

**Celebration of Epiphany of Our Lord
January 7, 2018
8:30 A.M.**

WELCOME TO GRACE

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Loving God,

C we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.

Forgive us for the times

we have spoken or acted too quickly;

we have not spoken or acted at all;

we have hurt those closest to us;

we have hurt those we have yet to know;

we have thought more about ourselves than others;

we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.

Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,

So that we can live again as your children.

Amen

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen

Gathering Hymn

'Bright and Glorious Is the Sky' vs 1-4 **301**

Greeting

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Please be seated

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray
Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

'Angels We Have Heard on High' vs 1 **289**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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:

⁶And 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.

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

Please be seated

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

'As with Gladness Men of Old'

302

Stand as you are able

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions end:

A Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Tribes and nations bow down before you, O God. Hear our prayers and praise, and raise us up to be your living body, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Peace

The people greet one another saying: 'Peace be with you'.

Please be seated

Offering

Stand as you are able

Offertory 'What Child Is This' vs 3 **296**

Offering Prayer

A Merciful God,

C receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

P Wonderful Counselor!

C Mighty God!

P Everlasting Father!

C Prince of Peace!

P We bless your Name forever!

C Light of Light!

P Lord of Lords!

C King of Kings!

P Emmanuel, God with us!

C We bless your Name forever!

P True God, Giver of Life, Word of our Creator,
Spirit of Counsel and Might; God of our
essence, be with us now as we join in the
celebration of your love.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

p. 145

Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion, this morning, will be by intinction. The ushers will direct you to the front, first the pulpit side and then lectern side. Come up using the center aisle and return by the side aisle. Wine will be in the larger portion and grape juice in the smaller portion of the chalice. Gluten free wafers available by request. Children are invited for a blessing. All are welcome who believe Christ is present in this meal for the forgiveness of sins.

Hymns at the Distribution

'The First Noel' vs 3-5

300

'This Little Light of Mine'

677

Stand as able

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

A O Morning Star, fair and bright,

C you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now – today, tomorrow, every day – that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. Amen

Benediction

P The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen

Closing Hymn

'Songs of Thankfulness and Praise' vs 1 & 4 **310**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Huddle

Worship Assistants: January 7th

Greeters: Mason – Mary & Ray Hubers
East – Joyce Learman

Assisting Minister: Mark Balkman

Lector: Mark Balkman

Communion 8:30: Dennis Pringnitz

Communion 10:30: Deb Werth

Ushers: Dennis Pringnitz, Gary Schroeder, Joyce
Learman

Organist: Diane Bailey

Attendance 12/31: 8:30 am-48 & 10:30 am-19

H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch: No lunch - Christmas

Grace Lutheran Church

900 N. Mason, Appleton, WI 54914

920-733-9135

Grace54914@gmail.com &

www.gracelutheranappleton.org

Pastor Dan Luett

920.594.2015

pastordanluett@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Carey Mackesy

Welcome to Grace

*Whether you are a member or visiting for the first
time, may God's grace surround you today.
There is a guest book to sign in the gathering area.
If you are looking for a church home,
you are welcome here.*

In Prayer this Week

For members on the Care List especially Rose Zinck and Marian Breitenfeldt.

For Healing Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law; Rev. Jennie Johnson Wrege; Valerie Sieg; Marvin Wrege; Sharon Meier; Margaret Congdon; Jerry Wilharms; Mike VerKuilen

For those with cancer especially Ellie; Mark Catlin; Roger Schmidt; Marian Breitenfeldt; Enid Andrews.

For the family of Melissa Heins at her passing, the daughter of Gene and Karen Krull.

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.” Romans 12:12



If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (731-1428) or Susan Pringnitz (733-7591). Call the church office with requests for prayer to be put in the bulletin and/or to ask for a prayer to be relayed to the Prayer Chain.

Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB131627.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Announcements

It is time for snow There is a sign up sheet on the desk in the narthex. We are asking for volunteers to keep the sidewalks clean of snow on a weekly basis.

The parking lot is taken care of however please consider helping with the other areas. Thank you!

Linwood Place Apartments has openings: large 2 BR with 1½ bath, large 2 BR, and 1 BR. Our waiting list is empty! Call now to see an apartment or to secure a spot for the future. This is the time to act!!! Call Becky at 920-734-7725 or 920-594-2016, or call Brian at 920-840-3578.

Semi Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **TODAY** January 7th at 9:15 a.m. Please plan to attend.

New Member Classes

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 on January 14 and 28 we will have New Member Classes in the Kitchen. If interested in joining Grace please let Pastor Dan know or just show up at one of these New Member Classes.

Adult Forum will return on February 4 at 9:40. Watch for more details in the near future

TODAY

You are invited
to the home of

Pastor Dan and Becky Luett

January 7, 2018

from

2:00 to 4:00 pm

Come and enjoy some holiday treats
and

enjoy our Christmas Wonderland.

We live at 113 Woodside Court, Neenah, WI.

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday, Jan. 7**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
- Monday, Jan. 8**..... 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
- Tuesday, Jan. 9**..... 8:30 a.m. Quilting
10:30 a.m. W & M Meeting
6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. FV Chorus
7:00 p.m. Board of Ed Meeting
- Wednesday, Jan. 10**..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting
- Thursday, Jan. 11**... 10:00 a.m. Grilled Cheese Lunch
- Friday, Jan. 12** 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Saturday, Jan. 13**..... 9:00 a.m. Hmong Service
- Sunday, Jan 14**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. New Member Class
10:30 a.m. Worship