

Service Of Holy Communion for January 8, 2023
Epiphany of Our Lord
11:00am



ANNOUNCEMENTS

P God loves you all the time.
C **All the time God loves you.**

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

C **you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Amen.

P Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

C **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,

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.**

A In the beginning was the Word,

C **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

A In the Word was life,

C **and the life was the light of all people.**

A The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C **and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.
¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

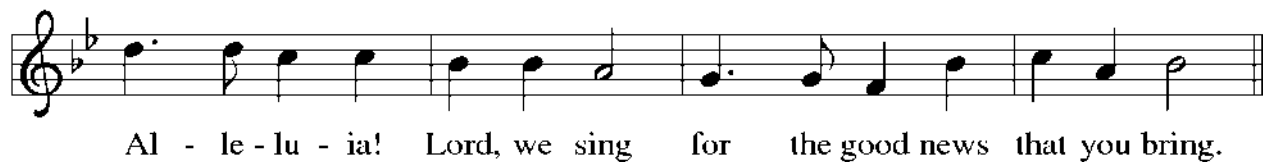
⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel of Matthew the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

MESSAGE

Pastor Tara Magoon

Please stand at the last verse.

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

NICENE CREED

A In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

A Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Guide the whole church with your wisdom, revealing God. Nurture ecumenical and interreligious understanding around the globe, especially in places of ethnic and religious strife. We pray for Lutheran World Relief and other organizations that provide humanitarian aid, disaster relief, and health care. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Restore your glory to the earth, creating God. Protect fragile ecosystems: rain forests, coral reefs, wetlands, prairies, and shorelines. Guide us to treasure the rich variety of animals and plants that share the world with us, especially those that are endangered. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Bring the nations into the way of justice and peace, righteous God. Strengthen those who work for human rights, equality, and the protection of the most vulnerable. We pray for all in public office, that they may serve with honesty and honor. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Help those who have no helper, delivering God. Rescue any who suffer from abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Deliver adults and children who are caught in cycles of poverty. Transform social systems that enable racism and discrimination of any kind. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Accompany the ministries of this congregation in the coming year, abiding God. Inspire those who lead worship, teach, visit, pray, administer, and serve. Keep us mindful of the needs of others in our communities and neighborhoods (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reveal your promise by the witness of those who died trusting in you, redeeming God. Receive our thanks for their witness and faith, and guide us by their example until we are gathered with them into your eternal presence. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

All share a sign of peace and reconciliation.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Thank you so much for your support of Grace ministry through your worship.

If you wish to make a donation to Grace, you can follow this link www.glcde.org or scan the QR code to make a donation on our website through the "GIVE" button in the upper right corner.

You can also make a donation by placing your gift in our offering plates located inside both sanctuary doors.



ANTHEM

Brightest and Best of the Stars

- 1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.
- 2 Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
angels adore him in slumber reclining,
maker and monarch and savior of all.
- 3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?
Shall we bring incense and off'rings divine,
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?
4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favor secure;
richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
- 5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.

OFFERTORY

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

WOV 759 v.1&3



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

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 our thanks and praise.**

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:



P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
One God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.
. All are welcome to the table of the Lord.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
c - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN

What Feast of Love ELW 487



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

I Want to Walk As A Child of the Light ELW 815

Musical notation for the hymn, consisting of a treble clef staff with the melody and a bass clef staff with the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Around You, O Lord Jesus ELW 468

1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still
2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath

to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.
your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.
we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—

You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my
It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your
de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple

bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"
bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.
dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P God bless you and keep you,
✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

DISMISSAL

- A Christ the Savior is born!
 Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 8, 2023

TODAY we pray:

- *Marilaura (sister of Vera Wagenfuhr)*
- *Ed Burke*
- *Kathy Long*
- *Karl Wagenfuhr (son of Vera Waganfuhr)*
- *Itamar and sister Irama (relative of Vera Waganfuhr)*
- *Phedon Jones*
- *Pam Hyde (friend of Merrily Schiavone)*
- *Jennifer Wolf (niece of Brian and Sandy Wolf)*
- *Rich DiRocco (neighbor of Kathy Long)*
- *Midge (friend of Vera Wagenfuhr)*
- *Jeff Dandoy (Audrey Day's father)*
- *Kendall, Aimee & Scott Oller (Lynda Martinez)*
- * *Maria Santopietro (friend of Beth Fenner)*

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Judy & Paul Freys (aunt and uncle of Beth Fenner); Krista Wacker; Val; Ben Epstein; Lynne Luettgen; Pam Wasgatt Montecalvo; Richard McBride; Debbie Anderson; Laurie Spears; John Boguki; Terri Dickson Riggelman, Lois Nordby (sister of Gerry Teig;)*John Keating*

Joanne Deaton; Dorothy Dzuris, Nancy Goyda, Joan Snyder; Ed and Erika Burke; Angie Wasgatt; Bob & Louise Ench; Vera Wagenfuhr; Polly Gillis; ; Gener Ernst; Lis Verbeck; Lois Snyder; John Deaton; Gretchen Platz; Nanci Hunsinger; Chuck Loomis

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl.

For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Pastor Paige Evers.

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

For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference of the Delaware-Maryland Synod—*Hope Lutheran Church New Castle, Pastor Amy Jensen Wright;; St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Dover, Pastor Anne Strickert*

For all pastors and church leaders

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

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





Grace at the Odd Fellows

When early services were held at the Odd Fellows, the altar was essentially a large box on wheels. It held everything - hymnals, cross, candles. The ushers could set up the room in minutes. Typical of fraternal organizations, the meeting room included special chairs. Four large wooden armchairs were arranged one each at the middle of the four walls, facing the center of the room, obviously for the officers. The grade-school boys liked to claim the large chairs.

- Submitted by Marcia Seehusen (former church secretary)

For January 8

The Virtual Choir”

The COVID-19 pandemic hit fast and hard, but the leaders at Grace knew it wasn't going to stop us from keeping worship inspiring and fresh. One of the ideas I had was to create a Virtual Choir so we could hear the wonderful sounds of our Choir and Praise Team, despite not being able to be physically together to create the music.

The first step was to select a hymn that was logistically easy to record. It had to be a well-known tune and one where the rhythms were all in sync. The second step was to send the sheet music and a sign-up sheet to each person so the recording could be done. The third step was to record each voice. This was done by each person listening to the audio through their headphones and singing into the computer microphone so only their voice would be picked up. The last step was for me to take all of the individual tracks and mix them to create the final product.

The first one was so well-received that WDEL wrote a news article about our efforts! In total, six pieces were done by the Virtual Choir: “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” premiered on May 31, 2020; “I Love to Tell the Story” on June 21, 2020; “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” on July 20, 2020; “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” on September 27, 2020; “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” on October 25, 2020; and “What Child Is This?” on December 24, 2020.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who participated in these sessions. It's a great joy to be able to make music with such talented and dedicated musicians. It goes to show that music is universal and can take many forms!

Submitted by Jordan Irazabal (January 1)



TOWN MEETING
Sunday, January 29
Between services
Join Us!

Sunday Worship & Education

8:30am Service of Holy Communion

9:45am Sunday School for all ages!

11:00am Service of Holy Communion

Worship Assistants

11:00am

Assisting Minister: Beth Fenner

Greeter/Usher: Toni Durandetta

Usher: Don Durandetta

Reader: Toni Durandetta

Sound: Mark Maurer

Nursery: Audrey Day, John Day

Counters: Jim Foskett, Beth Fenner

Refreshments: Lynne Luetgen, Jane Foskett

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, Delaware 19707

(302) 239-6481 office@glcde.org www.glcde.org

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The people of Grace Lutheran Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian