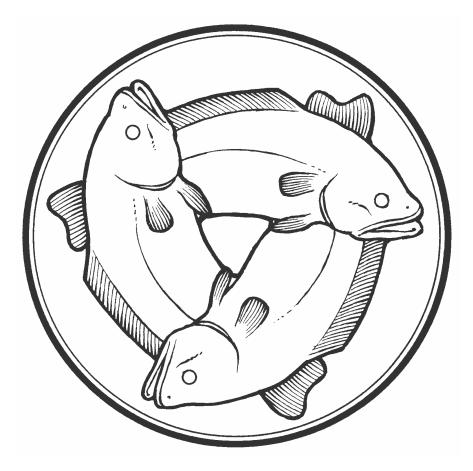
January 21st, 2024 Third Sunday after the Epiphany



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI ~ SYNOD 308 Byrne Street Smithville, TX 78957 512-237-2108 Divine Service 10 AM

Pastor David Woelmer



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: "How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere."

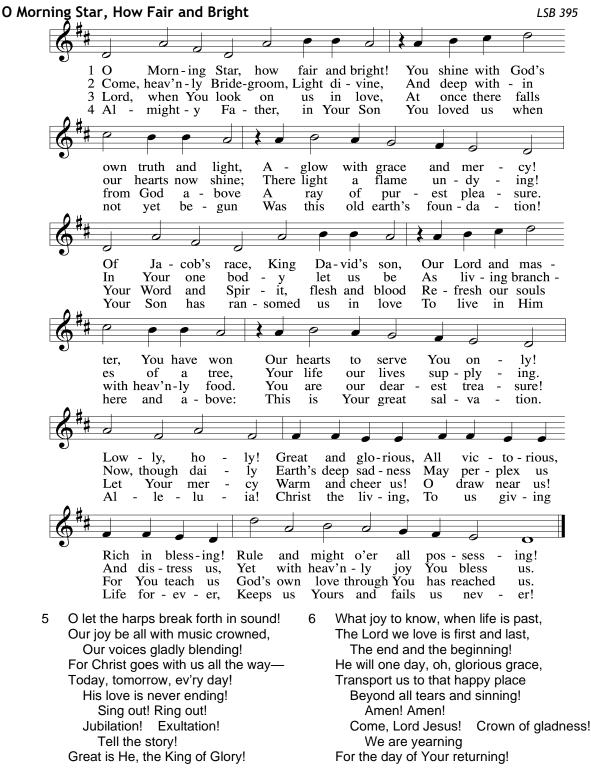
In our readings today: When "the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time," sending him to preach judgment against the great city of Nineveh, "Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD" (Jonah 3:1, 3). By this preaching, the people were brought to repentance. Because they "believed God," as He spoke to them through His prophet, "they turned from their evil way" and were spared "the disaster that he had said he would do to them" (Jonah 3:5, 10). St. Paul also warns that "the appointed time has grown very short" (1 Cor. 7:29). Therefore, while we live in this world and deal with it, we are not to cling to it, nor put our trust in it, for "the present form of this world is passing away" (1 Cor. 7:31). Rather, give "your undivided devotion to the Lord" (1 Cor. 7:35). When our Lord Jesus Christ comes and is proclaimed in the Gospel, "the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:14–15). Therefore, He still calls men and sends them to become "fishers of men" with the net of that Gospel (Mark 1:17)

<u>Holy Communion</u> is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus' own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

A Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen

PRELUDE CALL TO WORSHIP BELL LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



Stand

Invocation (God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **G** Amen.

Confession: (We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.)

- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **G** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

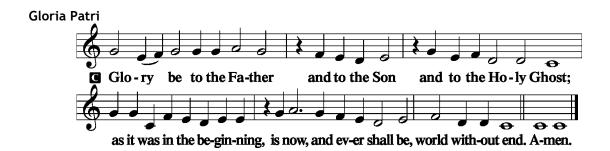
Absolution: (God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.)

- C Amen.

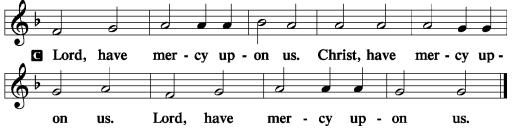
Service of the Word

Introit: (Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.) Psalm 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 3

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!
Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!
Blessèd be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!
The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!
He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.
From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

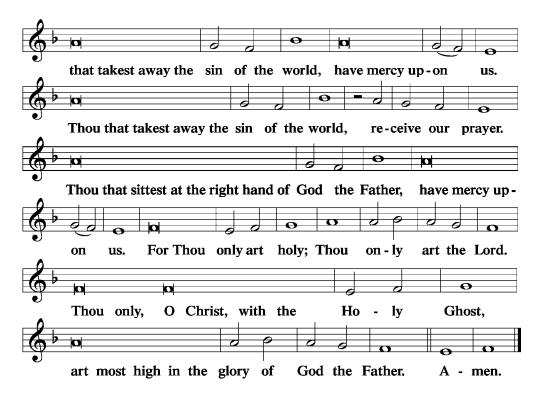


Kyrie: (Shortened form of the Greek "Kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy." In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.) LSB 186



Hymn of Praise: (Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.) Gloria in Excelsis





Salutation: (The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.)



Collect: (Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They "collect" the Gospel theme for the day.)

P Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Scripture Readings: (Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.) Old Testament Reading Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual: (The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.)

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 7:29-35

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.



Creed: (God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.) **Nicene Creed**

G I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: (This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)

O Christ, Our True and Only Light



Sermon "An Immediate Response for an Urgent Message"

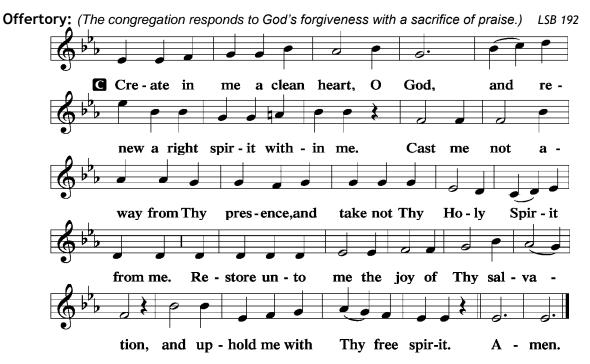
(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

G Amen.

Stand

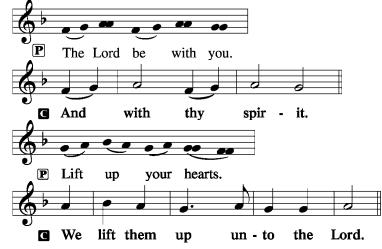


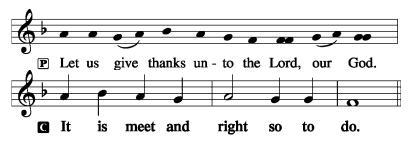
Prayer of the Church: (The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.)

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

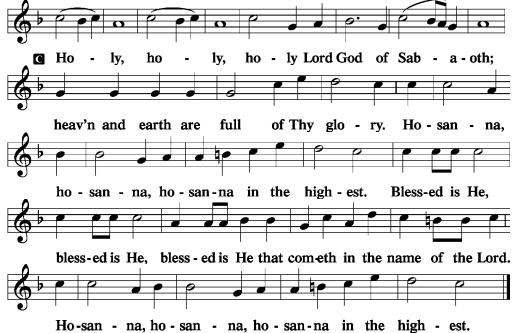
Preface: (The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.) LSB 194





It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: (Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; <u>Matthew</u> 21:9).) LSB 195



Lord's Prayer: (We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.)

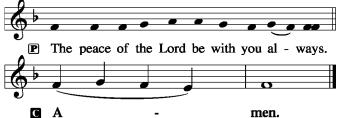
- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

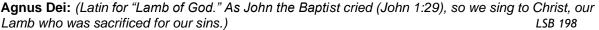
Words of Our Lord: (We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.) LSB 197

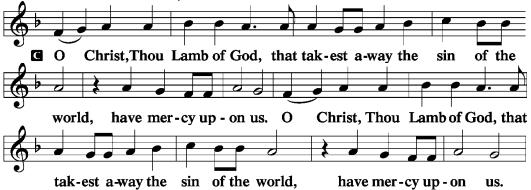
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

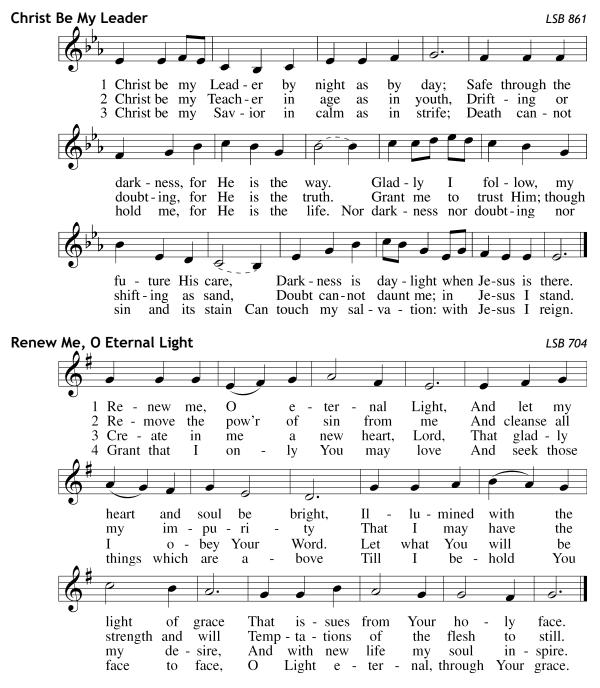
Pax Domini: (Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before
the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.)LSB 197







0 Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the 0 world, grant us Thy peace. Α men. Sit Distribution What Is the World to Me LSB 730 1 What is the world to With all its vaunt - ed plea me sure the might - y 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of fers _ 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea sure. When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, trea - sure! are my re - flects That Yet nev - er once they are frail and flight - y. Yet con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers. nev - er is life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my My plea - sure, You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be: all things is But what I tru - ly prize A - bove He. Ι have high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be: a my crown, my My bliss My joy, all, e - ter - nal ly. 4 You my peace, my rest. What is the world me! are to My a - lone. What the world Je - sus, He is to me! My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world me! to Once more, then, Ι de - clare: What the world is me! to



Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

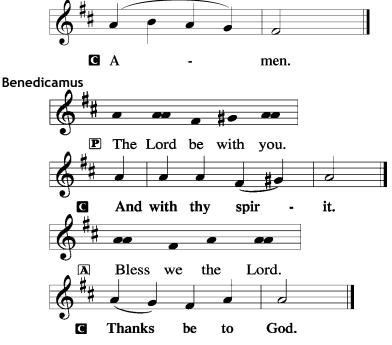
Post-Communion Canticle: (Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)



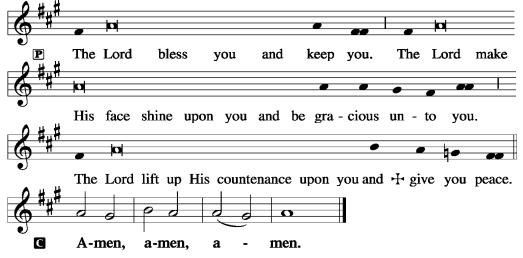
Post-Communion Collect: (We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction: (Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).) LSB 202



Sit

Closing Hymn: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus LSB 685 1 Let walk with Fol low us Je - sus. His ev - er ex 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He 4 Let al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en us am - ple pure, Through a world that would de-ceive us And to Joy will fol - low all our sad-ness; Where He bear our cross. con - quered death, He will free us from de-struc-tion, Give to from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je sus. sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot-steps tread-ing. there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh-ter, is, im - mor-tal breath. Let mor - ti - fy all pas - sion us us You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem-bers; Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and All dis - com - forts We shall reap ce _ les - tial joy; That would lead in - to sin; And the grave that us Where You live. there we shall be In Your pres - ence the Fa - ther's bid-ding. Faith - ful hope and love, Let us do Shall give way mirth here - af - ter. that an - nov to Je - sus, Shall but prove the gate to heav-en. shuts us in Je - sus, con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus, a - bide; shall fol - low Lord, with me T where You guide. Help me there Your I share Your woe: know. here joy to There to here with You Ι die, live with You on high. let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Silent Prayer After Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. ANNOUNCEMENTS DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

January 21st, 2024 The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.

Grace Lutheran Church 308 Byrne, Smithville, TX.78957 Office Phone: 512-237-2108 Fax Number: 512 237-2832 Email: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com Web Site: <u>www.glcs.org</u> Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst 401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957 Office Phone: 512-360-2800 Fax Number: 512-237-5990 Email: gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders:	Charlie Johannessen	Organist(s):	June Parker
	Davey Kadlecek		Esther Wolff
Altar	Tammy Campion		Kim Appel Ruth Eaton
Guild:	Becky Watson		Ruin Ealon

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sun. Jan. 21	Mon Jan 22	Tue. Jan. 23	Wed. Jan. 24
8:45am-Sunday School/Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion Voters Meeting after Service	8am-Braille 4pm-Quilting 7pm-LLL		10am- GLLC Chapel 5:30pm- Youth Confirmation Class
Thurs. Jan. 25	Fri. Jan. 26	Sat. Jan. 27	<u>Sun. Jan. 28</u>
		Austin March for Life	8:45am-Sunday School/Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class

Attendance

Sunday Worship (1/14) 101

Visit with Pastor

If you need to contact Pastor Woelmer, you can do so via e-mail (rev.davidwoelmer@gmail.com) or phone (214-218-8354). Pastor Woelmer is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits.

Online Resources

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (<u>www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/</u>). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. Bulletins and newsletters are also available online at our website, <u>www.glcs.org</u>.

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the pastor. Join us to spend time together in God's Word.

KFUO Bible Study Resources

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Hear Mental Health Monday and the 3rd episode in the LCMS History Series on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), study 2 Corinthians 6-9 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study all of Colossians and the beginning of Lamentations on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at <u>kfuo.org</u> or the KFUO Radio app!

REMINDER!

Due to some higher electric bills, this is a reminder that whoever is last to leave and lock up the church on Sundays or during the week to please check and make sure thermostats have all been turned off as well.

<u>GEMS</u>

The Post Oak GEMS invite all girls 5th-12th grade to join us for our first meeting of 2024! We will meet at 2:00 at Holy Cross, Warda, on Sunday, January 28. This month we will vote on which mission project to support with our offerings, and then make posters for our mission goal. Please join us for snacks, a devotion, and Christian fellowship!

Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up

Save the date! Faith Lutheran High School will be hosting the annual TX Lutheran Writers Round Up on Friday, February 9, from 8:00-2:00. Featured authors this year include Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Rev. Brian Kachelmeier, Rev. Chris Kennedy, Ruth Meyer, Donna Snow, and Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller. Be on the lookout for more details about the schedule in future bulletins, but be sure to mark your calendar now!

Wendish Society Scholarship Fundraiser

The Wendish Society will again have its annual Scholarship Fundraiser Drive-Thru meal on January 28th at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. This year the menu will again be grilled pork steaks. Noodles, corn, green beans and pickles along with a bowl of Wendish Bird Wedding Soup. The cost is \$15. Pre-sale only by Tuesday, January 23rd. Advance tickets may be reserved by calling the museum at 979-366-2441 or emailing <u>Museum@TexasWendish.org</u>. Drive through, to-go only. Pick up 10:00 am-12:30pm at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Proceeds benefit the TWHS Scholarship Program. In 2023 there were thirteen Texas Wendish Heritage Scholarship recipients. A total of \$17,000 was awarded. Thank you for supporting our Wendish students!



Voters Meeting

We have our next voters meeting after service **TODAY!**

January 28th, 2024 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28



Shadow Days

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. 8th Grade parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

New Student Registration

Any <u>new</u> student who registers for FLHS prior to Friday, March 8, 2024 will only pay \$100 in registration fees. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at <u>www.flhstx.org</u>.

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am.

Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up

FLHS will welcome Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Rev. Christopher Kennedy, Rev Brian Kachelmeier, Ruth Meyer, Donna Snow, and Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller on <u>Friday, February 9th</u> for the 5th annual Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up. The fun begins at 10 am. See our flier for the Round Up to see the full list of opportunities during the event. We are blessed to offer this event to our community, so please plan to join us!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

Thank you!

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know!