

Welcome to  
**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3rd Sunday after**  
**Epiphany**  
**January 24 & 25, 2026**



**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P:** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**P:** Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

**C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

**A:** Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for these gifts of water especially Lake Erie and the Sandusky River.

**C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

**P:** Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

**C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

A: Your love flows through the waters of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life.

**C: Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

P: Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

ELW # 511

### ***THY STRONG WORD***

## **THE GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And also with you!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING****ISAIAH 9:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING****1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

On Sunday.

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Following the Children's moment, children in pre-k through 5th grade are invited to gather in the Sunday School rooms for an activity. They will return to worship before communion.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## READING OF THE GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 4:12-23

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their

nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

**P:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**TODAY'S REFLECTION**

*REV. CLAYTON J. BAILEY*

*On Sunday.*

**THE AFTERWORD**

*Middle & High School Youth are invited following the reflection to meet in the Dining Room. They will connect with the message for the day and spend time in prayer. The youth will return following the offering hymn.*

*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW # 817

***YOU HAVE COME DOWN TO THE LAKESHORE***

## **THE CREED**

**A:** Living together in trust and hope let us confess our faith as expressed through the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C:** **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*At this time you are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you. Following the Sharing of the Peace you may be seated.*

## THE OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OFFERING SONG

ELW # 815

### *I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT*

### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

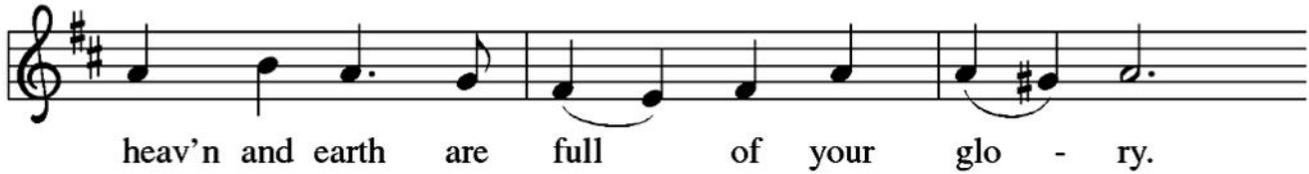
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### THE PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P: Bright shining God, inner light of all the faithful!  
We celebrate your gifts of light, love, and all of creation.  
We rejoice that you have made us in your image.  
We rejoice that you have called us to live in your limitless love.  
We rejoice in the gift of your only child, Jesus, our bright morning star,  
who shines forever bright to light the way through our darkness and  
into the ways of justice and peace.
- Your Holy Spirit shines your Good News into our lives.  
With each new day, you call us to feed the hungry, bring recovery of  
sight to the blind, liberate the oppressed, heal the broken hearted and  
bind up their wounds, and keep watch for the dawn of your reign on  
this earth.
- For all of this, we give you thanks and we praise you, joining our  
voices with all life on earth and the company of heaven, who forever  
sing their hymns of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.
- C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

By your Spirit bless this bread and this wine that they may become for us the presence of Christ among us. Shine your light and your love on the offering of our lives. Enlighten us that we may be your people, the body of the risen Christ, the light of the world, set apart to serve the world that you have made.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**A:** As our Savior Christ has taught us, together we are bold to pray.

**C: 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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P:** Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*At Grace, all are welcome to the Table of the Lord. At the ushers invitation, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice is offered as an additional substitute. As you return to your seat using the side aisle, there is a basket to dispose of your individual communion cup. Those who would like a blessing are also welcome to come forward. Simply ask Pastor for a blessing instead of taking communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

ELW # 574

### ***HERE I AM, LORD***

*After all have communed, you will be invited to stand.*

## TABLE BLESSING

**P:** The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P:** Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

ELW # 841

### ***LIFE EVERY VOICE AND SING***

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace!

**A:** Let your light shine forever!

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!** You are God's gift to us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor and come worship with us again.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook.

**DRIVE-IN CHURCH** - If you are joining us on Sunday in the parking lot please tune your radio to 90.3 FM.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for our dedicated church staff, by Roger & Barb Haynes.

**RADIO BROADCAST** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents Dick Rodenhauser and Mary Rodenhauser Gibson, our brother Greg and our step-father George Gibson, by Larry & Becky McElfresh, Laurie & Bill Halm, and Andy & Arrel Rodenhauser. **(Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 am on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is \$72.50], should contact the church office.)**

**THIS WEEK AS YOU PRAY** please remember: Diane Berryman, Kristen Brown, Tim Dabrunz, Donna Garner, Duane Pump, Tim Rutherford, Julie Stawowy, Melissa Toker, and Connie Wasserman.

**HOSPITAL VISITS!** If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know.

**HEARING DEVICES** are available at the Usher's station at the back of the Sanctuary. Please return after worship so that they can be charged and ready for the next service.

**PRAYER LIST REQUESTS** - If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please write their name on the back of our *Welcome Cards*. You are welcome to indicate what prayers are needed, i.e. "has an upcoming surgery" etc. Names submitted for our prayer list will remain on the list for four (4) weeks. Our goal is to keep the prayer list ever flowing and as up to date as possible.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and Friday from 9 am - 1 pm.

**SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER** should be sent to Tricia in the office at [dabrunztricia@yahoo.com](mailto:dabrunztricia@yahoo.com)

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**PASTOR BAILEY is ready to resume his Bible Studies.** He has two available and he would be pleased to see you at one or both. PB & J<sup>2</sup> will meet on January 26 at 11:30 am in the dining room. We will make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch and explore the readings for the weekend ahead. Pastor's Wednesday evening study will return on January 28 at 5 pm.

**LADIES, JUGGLING ACT** will meet on **January 27 at 5:30 pm** at The Garrison. We juggle family, work and social issues every day. Sometimes it feels like no one understands what we are dealing with. But that is not true! Come join with other women who are juggling just like you.

**THE PROJECT DAY GROUP** will once again make quilts for the Let's Build Beds Project in September 2026 and Lutheran World Relief. They need FLAT bed sheets to use as the back of the quilts. These may be new or gently used (no holes or stains. Please drop off the sheets to the church office or place them in the shopping carts. Thank you for supporting our local and Lutheran World Relief projects.

## **WE'RE HIRING**

**OUR CUSTODIAL TEAM** is looking for an extra set of hands to assist with mopping, vacuuming and other custodial needs. The position offers 6 - 8 hours per week. If you are interested please call the church office.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

**DO YOU HAVE A SMARTPHONE? Can you navigate a tablet?** Chances are we all can, which means you are qualified to be our next "organist". As we continue the search for our next organist we will be relying on the digital organ which is operated with our iPad. We could use your help! Please let the office know if you would like to know more about how to help during this time of transition.

**ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP WITH SOME ODDS AND ENDS IN THE CHURCH OFFICE?** An extra set of hands would be helpful (on an as needed basis) to help prepare the welcome cards for the church pews or add inserts to the bulletins. If you are interested please call Tricia in the church office.

**THE SOUP KITCHEN TEAM** needs extra hands on the first and fifth Thursdays of every month to help serve and clean up after meal for our neighbors. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 11 am and typically leave about 1 pm. If you have questions please call the church office and we will get your contact information to the Soup Kitchen staff.

## **FOR OUR YOUTH**

**KIDS ZONE** - Toddlers - 5th graders are invited to join Penny Russell and Cornelia Star following the Children's Message for a short lesson and activity. They will return to worship before communion. If your child does not wish to participate they return to their seat following the Children's Message.

**AFTERWORD** for our Middle & High School youth it's not the last word, just the next step. Students are invited following the sermon to connect with message of the day and pray. They will return to worship during the offering hymn.

**ATTENTION PARENTS** - Do you want to keep your children busy during worship, but you don't want take them out of the sanctuary? Please check out our new play area in front of the chapel. There are activities, toys to play with, and books to read while you join us for worship. If you feel that you need to take your children out of the sanctuary there is a nursery with live audio of the service so you don't miss out on worship.

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE January 25 - February 1, 2026**

Today: 9:00 - Worship/Communion/Kids Zone  
10:15 - Confirmation

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Monday: 11:30 - PB & J<sup>2</sup>, Dining Room  
1:00 - Bible Study with Maureen  
2:00 - Bookworms, Lounge  
6:00 - Pack 302 Parent Meeting  
7:00 - Dartball, Away

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Tuesday: 5:30 - Juggling Act at The Garrison

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Wednesday: 5:00 - S.L.A.M. with Maureen  
5:00 - Bible Study with Pr. Bailey  
6:00 - Youth Activities

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Thursday: 11:30 - Soup Kitchen

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Friday: - - - - -

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Saturday: 4:00 - Worship/Communion/Noisy Offering  
Bridge of Hope Food Pantry Collection

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Sunday: **NOISY OFFERING & BRIDGE OF HOPE  
FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**  
9:00 - Worship/Communion/Kids Zone

**WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 98**

Saturday: 18; Sunday: 80

SERVING IN	WORSHIP
<b>SATURDAY 4 PM</b>	
GREETER: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien
READER	Tanya Schardt
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Wendy Bailey
<b>SUNDAY 9 AM</b>	
ACOLYTE	Tommy Michles
GREETER:	Larry & Becky McElfresh
GREETER: BAKER STREET	Dick Zilles
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Peggy Rutherford
READER	Peggy Rutherford
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Kent Watkins
DEACONS/CLOSERS	Greg Jess Peggy Kiser

# Grace Lutheran Church

**Senior Pastor**

*Rev. Clayton J. Bailey*  
pastorcbailey@gmail.com  
561-670-3684

**Lay Associate Minister:**

*Maureen Pump*  
maureenpump2022@gmail.com

**Minister of Youth & Family:**

*Heather Hawn*  
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com



705 W. State Street  
Fremont, OH 43420

419-332-1558  
gracefremont@yahoo.com  
www.gracefremont.org

**Office Administrator:**

*Tricia Dabrunz*  
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

**Finance/HR Administrator:**

*Denise Biddle*  
gracefremont@yahoo.com

**Director of Noah's Ark:**

*Andrea Hort*  
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

*Called to Present the Light of Christ!*