

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



February 4, 2024

10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Prelude in B Major

Camille Saint-Saens

Land Acknowledgment and Invocation

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

We gather on the traditional homelands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota peoples.

We acknowledge that through our Maker we are all related.

The roads that brought us here today were places where Indigenous people walked and lived on this sacred land, and still do today.

We gather to honor the Creator, and all creation—human, animal, plant, water, wind, earth, and sky—that belong to God.

Opening Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (verses 1, 2, & 4)

#859

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

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.

WORD

Children's Message

The First Reading is from Isaiah, Chapter 40

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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem	How Can I Keep from Singing	Arr. Bradley Ellingboe
My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation. I hear the real, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.	No storm. Can shake my inmost calm while to that rock, I'm clinging. Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?	No storm. Can shake my inmost calm while to that rock, I'm clinging. Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

No storm. Can shake my inmost calm while to that rock, I'm clinging. Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?	What tho the tempest round me roar, I hear the truth. It liveth. What tho the darkness round me close, songs in the night, the night it giveth.
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Thru all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing! It sounds and echoes in my soul. How can I keep from singing?	No storm. Can shake my inmost calm while to that rock, I'm clinging. Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
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The Second Reading is from 1 Corinthians Chapter 9

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.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel for today comes from Mark 1:29–39 Glory to you, O Lord.

And immediately coming out of the synagogue they went into the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was down with a burning fever, and immediately they speak to him about her. And approaching her, he grasped her hand and raised her up. And the burning fever left her and she began serving them.

Now when it was evening, after the sunset, people were bringing to him all the sick and demon-possessed. And the whole city was gathered at the door. And he healed many who were sick with various illnesses and he drove out many demons. And he wouldn't let the demons talk, 'cause they knew him.

And early in the morning, while still quite dark, he rose up, came out, and went off to a deserted place and was there praying. And Simon and those with him tracked him down and found him and say to him, "Everyone's seeking you." And he says to them, "Let's go elsewhere to the next villages, so I might proclaim there too, 'cause that's why I came out." And he went proclaiming in their synagogues, in all Galilee, and driving out demons.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn Rise Up, O Saints of God!

#669

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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

... God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Praise the Almighty, My Soul Adore Him

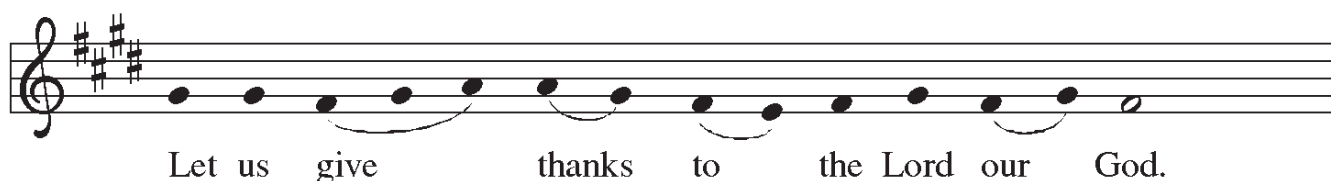
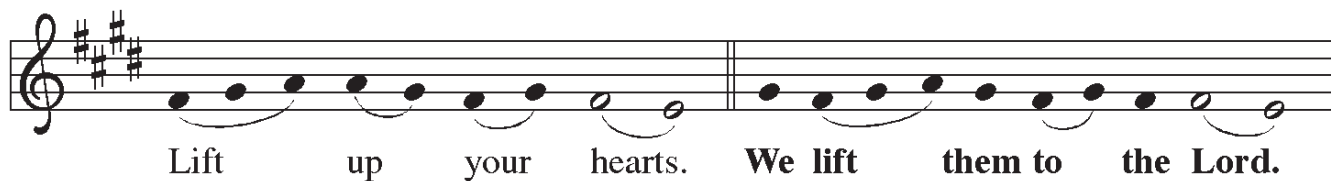
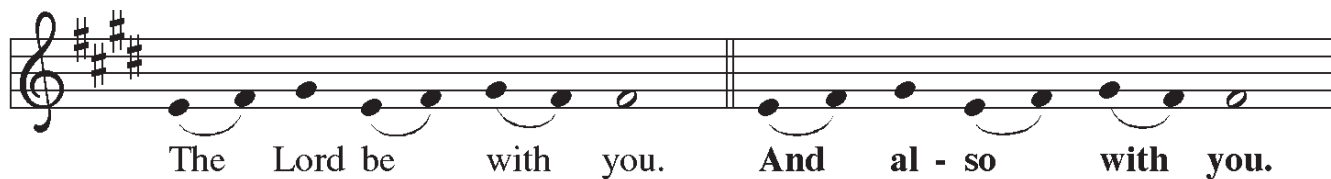
John Behnke

Offering Prayer

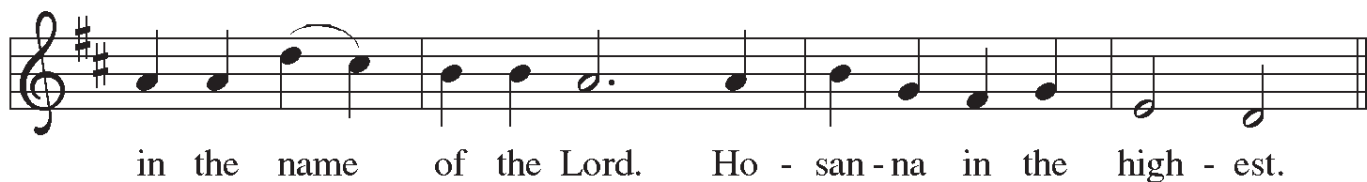
Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



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



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

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



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.

Prayer After Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, † bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

#313

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Jan Bender

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Assisting Minister: Arthur Grothe

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

Reader: Anita Reid

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

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Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org> go to “Our Ministry.”

Bulletins can also be found at <https://grace-church.org/> under the “Our Ministry.”

Recordings of worship services are also broadcast on:

- Televised on Sundays 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

If you missed one of our services, they are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ>

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715–832–9713