

**PRAYER SERVICE
JANUARY 17, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God loves you all the time
And all the time God loves you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
you search us and know us.
You are acquainted with all our ways.
We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.
We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.
We distrust those who are not like us.
We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.
Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
receive them in your divine mercy. **Amen.**

How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of ✙ Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
Indeed, we are forgiven.
In the wake of God's forgiveness,
we are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

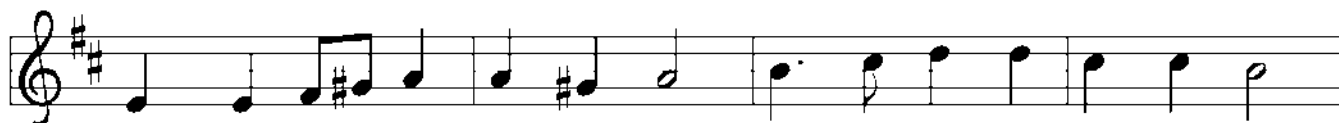




- 1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
- 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;
- 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

OPENING DIALOGUE

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the

LORD; let him do what seems good to him.”

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have searched me out;

O LORD, you have known me.

²**You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵You encompass me, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴**I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book;
my days were fashioned before they came to be.**

¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!

¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

The holy gospel from the book of John beginning at the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound (*especially*), that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us (*especially Antony and Pachomius, renewers of the church*), that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

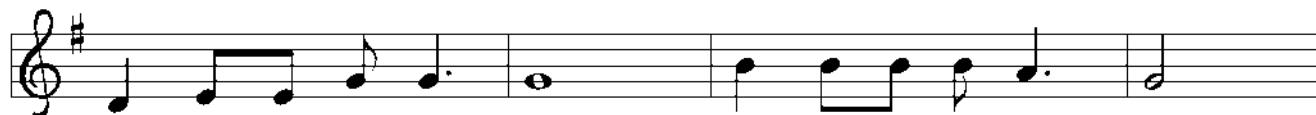
ELW 677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



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ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayers of the Faithful for Week of January 17

TODAY we pray for:

Gene and Vanessa Spence

Family and friends of Betty Magoon as they mourn her passing; Jeremy, David and Pastor Tara
Son and daughter of Vera Waggonfuhr

For all those suffering with Covid-19

Brian

Pat Kizuka

Polly Gillis

Allen Whitley

Christina

Stacy Dambaugh

Sue, friend of JoAnne Deaton

Roger Camp

Krisida Alberto

Diane Kiefer daughter of Margie Betley

- all in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Louise Ench, Kathy Long, Gener Ernst, Barbara Hewlett, Russ & Joan Snyder, Clare Schoening, Scott; Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez, Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke, Kyle, Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck, Lena, Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow, Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Connie and family, Scott & Lia Wycoff, The Fenner family, John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur, Mike Goyda, Lis Verbeck, Lois Snyder

David & Angie Wasgatt, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, Bob Waller, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Betty Magoon, Claire Schoening, Tyler, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl

For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Barbara Melosh

For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones

For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;

For all pastors and church leaders

For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.

For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the covid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)
or email office@glcde.org.**

Town Hall Meeting

2020 was a rough year. While we have passed into a new year, we do begin with some of the same challenges. Although we missed the opportunity to update the congregation in the Fall on what is going on in the life and ministry of Grace, at least the highlights, we will have a Zoom Town Hall on Sunday January 24th in place of Coffee and Connect and Adult Education. This Zoom meeting will use the same link as Coffee and Connect. Come and hear ministry and finance updates on this amazing congregation we call Grace.

COFFEE & CONNECT

Every Sunday on Zoom at 10:00AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84338548999?pwd=bkd6S3NueTdOOTZ6UE1URINqK1pIUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3854 8999

Passcode: 799577



Adult Education Opportunity

Starting Today, new series will be a study of **1 Peter “God’s Own People”** from the Book of Faith initiative through Augsburg Fortress. Pastor Tara will be leading the study which begins January 17 at 11 AM on Sunday mornings.

You can participate through the “Coffee and Connect” link in this newsletter.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS OPPORTUNITY

Remember all the way back in November when we sent cookies and treats to our troops and we postponed providing cookies to fire fighters in honor/ memory of Jerry Fickes?

Well the time has come to show our love and appreciation to the Hockessin, Wilmington and Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder Company (Newark) fire companies. You can bring homemade cookies to **Grace on Friday, January 29th or Saturday, January 30th by noon** - and remember that any cookies baked in your oven are considered homemade! I will be at church - wearing a mask and social distancing - from 10-12 on Saturday. Then I will divide them into three boxes for delivery. In addition to the cookies we will also collect cards or pictures to thank our firefighters - a great chance for your kids to be involved! I will also have some cards available for signatures if you would like when you drop off cookies. There will be a table set up in the library area with the cards, a basket to leave cards and a container for you to leave the cookies. Please let me know if you are planning on making cookies (ldluettgen@aol.com or 610-345-0989) so I know if we will have a good amount for the project. Also if you would be interested in delivering the boxes to the fire stations let me know. It is a great thing to do as a family or individually. Thank you for supporting this project and our firefighters. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Love, Lynne Luetgen

FROM OUR TREAT THE TROOPS PACKING IN NOVEMBER

Hi Lynne, We have received your care packages!! Thank you so much, the homemade cookies were a hit over here. We all love them and had plenty for everyone to have some and pick their favorite cookies. Here are some photos for you to share with the families that helped you to bake and send us these cookies. Please let them know we are very grateful and they were delicious and yummy. :D Karina Reyes, TSgt, USA

*Thank you so much! I really appreciate you all and what you do.
Very Respectfully, OLUFUNMILAYO ONYECHI 1st Lt, USAF*



THANKFUL DELIVERY

Printed devotionals for the months of January, February and March 2021 are now available at Grace. Delays with the US postal service are making deliveries of cards, parcels and publications long overdue. We are receiving Christmas cards in the office even now!

The devotional guides arrived 2nd and 3rd week of January. Its unusual, but with the dismantling of post office equipment, layoffs at the post offices and increased online purchasing, delays can be expected.

Augsburg promises to send their publications on time, but they cannot anticipate delays with posts. Hey how about a prayer for those who are carrying the load of late deliveries on their backs! Thanks for your patience! God bless you.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Rev. David Wasgatt, Pastor Emeritus

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian

2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, DE 19707 Office: 302-239-6481

Email: Office@gmail.com Website: glcde.org