

# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



*January 22, 2023*

*10:00am*

# GATHERING

**Prelude**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

John Behnke

**Welcome**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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 are captive 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.**

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.

**Amen.**

**Hymn**

God, Whose Almighty Word

#673

## Greeting

### This is the Feast

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. *Final refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Prayer of the Day**

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# WORD

## Children Message

### First Reading: Isaiah 9:1–4

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10–18

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

Gospel of Grace

Traditional Spiritual arr. Mark Hayes

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.  
Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

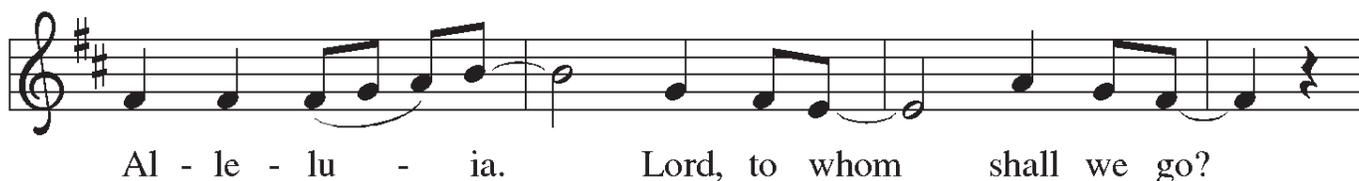
I found free grace and dying love, I'm newborn again  
Been a long-time a-talkin' bout my trails here below.  
Free grace, free grace, free grace, sinner, I'm newborn again.  
So glad, so glad, I'm newborn again,  
Been a long-time a-talkin' bout my trails here below.

My Savior died for you and me, I'm newborn again  
Been a long-time a-talkin' bout my trials here below.  
I know my Lord has set me free, I'm newborn again.  
Been a long-time a-talkin' bout my trials here below.

Free grace, free grace, free grace, sinner,  
Free grace, free grace, I'm newborn again.  
So glad, so glad, I'm newborn again,  
Been a long time a-talkin' bout my trials here below.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

### Gospel Acclamation



### The Gospel for today is from Matthew the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he

saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn** I Love to Tell the Story

#661

**Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come 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**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

... Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

**Amen.**

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MEAL

**Offering**

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

Paul Manz

## Offertory Prayer

Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

**Amen.**

## 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

## 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.

## Communion



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Organ

How Brightly Shines the Morningstar

Otto Olsson

## Prayer After Communion

Holy One,  
we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice,  
love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

**Amen.**

# SENDING

## Blessing

## Sending Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me (verses 1, 2, & 5)

#798

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

John Behnke

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**Minister:** Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

**Organist:** Elaine Mann

**Assisting Minister:** Paul Lokken

**Choir Director:** Diana Cataldi

**Reader:** Arthur Grothe

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org)

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: [pastorphil@grace-church.org](mailto:pastorphil@grace-church.org)

If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the “Our Ministry” section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

### Televised Service

Sunday 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Thursday 1:30pm Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

### Radio Service

Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org) or by calling the office at 715-832-9713

## Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY (22<sup>nd</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9am  
Worship – 10 am  
“How Does Liturgy  
Mean?” – 11am

### TUESDAY

Prayer Group – 11am

### WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 9:30am  
Text Study – 12pm  
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

### THURSDAY

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

### SUNDAY (29<sup>th</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9am  
Worship – 10am  
“How Does Liturgy  
Mean?” – 11am

Other Groups using the building this week: Quakers, Northwest Synod, Scouts, Theater Guild, Randall Park Neighborhood Association, Equid Dance



## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will take place on February 12 after the worship service.

## January 8 Forum Summary

On January 8th we had a forum during which many people of Grace shared their thoughts about our future, particularly in the year ahead. We also discussed a possible arrangement to sell part of the building to Habitat for Humanity for Veteran housing. If you missed the forum, a non-public recording can be watched by clicking the video below. Minutes from the forum are also available upon request for those who prefer that media.



## Adult Education Opportunity

You are invited to attend “How Does Liturgy Mean?” a three-session education study beginning Sunday, January 15, at 11am and continuing the next two Sundays in January (22 & 29). We will meet in the Grace Chapel.

We will explore the relationship between what Lutherans hold to be true and our order of worship we call the liturgy. In other words, how does our liturgy express our theology?

Session One will focus on our Liturgy of Preparation — Confession and Forgiveness. Session Two will center on the Liturgy of the Word. Session Three will concentrate on the Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal.

How Does Liturgy Mean will be led by Don Wisner, Grace member, former Luther Seminary Professor of Worship and retired pastor of University Lutheran Church at the Ecumenical Religious Center on the UW–Eau Claire campus.

Education, Youth & Family Ministries

## Sunday School

Due to the first Sunday being January 1st, Sunday School in January will be on the 8th and 22nd. The normal schedule of first and third Sundays will return in February.

- January 22

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- February 5
- February 19

Sunday school will take place during the service right after the Children's Message.

## Offering Envelopes

Unfortunately the company we ordered our offering envelopes from is experiencing a paper shortage and will not be able to fulfill our order until the end of January. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Feel free to use any envelope you have to send us your offerings. If you attend worship, there will be a stack of envelopes in the back of the church you can use for your contributions.

## Meet Our Members

### Mark Hurlburt

If there is work to be done around Grace church, you can usually find Mark Hurlburt helping out. Whether it's putting up the Christmas trees in the sanctuary or helping Roger Pomplon maintain the church furnaces, Mark can be counted on to help.

A welder by trade, Mark has served several terms on the Building and Grounds committee. He also serves as head usher, making sure ushers are available for Sunday worship and other church programs.

Mark credits his grandmother for kindling his faith and encouraging church attendance. "As a kid, I sat with my grandma in church, and she had a big effect on me. When something good happened, she was always the first one I wanted to tell."

After graduating from Cornell (Wis.) high school in 1973, Mark attended Chippewa Valley Technical College to learn welding. He first came to Grace in Eau Claire with his girlfriend Tammy Mattison, who had been a member there since birth. In 1974, Pr. Johan Thorson married Tammy and Mark, and except for a brief stint in Hudson, Wis., Grace has been their church home.

In 1978, Mark went to work for Phoenix Steel (now Veritas) in Eau Claire. He eventually became the lead man in his area of the bridge building company. He retired in 2017, just short of 40 years on the job. Mark and Tammy have a son and a daughter who both live in Eau Claire as well as five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Outside of his church activities Mark keeps busy with a host of hobbies. He owns his great grandfather's house in northeastern Chippewa County near Holcomb and Cornell, which he has been restoring over the years. He's an avid hunter and fisher. This fall, along with his son and grandson, he processed four deer into summer sausage and snack sticks.

About 10 years ago, he decided to tap several maple trees at his home on Eau Claire's north side and try his hand at making maple syrup. Over the years the hobby has grown to involve six neighbors' trees as well as his own. Last spring he made 13½ gallons of syrup from 34 taps. He boils the syrup these days over a cement block fireplace he constructed in his backyard. "I've always been interested in the process, so I decided to teach myself," he explains. "It's a great hobby."

When asked why he goes to church every Sunday, Mark said he enjoys the hymns, the pastor's sermon and looks forward to catching up with his friends. Still he's concerned about the future as the congregation ages. "It's scary, the idea that we'll get aged out of our church. I don't really know the answer."

