

January 19th, 2025
Second 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 Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana, it was “*the first of his signs*” by which He “*manifested his glory*” (John 2:11). It pointed to His coming “*hour*,” when He was lifted up on the cross for the forgiveness of sins and the life of the world (John 2:4; 12:23–32). The glory of the cross is incomprehensible apart from the Word and Spirit of God, but disciples of Jesus recognize that glory in the signs of His Gospel, and so they believe in Him. Jesus does not wait for His disciples to discover Him on their own, but He seeks out the forsaken and the desolate and unites them to Himself. He adorns them with His own beautiful righteousness and delights in them “*as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride*” (Is. 62:4–5). Purified by the washing of water with His Word in Holy Baptism, His disciples confess that “*Jesus is Lord*,” and they return thanks to Him “*in the Holy Spirit*” (1 Cor. 12:3) as they drink the good wine that He pours out for them, which is the new testament in His blood.

Holy Communion 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

Exchange of Peace

By the second century, it was common for Christians to follow St. Paul’s encouragement to “greet one another with a holy kiss” (Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12) during the Church’s worship. Though the place in the worship service and the manner of this greeting have changed throughout the Church’s history, it has always served as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:2-3). It’s more than a simple “holy howdy” or a warm greeting to one another. Instead, it’s an extension of the reconciliation and forgiveness that Jesus has accomplished for us. We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you.”

Please stand and remain standing

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.

C 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.)*

P 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,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **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,

C **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.*)

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit: (*Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.*)

Psalm 36:5-9; antiphon: Song of Solomon 2:4

[The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

**Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

**For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.**

[The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

Gloria Patri

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

LSB 187

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, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; 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

Isaiah 62:1-5

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.
²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
⁴You 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.
⁵For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your sons marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

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 12:1-11

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

CThanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel

John 2:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

¹On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. ⁹When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and

did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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 \dagger 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.)*

The Only Son from Heaven

LSB 402

Sermon “The First Sign”

(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

Offertory: *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.)* LSB 192

Sit

Offering: *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness by bringing Him the first fruits of what He has given.)*

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; Matthew 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.*)

- ☐ 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

- ☐ 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

Agnus Dei: *(Latin for "Lamb of God." As John the Baptist cried (John 1:29), so we sing to Christ, our Lamb who was sacrificed for our sins.)* LSB 198

Sit

Distribution

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

All Glory Be to God Alone

LSB 948

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

LSB 743

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

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.

G 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.)*

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

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.

Benedicamus

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:
Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525

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 19th, 2025

**The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically
Model and share the gospel with the lost.**

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Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders:	John Moore	Organist(s):	June Parker
	Brad Zimmerhanel		Esther Wolff
Altar	Marilyn Burns		Kim Appel
Guild:	Mary Lou Oliver		Ruth Eaton

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Jan. 19</u>	<u>Mon Jan. 20</u>	<u>Tue. Jan. 21</u>	<u>Wed. Jan. 22</u>
8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion Voters Meeting after Service	7pm- Evangelism		
	Pastor Out for Conference		
<u>Thurs. Jan. 23</u>	<u>Fri. Jan. 24</u>	<u>Sat. Jan. 25</u>	<u>Sun. Jan. 26</u>
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON 6pm-Choir		8am-Board of Education Mtg	8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class
	Pastor Out for Conference		

Attendance

Sunday Worship (1/12) 129

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 (www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/). 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, www.glcs.org.

New Photo Directory!

With the help of the Board of Evangelism, planning has begun for our 2025 Photo Directory! We will do everything "in house" to save on costs. We hope to take simple pictures of each family on four Sundays after our church service, and are hoping that we can get pictures of a *majority* of our church members. Please be on the look-out for future announcements and details for the pictures!

Choir Practice!

Choir practice is held every Thursday at 6:00 pm. We welcome all singers—no experience needed. Come join us to lift your voice in special service music to help spread the message of God's love. If you have any questions, please contact me in person or phone 218-452-3854. Ruth Eaton

Adult Bible Study

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

Though Billows Tower

Every 4th Monday of the month, Pastor Woelmer will have a devotion with hymns and prayers for the residents at Towers Nursing Home on every fourth Monday of the month from 11-11:30 AM. It will be held in the Activity Room, but if space is limited, it will be held in the Dining Room. Though billows tower in our life, God remains our refuge and strong tower against the enemy (Psalm 61:3).

January 26th, 2025

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:16-30

New Student Registration

Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to Friday, March 7, 2025 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 www.flhstx.org.

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.

Athletic Schedule

This week's schedule includes:

- Tuesday, January 21st, 6:30 pm at Immanuel Lutheran School. Basketball game vs. Valor Kyle
- Friday, January 24th, 4pm at Fayetteville. Basketball game vs. Fayetteville.

You can visit our website to see all our athletic schedules. Come cheer on our Falcons!

Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up

FLHS is excited to host our 6th annual Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up on Friday, January 31st. The fun begins at 9 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!

Accreditation Survey

FLHS is currently working through the NLSA re-Accreditation process. As part of this process, we are conducting a survey from all supporters to evaluate how we are doing, and in what areas we could continue to grow. We would appreciate your participation in the survey. It can be found on our website, Facebook page, or scan the QR code. Thank you for your feedback as FLHS continues to grow our ministry!



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!