Service of Holy Communion for January 8, 2023. Epiphany of Our Lord 8:30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- God loves you all the time.
- \mathbf{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.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.
- Р Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

- \mathbf{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.

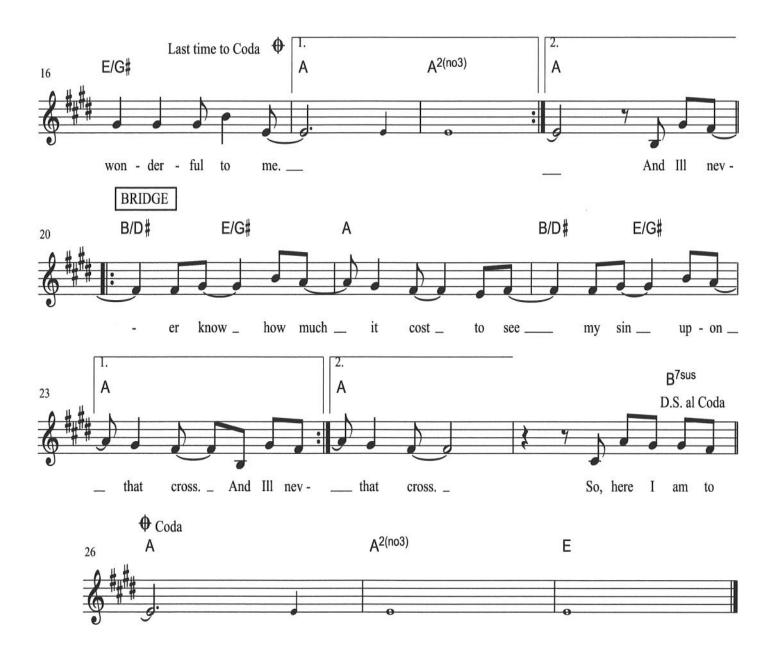
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth

shall know the salvation of God.

 \mathbf{C} Amen.







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.

KYRIE

- 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` Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a tar. 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 READING: 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

Read responsively.

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; 2that 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.

- ⁴Let 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.
- ⁶Let 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.
- ¹⁰May 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.
- ¹²For 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.
- ¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

SECOND READING: 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 car-

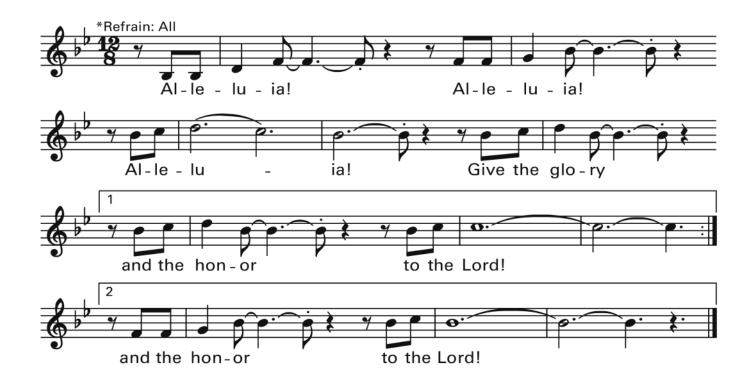
ried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Tara Magoon

Please stand at the last verse



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 the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

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

Light of the World

Redman

Verse 1

O Jesus Son of God
So full of grace and truth
The Father's saving Word
So wonderful are You
The angels longed to see
And prophets searched to find
The glory we have seen revealed

Chorus

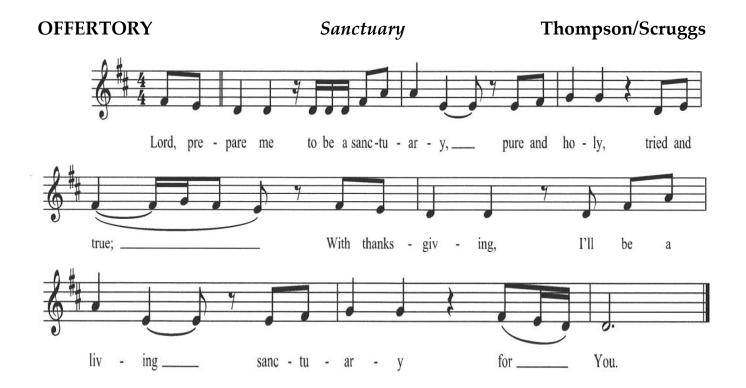
Light of the world Light of the world Light of the world You shine upon us Light of the world Light of the world Light of the world You shine upon us

Verse 2

You shone upon the earth
But who will understand
You came unto Your own
But who will recognise
Your birth was prophesied
For You were the Messiah
Who came and walked upon the earth
Your glory we have seen
The one and only King
And now You're living in our hearts

Verse 3

In You all things were made
And nothing without You
In heaven and on earth
All things are held in You
And yet You became flesh
Living as one of us
Under the shadow of the cross
Where through the blood You shed
You have made peace again
Peace for the world that God so loves



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.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

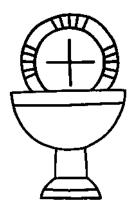
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please be seated



COMMUNION

Communion will be received at the head of the Sanctuary. Starting with the section closest to the sound room and worshippers may make their way to Pastor at the head of the Sanctuary and receive the communion elements. Elements at in-person worship are red wine and white grape juice. Please let Pastor know if you require gluten-free bread.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Oh,

taste

and

see and

What Feast of Love ELW 487



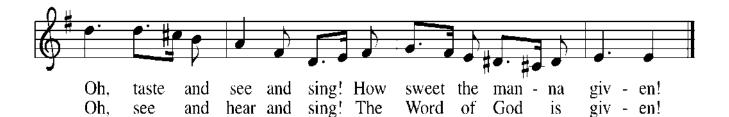
- I What feast of love is of fered here, what ban-quet come from heav en?
- What light of truth is of fered here, what cov e nant from heav en?
- 3 What wine of love is of fered here, what crim-son drink from heav en?



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.



Son

of

God

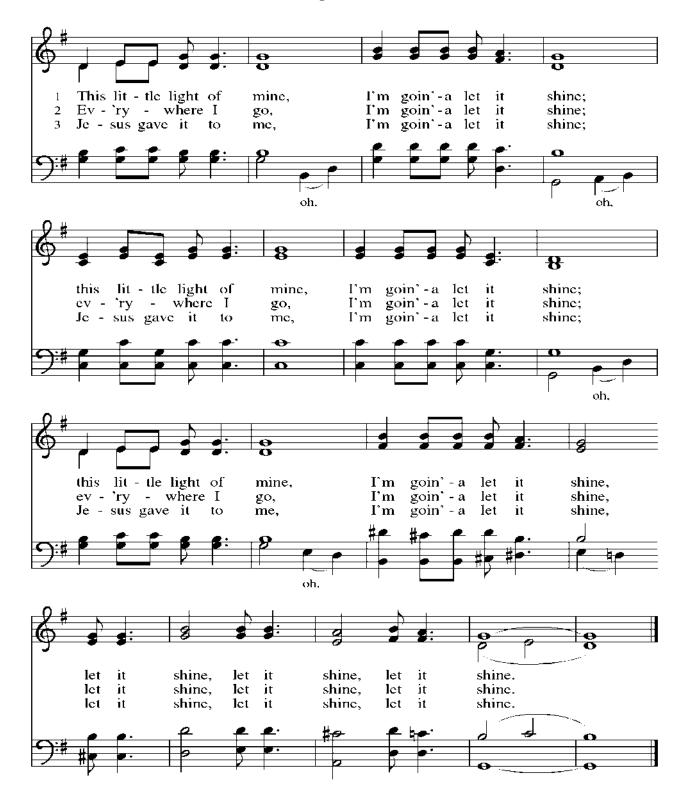
is

giv - en!

sing! The

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

This Little Light of Mine ELW 677



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



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

- P 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,

 H Jesus grant you grace and truth,

 and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
 now and forever.
- C Amen.

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DISMISSAL

- P 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 Wagonfuhr)
- 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 Riggleman, 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)

"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

8:30am

Assisting Minister: Lynda Martinez Greeter/Usher: Julie Auger Usher: John Auger

Reader: Don Bond **Sound:** Joe Luettgen

Nursery: Lucie Gonneville, Katelyn Dunfee Counters: Jim Foskett, Beth Fenner Refreshments: Lynne Luettgen, Jane Foskett

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager Louis Jones, Custodian

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