

February 2nd, 2025
Fourth 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: Jesus was sent to “preach the good news of the kingdom of God” (Luke 4:43). His preaching is an epiphany, or manifestation, of God because His Word reveals the authority of His cross and resurrection, by which He has atoned for the sins of the world. By the preaching of His Gospel in every place, He silences the unclean spirits and casts out demons, heals the diseases of body and soul, and restores life and health to His creation (Luke 4:40–41). For the sake of His divine love, He is “patient and kind” toward us; He “bears all things,” “endures all things” and delivers up His body to save us (1 Cor. 13:3–4, 7). So also for the sake of His love, He calls and sends His prophets, as ministers of His Word, “to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant” (Jer. 1:10).

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.

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.)*

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,

G **who made heaven and earth.**

P 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,

G **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 10:16-18; antiphon: v. 12

*Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand;
forget not the afflicted.*

The LORD is king forever and ever;

the nations perish from his land.

O LORD, you hear the desire of the afflicted;

you will strengthen their heart;

you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed,

so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

*Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand;
forget not the afflicted.*

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 God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." ⁷But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a youth';
for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,
and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
declares the LORD."

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,
"Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to break down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 71:1-6; antiphon: v. 12

¹²*O God, be not far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!*

¹In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame!

²In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

incline your ear to me, and save me!

³Be to me a rock of refuge,

to which I may continually come;

you have given the command to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

⁵For you, O Lord, are my hope,

my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

⁶Upon you I have leaned from before my birth;

you are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

¹²*O God, be not far from me;*

O my God, make haste to help me!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13

I will show you a still more excellent way.

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

CThanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:31-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

³¹[Jesus] went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, ³²and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. ³³And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. ³⁶And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” ³⁷And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

³⁸And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

⁴⁰Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. ⁴¹And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

⁴²And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, ⁴³but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.” ⁴⁴And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

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

C 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.)*

Son of God, Eternal Savior

LSB 842

Sermon “God’s Strength in Word, Name, and Touch”

(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.

C 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.*)

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

G **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 $\cdot\ddagger$ 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 $\cdot\ddagger$ 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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

LSB 686

5 He fills the poor with good;
He gives the sufferers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.

6 His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His beloved Son.

When Peace, like a River

LSB 763

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

☑ **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

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

February 2nd, 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: Bert Bunte Organist(s): June Parker Kim Appel
Bradley Campion Esther Wolff Ruth Eaton

Altar Guild: Frances Mynar Ushers: Sterling Brown
Rose Pietsch Thomas Wolff

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Feb. 2</u>	<u>Mon. Feb. 3</u>	<u>Tue. Feb. 4</u>	<u>Wed. Feb. 5</u>
8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class	6pm-Elders Mtg	9am-PALS Mtg in Smithville	10am-GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation Class 7pm-Altar Guild Mtg
<u>Thurs. Feb. 6</u>	<u>Fri. Feb. 7</u>	<u>Sat. Feb. 8</u>	<u>Sun. Feb. 9</u>
6pm-LWML Mtg 6pm-Choir			8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion 11:30am-Adult Instruction Class

Attendance

Sunday Worship (1/26) 103

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.

KFUO Bible Study Resources

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: We continue in the books of Isaiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT) and Job on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT). Tune in to the Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9 a.m. CT) to hear this month's episode of Searching Scripture, and join us as we revisit National Lutheran Schools week with some special segments! Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or on the KFUO Radio app!

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.

New Podcast!

Check out our new podcast, called "The Faithful Word." On this podcast, you'll find devotions, miscellaneous episodes, and sermons so you can spend time in God's Word wherever you are. Each daily "Congregation at Prayer" devotion is 12 minutes long! Play it in the car or while you've got some free time at home. The main motivation and purpose for this podcast is to help our shut-in and homebound members hear and receive God's Word, so I would greatly appreciate it if you like, subscribe, comment, and share the podcast! That will help tremendously to get the Word out.

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).

NEW! Bible Study for Women

The Apostle Paul encourages us in Hebrews 10:24-25 to "let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." Join us as we expand our knowledge of Scripture, grow in our Lutheran faith, and dig into the 'why' of our beliefs, beyond surface-level feelings. Our next meeting will be on February 15th at 10am at the Woelmer's house. All ages welcome. If you have any questions, please reach out to Elizabeth Woelmer 785-213-0206 or Lisa Stem 512-595-4440.

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!



Sign up for Easter Lilies is on the bulletin outside the office in the narthex. The cost is \$10.00. Deadline is Sunday, March 9th.

February 9th, 2025

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6:1-13

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20

Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11



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, February 4 - Basketball AT Concordia HS (at Zion Walberg gym), 6pm

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

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!



Spring Raffle

FLHS raffle tickets are now available! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 3-7, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items on this year's raffle include:

- 1) Stihl RZ142 Zero Turn Mower - Valued at \$4000
- 2) \$1500 Travel Voucher
- 3) 1/2 Cow With Processing
- 4) Savage Axis 7mm Deer Rifle with Scope - Valued at \$500
- 5) \$500 Visa Gift Card
- 6) Metal Patriotic Yard Sign
- 7) Porch Package with Ribeye Roll - Includes a 2 person outdoor steel glider/rocker, 5X7 outdoor rug, 16' round end table, and plant
- 8) Hand Crafted wooden train and Lone Star Back Roads Package
- 9) Casserole of the Month for a year
- 10) Dessert of the Month for a year

To see details about each package, please view our Facebook page. A limited number of tickets will be available - get yours today! Please contact any FLHS delegate, student, staff or call (979) 242-2889 to get your tickets!! You don't want to miss out!!

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.