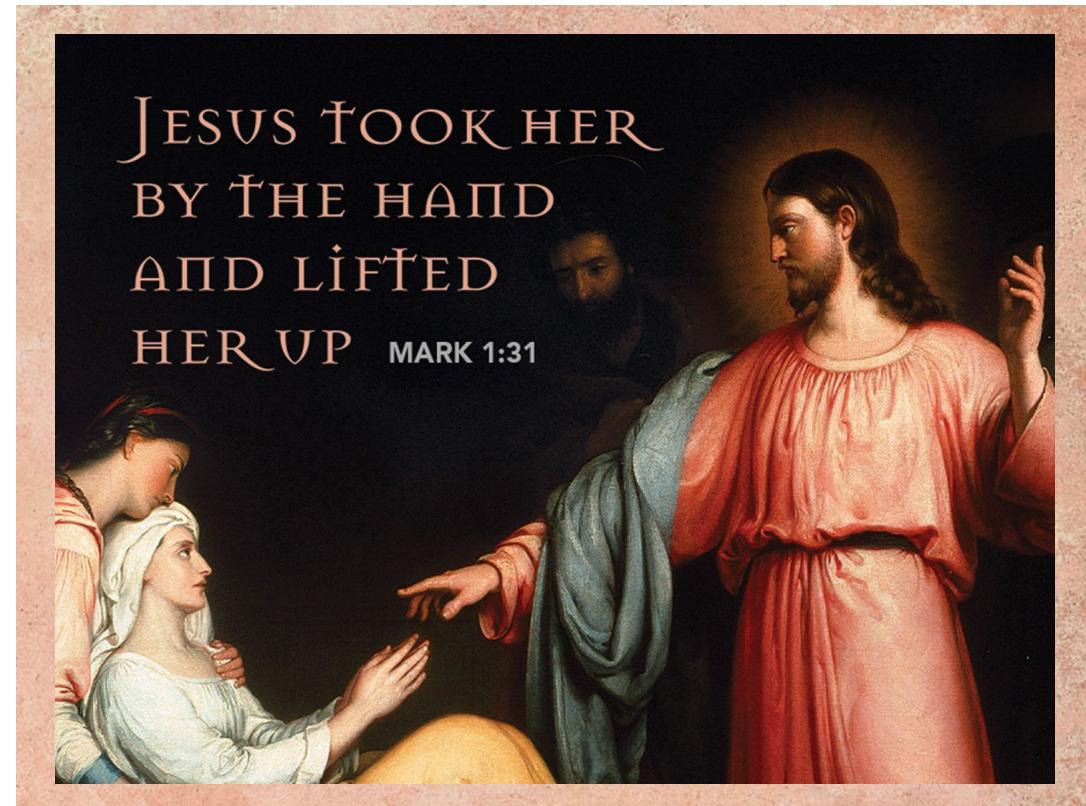


All joys, concerns, and
prayer requests, to share on our video
recording, must be in by Wednesday
of each week while we are apart.

Pastor Althea

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021



Grace Lutheran Church

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.
11 East Dawes Ave, Somers Point, NJ 08244
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Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Liturgical Worship Service

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to **belong** to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who **believe** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to **become** caring servants of God in the world.

Serving in Worship Today—

Worship Assistant: Scott Breiner

Altar Guild:
Brenda Traa, Ruth Traa

Sound Technician:

Jim Foreman /Larry Rusiecki

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving Our Country:

Members & Friends of Grace:
Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USMC;

Sara Myers, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

Hospitalized - or in need of healing:

Ruth, David, & Ric Alburger,
Mary Ellen Bartholomew, June Becker, Shirley Blankenship, Carol Campbell,
Dr. Robert Carlson, Ed Carpenter, Christine Carter, Peg Cwienk,
Roy Cole, Deb Connelly, Emile DeLong, Tad Dildilian, Jim Foreman, Kimberly Frawley,
Ed Gannon, Jeanne Gehring, Chris Hinnant, Bob & Dona-Lee Hughes, Pat Johnson,
Darryl Kashey, Terry Kearney, Carol Traa Keates, Nancy Keirsey, Jim Kohl,
Darrell Kopp, Ruth Kruger, Judith & Roger Landis, Bob Loper, Susan Marich,
Quinn Meldrum, Anne Moore, Tom Ostrander, Tommy Parker, Renee Pugliese,
LouAnn Rest, Indigo Rose, Alan Sisson, Dana Sisson, Judy Toth, Bob Traa,
Grace DiGenni Traa, Carol-Ann Tracy, Skip Uhrmann, George Walters, Joann Wehrhan,
Joan Wisdom, & Lucy Dildilian Yannis

At Home - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Rehab@Shores of Wesley Manor: Lois Rahme

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

SENDING HYMN

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

ELW # 663

1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
 2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
 3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
 4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;

Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav-en's gifts ex - tend to all.
 and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
 strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
 let the gath - ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: GOTTFSEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704
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Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Dear God, in this time of holy worship you have refreshed us. Guide our lives with your holy Word. Bring joy back into our journey with you. Send us forth now as witnesses of the Good News of your birth, that we also may be light for the world, in the name of Jesus, the Messiah. **Amen.**

*BLESSING

May God bless you and keep you. Know that God is always by your side.
May Jesus' love guide and inspire you in all you do. May the Holy Spirit shine in you and bring others closer to God's love and \pm give you joy! **Amen**

*SENDING HYMN

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

ELW # 663

POSTLUDE

Postlude in D Minor

by C. Armstrong Gibbs

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace and serve our Messiah with love for others!

Thanks be to God!



Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Please stand as you are able— Congregation responses in bold print.

Gathering

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

I Love to Tell the Story

By Emma Lou Diemer

Please stand as you are able.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us come together to worship the Messiah, our God and King!

We come to worship the Savior of the world. We come to worship the Messiah.

Jesus promised to be wherever two or more are gathered. Christ is with us now.

God calls us to turn back his love and mercy for us.

We turn to God, our merciful Redeemer. We are thankful for Jesus, Emmanuel, who comes to change the world.

Let us worship together as we meet with Jesus in this place. **Amen.**

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, you know us inside and out. You are always with us and you never leave us or forsake us. We cannot escape your love. You formed us and you know us before we were born. You watch over us and always hear our prayers. We come before you now wanting to hear your voice. Forgive us for the times we have turned away from you and bring us closer to your Spirit once again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of Love, **We confess that we have turned away from you. We have trouble trusting your promises for us. We let worry and fear overwhelm us. We do not always treat our neighbors with the love that you call us to give. For the sake of your Son, have mercy on us. Forgive us for our shortcomings, refresh us in this new year, and lead us in the way of Christ, so that we may glorify your holy name in all that we say and do. Amen.**

God so loved the world that he sent, Christ to save us and redeem our sinful ways.

As a minister of the church of Christ, I declare to you that through Christ, God forgives you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. God loves us beyond all understanding. Come back to God's loving arms, with joyful hearts, ready to accept God's gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN*Gather Us In****ELW # 532**

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

Musical notation for the second line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

Musical notation for the third line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.

Musical notation for the fourth line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and

Musical notation for the fifth line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

Musical notation for the sixth line of the hymn 'Gather Us In'. The music is in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Almighty God, You bless us with all that we have. You have blessed our lives forever with the love of your Son and your gift of grace. Empower us to change the lives of others with your Good News. Bless our congregation, this community, and all the offerings we give back to you for your holy work, through Jesus Christ, our Messiah. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Pastor: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Leader: For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Leader: For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Leader: For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Pastor: For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you (*especially*), let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Leader: For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here (*especially*); for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Leader: In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Pastor: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.

*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

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please place your offering in the offering plates,
located at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY

I Waited for the Lord By Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Duet: Ruth Bowden and Corinne Rhodes

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the

joy of your sal - va-tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

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.

Leader or All

4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain

All

And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957
 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas
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Leader or All

1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,

say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain
All

And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All

2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no

Refrain

fear; un - der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.... 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. Amen.

Please be seated

Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

²¹Have 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: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!
²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem, / and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**
³The LORD heals the | brokenhearted / and binds | up their wounds.
⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars / and calls them all | by their names.**
⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power; / there is no limit | to God's wisdom.
⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly, / but casts the wicked | to the ground.**
⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving; / make music upon the harp | to our God,
⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.**
⁹God provides food | for the cattle / and for the young ravens | when they cry.
¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**
¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}| Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The holy gospel according to St. Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the 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 sunset, 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

Please be seated

