

THE SAVIOR'S SERMON: Lead a holy life



EPIPHANY 6
February 12, 2023

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmyra Avenue
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Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

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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.*
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THE SERVICE: p. 188, Setting 3

OPENING HYMN: #387 – Arise, Your Light Is Come

**Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captive's liberty, Good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's pow'r will make us strong.**

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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.

LORD, HAVE MERCY: p.190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST: p. 191

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Glory to God in the Highest'. It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus

Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to

God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray.

Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; 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: Even the most godly person can be tempted. 2
Samuel 11:1-17, 26-27 ¹In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. ²One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. ⁵The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." ⁶So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. ⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were, and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?" ¹¹Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" ¹²Then David said to him, "Stay

here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³At David’s invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master’s servants; he did not go home. ¹⁴In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵In it he wrote, “Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die.” ¹⁶So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David’s army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died. ²⁶When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

MEN’S CHORUS: (8:00).....O Great God
GRADES 1-4: (10:30).....By Your Great Love

SECOND READING: God wants us to grow in godly living. 1

Thessalonians 4:1-12 ¹As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. ³It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; ⁶and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. ⁷For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. ⁸Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit. ⁹Now about your love for one another

we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. ¹⁰And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, ¹¹and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, ¹²so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

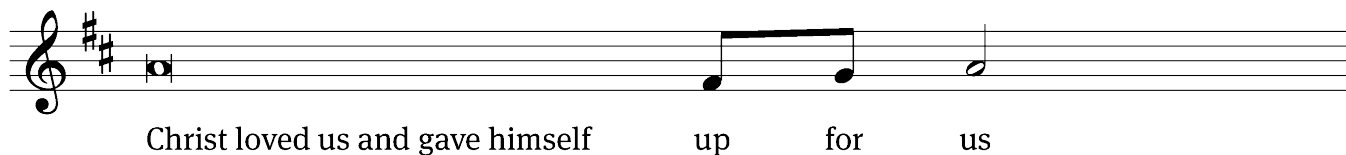
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Ephesians 5:2



Refrain



Tone



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GOSPEL: Jesus wants us to be godly in thoughts, words, and actions. Matthew 5:21-37 ²¹“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ ²²But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell. ²³“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. ²⁵“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. ³¹“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ ³⁴But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. ³⁷All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

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

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #696 – Take My Life and Let It Be

**Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.
ever, only, all for thee.**

Text: Public domain.

SERMON: Matthew 5:21-37

GOD SETS THE STANDARD

1. Conventional Christian standards _____.
2. Jesus' standards _____.

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED: p. 197

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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: #697 – May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

**May we your precepts, Lord, fulfill
and do on earth our Father's will as angels do above;
still walk in Christ, the living way,
with all your children, and obey the law of Christian love.**

**So may we join your name to bless,
your grace adore, your pow'r confess, to flee from sin and
strife.**

**One is our calling, one our name,
the end of all our hopes the same: a glorious crown of life.**

**Spirit of life, of love, and peace,
unite our hearts, our joy increase, your gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give
in Christian fellowship to live, in joyful hope to die.**

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: #835 – Precious Lord, Take My Hand

**Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

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Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 119; 10:30 AM – 153
Communion attendance: 8:00 AM – 105; 10:30 AM – 117
Sunday School attendance: Adults: Hall – 104; Children – 13
Tuesday *The Chosen* Class: 13; Wednesday *Acts* Class: 17
Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Nicholas Lincoln
10:30 AM: John Sullivan & Jerry Rovey
Organist: Michael Wilde

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - **Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM**; Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM
MON - Handbells, 6:15 PM; Choir Practice, 7:00 PM
TUE - Kindergarten Roundup; *The Chosen* Bible class, 2:00 PM; All Meeting Night, 7:00 PM
WED - Kindergarten Roundup; ABC @ Kiss the Cook, 8:30 AM; Public School Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM; *Acts* Bible Class, 7:00 PM
THU - Kindergarten Roundup
FRI - NO School – Valley-wide Teacher In-Service @ Grace
SUN - **COMMUNION Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM**; Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM
MON - **NO** School – Presidents' Day
SUN - Special Voters Meeting @ 11:30 AM on February 26th

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 18th will be captained by Don & Debbie Petersen with Derek & Emily Fraser; Matt, Kris, Rachel, Emma, & Alex Groth; and David Petersen.

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)
Robert Volz – 6510 W Butler Drive, Unit 106, Glendale, AZ 85302-4321
(Encompass Rehab)

DIVINE CALL RETURNED...Our Kindergarten teacher, Miss Michael Wilde, has returned the Divine Call to teach at Crosslife Christian Academy in Pflugerville, TX. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues serving here at Grace.



SCRIPTURAL CONFIRMATION & EASTER CARDS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall before Bible class this morning. Greeting cards can also be purchased singly and by the box.



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.



ABC @ KISS THE COOK, 4915 W Glendale Avenue at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 15th. 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. Sign up for the ABC breakfast 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 cell number which will be used for text messages. For information contact Pat Walker at patwalker1950@gmail.com or (cell) 480-717-0131.



ALA GALA DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS...Would you consider donating an item or service to the Arizona Lutheran Academy April 1st Gala and Auction? If you own a business, you may consider one of our sponsor packages, which includes print and web advertising. Your donation between now and March 10th will support the students at ALA. Get ideas online at ALAcoyotes.org/gala or (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4aabaf22aa8-donation2>).

ALA GALA DONATIONS...Grace Ladies Aid is collecting gift cards to include in the basket that will be donated to the ALA Gala auction. If you would like to donate gift cards, please give them to Shawna Tech no later than Sunday, March 5th.



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 secretary@graceglendale.org or call 623-937-2010, ext. 301.



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.

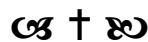


OFFERING ENVELOPES...New offering envelopes will be delivered by the first Sunday in March. Until then, you may put loose checks in the offering plates with notation on the memo line if it is to be designated to anything other than our General Fund; use blank offering envelopes available in the narthex/south 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.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES mark the beginning of Lent. We will celebrate communion in both our Ash Wednesday services at 4:00 & 7:00 PM on Wednesday, **February 22nd**. The Grace Faculty will host Lenten Chili Supper from 5:00-6:30 PM. Proceeds will go to the Tuition Assistance Fund. Suggested supper donation is \$5.00.

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 2/5/2023:

YTD 7/1/2021 through 2/5/2023:

Weekly Need:	19,500.00		YTD Need:	576,400.00
Weekly Actual:	14,952.88		YTD Actual:	532,041.18
Weekly +/-:	-4,547.12		YTD +/-:	-44,358.82



SPECIAL MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

HIS FINAL STEPS

“**HIS FINAL STEPS**” is the theme of our 2023 Lenten Season. The series explores Jesus’ final days before, during, and after his crucifixion using different locations as themes for each Lenten and Holy Week service.

- Ash Wednesday** His Final Steps Led to a Dinner Celebration
February 22, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *John 12:1-11*
- Midweek 2:** “His Final Steps Led to His Father’s House”
March 1, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Matthew 21:12-17*
- Midweek 3:** “His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree”
March 8, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Mark 11:12-14, 20-25*
- Midweek 4:** “His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks”
March 15, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *John 12:20-33*
- Midweek 5:** “His Final Steps Led to His Enemies”
March 22, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Luke 20:9-19*
- Midweek 6:** “His Final Steps Led to a Tomb”
March 29, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *John 11 (selected verses)*
- Palm Sunday:** “His Final Steps Led to a Donkey”
April 2, 2023 - 8:00 & 10:30 AM *Matthew 21:1-11*
- Holy Thursday:** “His Final Steps Led to the Upper Room”
April 6, 2023 – 4:00 & 7:00 PM *Mark 14:12-17*
- Good Friday:** “His Final Steps Led to the Place of the Skull”
April 7, 2023 – 11:00 AM *Luke 23:26-33*
- Tenebrae:** “Shadows of the Cross”
April 7, 2023 – 7:00 PM
- Easter Sunrise:**
April 9, 2023 – 6:00 AM
- Easter Sunday:** “His First Steps Led Outside His Tomb”
April 9, 2023 – 8:00 & 10:30 AM *John 20:11-19*