

THE DEVIL'S WORK UNDONE

Epiphany 5

February 4, 2024

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

God's Word for this Week

Martin Luther once said, "Where God built a church, there the devil would also build a chapel." Satan and the other demons hate God. They demonstrate hatred by hurting those that God loves in any way they can. The epiphany Christ wants us to have is this: demons are real, they are plenteous, and they are dangerous. But Christ would also have us see that he is continually undoing the devil's work. More, through his Word, Christ Jesus gives us the power to resist the devil and stand firm in the faith.

Before Worship

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes.

General Information

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall. Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall.

Serving in Worship

Music: Rachel Halldorson

Ushers: Mike Jensen, Kurt Knurr

Pastor: Wayne Halldorson Pastor's Cell: 903-717-1922

Pastor's Email: grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com

Church Information

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Prayer Requests: prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com / text to 520-236-9673

T-Loop Hearing Assistance

If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal earbuds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.



WORSHIP SERVICE

836 I Walk in Danger All the Way CW 836 sts. 1, 4-5 the way; the thought shall nev - er walk all 1 in dan - ger walk with an - gels all the way, they shield me and 5 I walk with Je - sus all the way, his guid - ance nev - er me that has leave Sa - tan, who marked his prey, friend me: all Sa - tan's pow'r held bay when is at fails me; with - in his wounds find stav when I a plot - ting to de - ceive me. This foe with hid - den snares heav'n - ly hosts me. They sure de - fense; at - tend are my Sa - tan's pow'r as - sails me; and by his foot-steps seize if e'er fail me un a - wares Ι to may all fear and sor - row, hence! Un - harmed by foes, do path I safe - ly tread. No e - vil leads my my walk dan - ger watch and pray; Ι in all the way. I walk with what thev may, an - gels all the way. I soul a - stray; walk with Je - sus all the way. Text: tr. Ditlef G. Ristad, 1863-1938, alt.; Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1708, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen

Stand

Text and tune: Public domain

Opening Blessing

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Opening Verses / Confession & Absolution

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus has made peace between a Holy God and a world of sinners. He has destroyed death and brought us life and immortality.

Bless Your children, O Lord, as we meditate upon Your Word, That we may gain perspective on everything in life.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us, therefore, confess our sins to the Lord:

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved You with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should. I have allowed evil in my life.
I deserve Your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with His innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in Him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.



Text: tr. Ditlef G. Ristad, 1863–1938, alt.; Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1708, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen Text and tune: Public domain

The Lord has promised that if we confess our sins, He, who is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

God has had mercy upon you, and cleansed you from all wickedness. Rest assured that you have peace with God; that your sins are indeed forgiven in the Name of the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Thanks be to God. We are now ready to serve our Lord with joyful hearts and fight against the forces of evil.

Let us then respond to this Good News trusting that heaven is our home:



Text: tr. Ditlef G. Ristad, 1863–1938, alt.; Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang: Buch, Halle, 1708, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, keep your family continually in true faith, so that those who rely only on the hope of your heavenly grace may be protected by your mighty power; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading Isaiah 40:27–31

²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.



Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1951, abr., alt. © 1979 New Dawn Music (admin. OCP Publications). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: ON EAGLES' WINGS (Irregular) Michael Joncas, b. 1951, alt. © 1979 New Dawn Music (admin. OCP Publications). All rights reserved. Used by permission. Praise the LORD, my soul;

all my inmost being, praise his holy name—
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
The LORD is compassionate and gracious,

slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Second Reading

1 Peter 5:6-11

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. Alleluia.

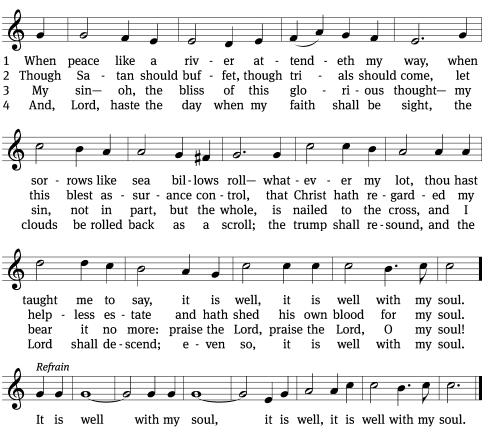


Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, abr., alt. Tune: adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867; Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827 Text and tune: Public domain ²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

³⁵Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt. Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Mark 1:29-39 "Diligently Defeating the Demons"



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; (sts. 1, 7): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book, 1907; (st. 6): tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887 Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Offering 2 Corinthians 9:7

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

In Him we have the power to defeat all our enemies.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to Your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Almighty God and Father, we thank You for all your mercies, especially for the gift of Your Son, through whom You have revealed Your

it.

gracious will. We praise You for the Holy Spirit and His working through the means of grace.

Plant Your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend Your Church, that by Your Word and Sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of Your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents, grandparents, and God-parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve You in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Restore our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless the upcoming election this year and direct things in our country according to your grace and mercy.

Grant us leaders that govern in wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let Your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them Your love, and take them into Your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our personal prayers . . .

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You, who now rest from their labors.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.



Tune: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Potluck Lunch & Open Forum

Today we'll have a Congregational Open Forum after the potluck lunch to fill everyone in on where we are currently / our finances / our plans / our outreach efforts going into 2024.

Next Sunday, February 11th there will be a Voter's Meeting (in place of the Council meeting / GMC) and the Ladies of Grace will also meet following worship.

Bible Classes

Please consider participating in one (or more) of our weekly classes – Genesis on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm / Revelation on Thursdays at 6:00 pm. The monthly Parables class on the last Friday of the month (10:30 am at Grace) with the men's and women's lunch out to follow at 11:30 am.

Please note that this week (on February 7-8) both the Genesis and the Revelation classes will be cancelled, because Pastor and Rachel will be travelling to Houston for the Grow Conference which goes from Thursday to Friday (Feb. 8-9).

Mystery Quilt Weekend

Mystery Quilt Weekend is coming up! This year it will be spread over two weekends which means more quilting fun! It will take place on February 9 & 10, and February 16 & 17 at the GMC. Speak with Pam for more information. Bring a friend!

Bible Uncorked

Our next community outreach event (Bible Uncorked) will be held at Los Pinos Winery on Thursday, February 22 from 6 - 8 pm. Speak with Mike for more information. Be sure to personally invite a friend! (A sign up sheet for RSVP and invites are coming soon.)

Upcoming Schedule

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship
Today	11:00 am	Potluck Lunch
Today	11:30 am	Congregational Open Forum
Feb. 7-8	all day	Midweek Bible classes cancelled
Feb. 8-9	all day	Grow Conference in Houston
Feb. 9	10am to 5	Mystery Quilt Weekend part 1 a
Feb. 10	9 am to 5	Mystery Quilt Weekend part 1 b
Feb. 11	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Feb. 11	11:00 am	Voter's Meeting (GMC)
Feb. 11	11:00 am	Ladies of Grace (Fellowship hall)
Feb. 14	6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Communion Service
Feb. 15	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy (GMC)
Feb. 15	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Feb. 16	10am to 5	Mystery Quilt Weekend part 2 a
Feb. 17	9 am to 5	Mystery Quilt Weekend part 2 b
Feb. 18	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Lent 1 Worship
Feb. 21	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Feb. 22	6 - 8 pm	Bible Uncorked (Los Pinos Winery)
Feb. 23	10:30 am	Parables Bible Class (Grace)
Feb. 23	11:30 am	Men's and Women's Lunch Out
Feb. 25	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Feb. 28	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Feb. 29	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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