

Welcome to Worship

Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith in Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbor, here and around the world.

Sunday, February 23, 2025 - 10:45 AM



Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb: Senior Pastor
Rev. Cole McCormick: Associate Pastor
Nicole Kolbe: Office Administrator
Brad Anderson: Maintenance

Jane Reiman: Finance Director
Amber Hansen: Open Door Meal Coordinator
Pianist: Molly Bleess
Praise Band: Jen Kahler and Musicians

~ 300 S. Grant Street, Fairmont, MN 56031 ~ www.gracelutheranchurch.org ~ 507-238-4418 ~

Please Note: Worship services are broadcast on local TV and online. Being in the Sanctuary implies consent to be on camera. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the back rows or balcony. Communion may be brought to you in your pew.

Prelude and Bell Ringing

Welcome and Offering of Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

P: Welcome to Worship!

Announcements

Call to Worship

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

All: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

All: Amen.

Gathering Song***Gratitude***

All my words fall short, I got nothing new
How could I express, all my gratitude
I could sing these songs, as I often do
But every song must end, and You never do

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing hallelujah, hallelujah

I've got one response, I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide, I will worship You

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing hallelujah, hallelujah

Come on my soul, oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song, 'cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord

Come on my soul, oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song, 'cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing hallelujah, hallelujah

Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

What are you look - ing for? Come,

Song of Praise

Bless-ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -
va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be

neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

Gospel Acclamation*Come and See*

What are you look - ing for? Come,

see, come and see. What are you

look - ing for? Come and see. Come and see.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of Luke. **All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:]²⁷ “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you;²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you.²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again.³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.³⁴ If you

lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Cole McCormick

Song of the Day

All the People Said Amen

You are not alone if you are lonely
 When you feel afraid you're not the only
 We are all the same in need of mercy
 To be forgiven and be free
 It's all you got to lean on
 But thank God it's all you need

And all the people said amen whoa
 And all the people said amen
 Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends
 And all the people said amen

If you're rich or poor well it don't matter
 Weak or strong you know love is what we're after
 We're all broken but we're all in this together
 God knows we stumble and fall
 And He so loved the world
 He sent His son to save us all

And all the people said amen whoa
 And all the people said amen
 Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends
 And all the people said amen

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart
 Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart
 Blessed are the people hungry for another start
 For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God

And all the people said amen whoa
 And all the people said amen
 Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends
 And all the people said amen

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 to the dead.
 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 the Church***Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Offering For easy online giving, please scan the QR code.
Thank you!

**Loaves and Fishes Offering**

Youth are invited to walk forward and place their offering into the basket. Just like the little boy who gave his 2 fish and 5 loaves to Jesus, who multiplied them to feed thousands, the youth offering will go to The Grace Food Pantry. Adults are welcome to give a child an offering to bring up too.

Offering**Offering Prayer**

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Holy Communion

Children of all ages may receive communion or a blessing. They are also invited to take an instrument to praise God during the sending song. All are welcome at Christ's table.

Lords Prayer (Sing)

Rachel Kurtz

**Our Father which art in heaven,
hallowed be, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,
 your will be done
 on earth as it is, is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread and help us
 remember 'til all people are fed
 forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us
 whether friend or foe
 lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,
 for thine is the kingdom and thine is the power and thine is the glory
 forever, forever
 Ah... Ah... Ah... A - men**

Communion Song

Reckless Love

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
 You have been so so good to me
 Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
 You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
 Love of God
 O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
 Leaves the ninety-nine
 I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
 Still You give Yourself away
 O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
 Love of God

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me
 You have been so so good to me
 When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
 You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
 Love of God
 O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
 Leaves the ninety-nine
 I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
 Still You give Yourself away

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me (sing 2X)

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God

Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

All: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

Rescuer

He's our Rescuer, He's our Rescuer
We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound, oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer
There is good news for the captive, good news for the shamed

There is good news for the one who walked away
 There is good news for the doubter, the one religion failed
 For the good Lord has come to seek and save

He's our Rescuer, He's our Rescuer
 We are free from sin forevermore
 Oh how sweet the sound, oh how grace abounds
 We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

He is beauty for the blind man, riches for the poor
 He is friendship for the one the world ignores
 He is pasture for the weary, rest for those who strive
 Oh the good Lord is the way the truth the life
 Yes the good Lord is the way the truth the life

He's our Rescuer, He's our Rescuer
 We are free from sin forevermore
 Oh how sweet the sound, oh how grace abounds
 We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

So come and be chainless
 Come and be fearless
 Come to the foot of Calvary
 There is redemption for every affliction
 Here at the foot of Calvary
 He's our Rescuer, He's our Rescuer
 We are free from sin forevermore
 Oh how sweet the sound, oh how grace abounds
 We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

Sending

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude