

FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE: Baptism

EPIPHANY 4

January 29, 2023



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. David R. Clark, x303
pastorclark@graceglendale.org

Rev. Mark R. Jacobson, x321
pastorjacobson@graceglendale.org

{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmdale Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

Principal Joel D. Walker, x302
jwalker@graceglendale.org

Office Manager, Debbie, x322
officemanager@graceglendale.org

Secretary, Alice, x301
secretary@graceglendale.org

WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
 - *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
 - *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.*
 - *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you are in need of hearing assistance.*
-

OPENING HYMN: #680 – Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

**Baptized into your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
among your saints, your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
your Spirit now shall live within.**

**My loving Father, there you took me
to be henceforth your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, there you let me
the fruit of all your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
when threat'ning clouds around I see.**

**My faithful God, you fail me never;
your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
if words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
forgive, lift up, restore your child.**

**All that I am and love most dearly—
receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
help me your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
serve any will but yours alone.**

Text: Public domain.

Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit
Amen.

CONFESSION: p. 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

As faithful stewards of God's grace, let us sing God's praise.

HYMN #751 – O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

**O God, your hand the heavens made and all that they contain;
the world appeared at your command, and in it now you reign.
The restless sea, the land, the sky your handiwork declare;
the touch of your creative pow'r is present ev'rywhere.**

**To us are given gifts divine, all talents you have sent;
inspire us now to use them well your kingdom to extend.
We hold each gift a trust from you nor claim it as our own;
we gratefully acknowledge, Lord, all things are yours alone.**

**Deliver us from selfish aims, true stewards we would be;
endow us with a deep desire to live unselfishly.
A full accounting we must give and see you face to face;
let us approach your throne with joy, supported by your grace.**

Text: © 1961, ren 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990.

**The Lord be with you.
And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Baptism is for entire households. Acts 16:25-34

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison

doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” ²⁹The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” ³²Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. ³⁴The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR: (8:00)..... Be Still My Soul
GRADES PK-K: (10:30)..... Let’s Go, Go, Go

SECOND READING: Baptism offers personal participation in holy week. Romans 6:1-7 ¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

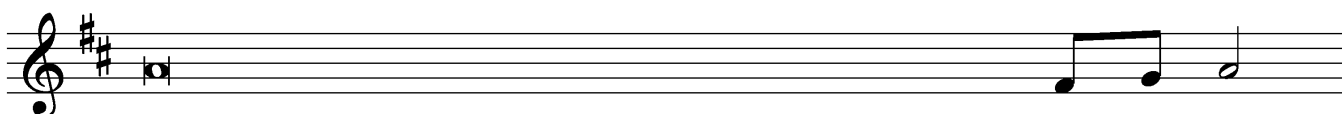
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:Romans 12:1



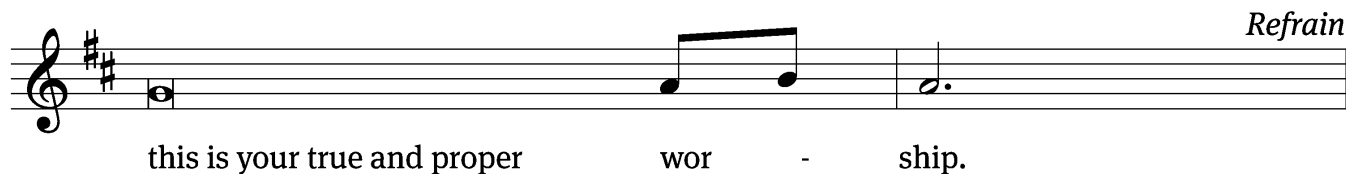
Refrain



Tone



In view of God's mercy, offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleas - ing to God—



*Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission:
OneLicense no. 705990.*

GOSPEL: Baptism allows everyone to be born again. John 3:1-8

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." ³Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." ⁴"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows wherever it

pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #646 – See This Wonder in the Making

**See this wonder in the making:
God himself this child is taking
as a lamb safe in his keeping,
his to be, awake or sleeping.**

**Miracle each time it happens
as the door of heaven opens
and the Father beams, “Belovèd,
heir of gifts a king would covet!”**

**Far more tender than a mother,
far more caring than a father,
God, into your arms we place them,
with your love and peace embrace them.**

**Here we bring a child of nature;
home we take a newborn creature,
now God’s precious son or daughter,
born again by Word and water.**

Text: © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990.

SERMON:Galatians 3:26-27

BAPTISM INTO CHRIST CHANGES US

1. It gives us a new identity.
2. It changes our appearance.

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Holy Baptism

What does Baptism do for us?

Baptism works forgiveness of sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

What are these word and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

How can water do such great things?

It is certainly not the water that does such things, but God’s Word which is in and with the water and faith which trusts this Word used with the water. For without God’s Word the water is just plain water and not Baptism. But with this Word it is Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of rebirth by the Holy Spirit.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Titus, chapter 3, “[God] saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.”

What does baptizing with water mean?

Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, “We were...buried with [Christ] through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the “Welcome to Grace” register in your pew at this time!

SERMON HYMN: #678 – Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters

Once in the blest baptismal waters

**I put on Christ and made him mine;
now, numbered with God’s sons and daughters,
I share his peace and love divine.**

**My God, for Jesus’ sake I pray
your peace may bless my dying day.**

**His body and his blood I’ve taken
in his blest supper, feast divine;
now I shall never be forsaken
for I am his and he is mine.**

**My God, for Jesus’ sake I pray
your peace may bless my dying day.**

**Though death may come today, tomorrow,
I know in Christ I perish not;
he grants the peace that stills all sorrow,
gives me a robe without a spot.**

**My God, for Jesus’ sake I pray
your peace may bless my dying day.**

**And thus I live in God contented
and die without a thought of fear;
to God’s good plans I have consented,
my faith is focused, firm, and clear.**

**By grace, in Jesus’ name I say,
“Lord, you will bless my dying day!”**

Text: Public domain

Please stand.

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER: p. 171

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING: p. 171

Amen.

Please be seated.

CLOSING HYMN: #689 – Renew Me, O Eternal Light

**Renew me, O eternal Light,
and let my heart and soul be bright,
illumined with the light of grace
that issues from your holy face.**

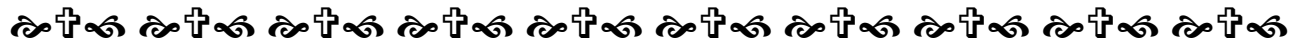
**Destroy in me the lust of sin,
from all impureness make me clean.
O grant me pow'r and strength, my God,
to strive against my flesh and blood.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,
that gladly I obey your Word.
O let your will be my desire
and with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only you may love
and seek those things which are above
till I behold you face to face,
O Light eternal, through your grace.**

Text: Public domain.

Setting Three from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.



ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Bob Davis in loving memory of his wife, Mary.



Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 168; 10:30 AM – 160

Sunday School attendance: Adults: Hall – 82; Room 1 – 25;

Children – 39

Tuesday *The Chosen* Class: 19; Wednesday *Book of Acts* Class: 16

Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Chris Paul 10:30 AM: AJ McDunn

Organist: Michael Wilde

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Adrienne Siffring – 7319 W Sweetwater Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85381-5085
(Fairmont Village)

Mary Rademacher – 10955 N 79th Ave, Lot 137, Peoria, AZ 85345-5977
(Home)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - **Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM;** Bible Classes & Sunday School,
9:30 AM

MON - Choir Practice, 7:00 PM

TUE - Newsletter Assembly, 9 AM; *The Chosen* Bible class, 2:00 PM

WED - Public School Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM; *Acts* Bible Class,
7:00 PM

THU - Elders Meeting, 3:00 PM; School Board, 6:30 PM

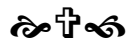
FRI - LES Early Release, 11:30AM; Teacher Collaboration

SUN - **COMMUNION Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM;** Bible Classes &
Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Campus Ministry, noon

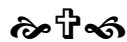
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and February Bible-reading & activity calendars
are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.

2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for February 4th will be captained by Randy Emmerling with Julie Emmerling; Karen Coakley; Mike & Jan Rondeau; and Jaime Duarte.



DIVINE CALL EXTENDED...Grace has extended a call to Steve Biedenbender to be our 7th & 8th Grade teacher and music director. Mr. Biedenbender is currently serving at St. Paul Lutheran School in New Ulm, MN as 7th & 8th Grade teacher and music director. Please keep him in your prayers while he seeks direction on how he can best serve in the Lord's kingdom.



NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY will take place on Tuesday, January 31st at 9:00 AM in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to help!



2023 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS...You may sign up to donate altar bouquets for 2023 in the Altar Flower binder in the narthex. Altar bouquets cost \$35 each. Enclose payment in a pink envelope (make checks payable to Grace Ladies Aid) and drop in the collection plate or give it to the Ladies Aid Treasurer, Rebekah Frear. Please do **NOT** leave your payment in the box next to the binder in the narthex.



ABC @ VILLAGE INN, 9490 W. Northern Avenue at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 1st. Adult Breakfast and Coffee Group is made up of Grace members and friends who enjoy gathering for breakfast on two Wednesdays each month. We begin with a devotion, great conversations, and breakfast! Everyone is welcome and we all pay for our own meals. You may sign up for the ABC breakfast with ABC by using the contact information below or by using the registration sheets found on the table in the narthex. When registering please include names of all people who will be attending. If this is the first time you will be attending, please include a mobile phone number which will be used for text messages. To receive more information contact Pat Walker at 480-717-0131 (cell) or patwalker1950@gmail.com.



SCRIPTURAL GREETING CARDS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall before Bible class this morning. Greeting cards can be purchased singly and by the box. Proceeds from card sales go to support the work of the Ladies Aid.



2023 SCRIPTURAL CALENDARS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall after the first service this morning. These beautiful calendars are \$8.00 each.



2023 COOKIE SERVERS...We need cookie servers for our Sunday morning Fellowship Time. If you're interested, sign the sheet located where the cookies are served.



COOKIE DONATIONS...Our cookie supplies for the Sunday morning Fellowship Time are very low. Bring cookie donations marked 'Fellowship Time' to the church kitchen.



LADIES AID 2023 COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS...Please consider signing up for one of the Ladies Aid committees. The sheet is on the table next to the Altar Flower Binder in the narthex. There are still many blank spaces that need to be filled in 2023.



LADIES AID SERVICE GROUPS...To include correct information in the *2023 Ladies Aid Handbook*, please send any new phone numbers or email addresses to Alice Thiesfeldt at 623-937-2010, ext. 301 or email her at secretary@graceglendale.org.



OFFERING ENVELOPES...New offering envelopes will be delivered by the first Sunday in March. Until then, you may put loose checks in the offering plates with notation on the memo line if it is to be designated to anything other than our General Fund; use blank offering envelopes available in the narthex/south entrance; or any envelope you may have at home. For cash donations please be sure to write your name & envelope number on the outside, with the designated fund.



YOUTH GROUP BOWLING EVENT...All high schoolers are invited to join us for an afternoon of bowling on Sunday, February 5th from 1:00 – 3:30 PM at AMF Peoria Lanes, 8475 W. Olive Avenue. The cost is \$10 per person. Please contact Megan Sullivan at 602-489-9458 or megsully@msn.com if you need more information.



DONATE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE! Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or need help with setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the "Click Here to Donate Online" button. A phone app is also available for donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. *Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.*



FINANCIAL UPDATE: Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$947,507.00** by **6/30/2023**.

Week ending 1/22/2023:

YTD 7/1/2021 through 1/22/2023:

Weekly Need:	16,200.00		YTD Need:	541,900.00
Weekly Actual:	15,135.26		YTD Actual:	505,455.25
Weekly +/-:	-1,064.74		YTD +/-:	-36,444.75