# 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

# January 16, 2022



## Grace Lutheran Church

8:00 am: Spoken Service & 10:15 am: Liturgical Service Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves. 11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244 Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982 Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner Church Secretary: Diana McArdle Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

# <sup>2</sup> Welcome

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here whether you are here to worship with us as a first time visitor, friend, neighbor, or lifelong member. If you have any questions, concerns, or need pastoral care, Pastor Althea would love to talk with you. Feel free to speak with her after worship or contact her by email at: pastoralthea3@gmail.com or by phone 484-345-0399.

# **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: Ruth Bowden Altar Guild: Brenda Traa

## In Our Hearts and Prayers

**Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace!** We are trying a new way of listing our prayer concerns in the coming weeks. If you notice someone who is missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea via phone, Facebook, or email or contact our secretary in the office to add people who are on our hearts each week and include our ongoing concerns.

Members of Grace: Betty N., John N., Ruth T., Debbie K.

**Family and friends:** The Foster Family (*Claire Brick*); Family of Regina, (*Marlene Doer*); Annmarie, Kathy (*Marlene Doer*); Gage, Donna, Virginia, Carol (*Pastor Althea*); Jody (*Grings*); Pauline, Anyah, Edward, Cecilia, and Richard (*Welfields*); Shirley & Carl (*Debbie Kleuser*); Jim, Vicki, (*Meg LaSpina*), Payton (*Joyce Bianco*), Carol (*Claire Brick*), Dotte Currie, (*Deborah Walker*), Karen (*Sue Robinson*); Ralph & Gwen (*Corinne Rhodes*); Bernadette, Lou; Ron, Berl, Cindy, Eric, Rose (*Renee Pugliese*); Phyllis, (*Carol Frye*); Deb, Glen, Peggy, Jeanne (*Bowdens*); Eileen and Marie. Pastor Richard Holtzer

Those Serving Our Country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN;

Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USM; Cainan Johnson, USAF

<u>At Home</u> - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Rahme, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

#### WITH ONE VOICE Bread of Life - Setting 5 Congregation responses in bold print.

## GATHERING

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

#### WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

Deck Thyself, My Soul

by Johannes Brahms

Please stand as you are able

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.** 

**4OPENING HYMN** 

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

ELW # 312

Verses 1 & 4, All; Verse 2, Men; Verse 3, Women



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#### 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**





**GLORY TO GOD** 





# **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together....Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

# WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

- 1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.
- 2 The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.
- 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- 4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married
  - for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.
- 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you,

and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 



#### PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Your love, O LORD, reaches <sup>1</sup> to the heavens, / and your faithfulness <sup>1</sup> to the clouds.

<sup>6</sup>Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like <sup>|</sup> the great deep; you save humankind and ani- <sup>|</sup> mals, O LORD.

<sup>7</sup>How priceless is your <sup>1</sup> love, O God! / All people take refuge under the shadow <sup>1</sup> of your wings. <sup>8</sup>They feast upon the abundance <sup>1</sup> of your house;

you give them drink from the river of | your delights.

- <sup>9</sup>For with you is the <sup>|</sup> well of life, / and in your light <sup>|</sup> we see light.
- <sup>10</sup>Continue your lovingkindness to <sup>1</sup> those who know you,

and your favor to those who are true of heart.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



The Holy Gospel according to John the second chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### **GOSPEL READING: John 2:1-11**

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you. O Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Verses 1 & 4, All; Verse 2, Women; Verse 3, Men ELW # 488





#### **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

### JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING Adelaide's Place—Atlantic City

Monthly special offering for a designated local, national and international ministry. Our Third-Sunday usher team takes a few extra minutes before our regular weekly offering to collect this special offering of coin donations.

Adelaide's Place mission is to provide an inviting, safe, and secure environment for homeless women who have nowhere to go during the day. They are provided a secure environment, meet with social workers, work on housing, and schedule health appts.

#### WEEKLY OFFERING

We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace. Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.

#### **OFFERTORY**

We Will Walk in the Light

by Don Besig

Please stand as you are able

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS** 

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord



#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

We pray together for however we have made offerings to God in our lives.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God,

You are Creator of all that is in heaven and on earth. We rejoice that we have many blessings to be thankful for in our lives. You have changed our lives forever with your Word made flesh. Grant us courage 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 Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Pastor:* The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us; so let us be bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Brief silence.

*Leader:* Your creation reflects your generosity. Bless farmers, migrant farmworkers, orchard-keepers, ranchers, and all who tend the abundance of the land. Protect food and water sources from destruction, that all may have sustainable sources of food and drinkable water. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

*Leader:* By your Spirit, grant wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to those who hold leadership positions at any level. Direct policymakers toward decisions that build up safe and just communities. Lead all authorities in seeking and serving the common good. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

*Pastor:* As Jesus provides for us in our times of need, provide generous gifts of healing for all those in need this day especially all those we name now or in our hearts... Provide abundantly for all who are hungry or thirsty, all seeking shelter, and all who seek peace. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

*Leader:* God, you see us for who we are and you delight in us. Embrace those struggling with self-worth, wrestling with self-identity, or facing significant life transition. Remind us that nothing can separate us from your love. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

*Leader:* You bless us through the spiritual gifts of the saints who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and all who have modeled the way of courageous faith. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

*Pastor:* Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

MEAL

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God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
  - In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together we celebrate this holy meal. May all praise and thanks be to you, Holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by Christ, let us 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

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

Communion will be offered in two ways, continuous at the chancel step, and at the direction of Pastor after everyone has come forward (for those at home online and those who choose to remain seated).

Follow the direction of the ushers to come to the front or remain seated and after all have come forward, direction for the prefilled host and grape juice will be given.



## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

the

#### **IF YOU CHOOSE TO COME FORWARD:**

Follow the directions of Pastor and the Ushers.

#### IF YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN AT YOUR SEAT OR YOU ARE ONLINE:

Prepare your elements after all have come forward and wait for direction from Pastor.

#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

As we have experienced Christ, our Savior, in this meal, may Almighty God continue to nourish you and encourage you as you continue your journey in faith. Amen.

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together... Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

## SENDING

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

**BLESSING** We are blessed and encouraged as we depart from our gathering.

Pastor: May God bless you and hold you close.

May Christ's presence guide you in all you do. May the Holy Spirit shine in you and bring others closer to God's love and + give you everlasting hope. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN	Songs of Thankfulness and Praise	ELW # 310
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Verses 1 & 4, All; Verse 2, Men; Verse 3, Women

#### Music is on page 18

Please be seated for the postlude. Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.

POSTLUDE

Schmücke Dich

by Anton Wilhelm Leupold

#### DISMISSAL

Leader: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

#### Thanks be to God.

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Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

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<b>VISITORS: Welcome to Grace.</b> Please sign the visitors book located in the Narthex/Lobby on the podium or sign a Connection Card located in the pews to let us know who you are.	<b>2022 GIVING ENVELOPES</b> are ready and available for you to pick up this month. They are located in the Church Lobby and organized in alphabetical order for your convenience.	
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday at 8:45 am. Conference Room   This adult class consists of videos, Bible study, current event discussions, and other faith related topics. Anyone and everyone is welcome!   "GRACE FRIENDS" SUNDAY SCHOOL   Children will leave for their classes with their teachers following the children's sermon.   2022 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.   FOOD PANTRY NEEDS   ⇒ Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard   ⇒ Crackers, Chef Boyardee cans   ⇒ Beets, Spinach   ⇒ pudding cups , brownie mix,   ⇒ cake mix & frosting   ⇒ Bread, dairy products, Eggs, brown gravy, juice.   OPEN Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am until 11:30 am. Pantry is closed the first full week of every month.	JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING will be collected today for Adelaide's Place in Atlantic City provides a secure environ- ment for women who have nowhere to go during the day. www.adelaidesplace.org COUNCIL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, January 18 at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. THE CHURCH BUDGET FOR 2022 will be available on Sunday, January 23 in the Narthex (Lobby), the entrance into the Sanctuary through the Social Hall, and at the Church Office. Please take a copy home with you to review for your questions at the Budget Hearing on Sunday, January 30th immediately following worship in the Sanctuary. Your participation is important to the functioning of our family of faith. If you are not able to attend the Budget Hearing on January 30, please email your questions to office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net or call the Church Office to give your questions.	
Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 6, 2022 In the Sanctuary immediately Following 10:15 am Worship Service Budget Distribution - Sunday, January 23rd, 2022 Budget Hearing - Sunday, January 30th, 2022		

<u>Sunday 1/16</u> Epiphany of Our Lord	
8:00 am - Spoken Service - Lounge	Thursday 1/20
8:45 am - Adult Sunday School	9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry
10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service	5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Holy Communion	7:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - Lounge
Grace Friends Sunday School	
Joyful Noise Offering—Adelaide's Place	Friday 1/21
4:00 pm - AA Meeting - Lounge	7:30 pm - AA Meeting—Lounge
<u>Monday 1/17</u> 9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry 7:00 pm - AA Meeting—Social Hall <u>Tuesday 1/18</u> 9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry 6:30 pm - NA 7:00 pm - Church Council Meeting	Saturday 1/22 Sunday 1/23 8:00 am - Spoken Service - Lounge 8:45 am - Adult Sunday School 10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service Holy Communion Grace Friends Sunday School Distribution of the 2022 Pudget
Wednesday 1/19 9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry 11:30 - 3:30 - Bayside Duplicate Bridge 7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall	<b>Distribution of the 2022 Budget</b> 4:00 pm - AA Meeting - Lounge

**THANK YOU FROM PASTOR, DIANA, AND SCOTT** to everyone for all your cookies, cards, and other gifts! We appreciate all your love and support especially at the holidays. Pastor Althea also extends a special thank you to the congregation of Grace for the monetary Christmas gift. You are all a blessing to each of us and we are glad to be with you in ministry! Blessings to all of you in the New Year!

## Dedications

#### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Loving Memory of Ron

Given by Mary Goodman

