

EPIPHANY 4

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

IDENTITY

revealed

JESUS CALLS YOU BLESSED



GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

5600 West Palmaire Ave
Glendale, Arizona 85301
tel: 623-937-2010
email: info@graceglendale.org
web: <https://www.graceglendale.org>



WELCOME TO GRACE!

We're glad you're here! May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone. You can follow along with the service using this worship folder or using the screens above the chancel. If you're new here, below is some helpful information about our sanctuary and our worship...

- Please reserve the **BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.
- A **PARENT'S ROOM** with private changing area and restroom is available through the door at the back of the middle aisle. Windows from the room allow you to still watch the service and speakers allow you to hear as well. A volume control is available on the wall by the door.
- Ask an usher to receive an **AUDIO RECEIVER** and **HEADSET** if you need hearing assistance in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall.
- **RESTROOMS** are available in the Narthex. Exit out of the north doors from the Sanctuary and go to the left. They are located in the alcove behind Luther's Seal.
- **LARGE PRINT** bulletins are available. See an usher to receive one.
- Visit our **WEBSITE** at <http://www.graceglendale.org> for additional information about our ministries and upcoming events.

CONTACT US...

Feel free to reach out directly to our office staff via email or telephone. Call 623-937-2010 and use the extension to the right.

Rev. Mark Jacobson	x321
pastorjacobson@graceglendale.org	
Rev. Jasper Sellnow	x303
pastorsellnow@graceglendale.org	
Principal Jasper Sellnow	x303
principal@graceglendale.org	
Office Manager, Debbie Petersen	x322
officemanager@graceglendale.org	
School Office Manager, Monica Assaker	x326
massaker@graceglendale.org	
Church Secretary	
secretary@graceglendale.org	

AT TODAY'S SERVICE...

Preaching Minister: Pastor Sellnow

Liturgist: Pastor Jacobson

Senior ushers: 8:00 AM – Jon Floerke / Bruce Rademacher
10:30 AM – Dean Rovey / AJ McDunn

Organist: Michael Wilde

A/V Team: 8:00 AM – Jon Scheel / Alex Groth
10:30 AM – Sam Jacobson

ABOUT THE THEME

You may not feel blessed when you are hungry or insulted or mourning the death of a loved one. You may not be in the mood to boast when you feel foolish, weak, or lowly. But knowing your difficulties, Jesus still chose you to be his own. He gives you many gifts, and he calls you blessed.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Setting 2 (CW 172)

HYMN: PRAISE THE ALMIGHTY; MY SOUL, ADORE HIM

CW 619

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

CONFESION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

ABSOLUTION

CW 172

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

CW 174

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

CW 176

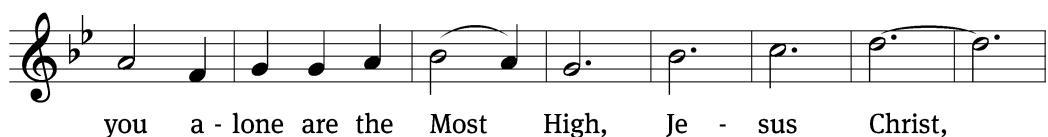
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. Lord God,
heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



You are seat - ed at the



For you a -



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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The Word

SALUTATION

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

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:11–13

The Lord promises that those who trust him will not be put to shame.

³Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,
 you who do what he commands.

Seek righteousness, seek humility;
 perhaps you will be sheltered
 on the day of the LORD's anger.

¹¹On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame
 for all the wrongs you have done to me,
because I will remove from you
 your arrogant boasters.

Never again will you be haughty
 on my holy hill.

¹²But I will leave within you
 the meek and humble.

The remnant of Israel
 will trust in the name of the LORD.

¹³They will do no wrong;
 they will tell no lies.

A deceitful tongue
 will not be found in their mouths.

They will eat and lie down
 and no one will make them afraid.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR (10:30)

"Blessed are You"

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

God changes how we view ourselves by connecting us to Christ Jesus.

²⁶Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

²⁸God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

³¹Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5:3



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Blessed are the poor in spir - it, for theirs is the kingdom of heav - en.

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GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus speaks of blessings that come to all believers.

¹Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ²and he began to teach them.

He said:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: I AM TRUSTING YOU, LORD JESUS

CW 816

SERMON

Matthew 5:1–12

UPSIDE DOWN BLESSINGS

Please stand

NICENE CREED

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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Special Intercessions

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time!
Remember to mark if you are communing.

JUNIOR HANDBELLS (8:00)

"A Joyful Ring"

The Sacrament

Please stand

PREFACE

CW 183

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

CW 184

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
 san - na in the high - - est!

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

CW 186

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

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Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

*In Holy Communion we receive the assurance of forgiveness through the body and blood of our Savior. By sharing in this Sacrament, we also express our complete agreement with one another according to the teachings of the Bible. If you have not joined our fellowship (**Wisconsin Synod**), please permit us to tell you about our Lutheran Christian faith before you partake of this Holy Supper so that you can judge for yourself whether there is complete agreement between us.*

Please stand

THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

PROCLAMATION

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Please be seated

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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LPS SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 15

On Sunday, February 15th, Pastor Tom Moldenhaer will be our guest to preach and share a presentation between services about one of our WELS ministerial education schools: Luther Preparatory School. Grace has sent students to LPS in the past and has students there currently. But whether or not you have a student at LPS it is *your school* – supported by our congregation along with our other ministerial education schools to encourage and equip young people as they consider the full time public ministry of the gospel.



Luther Prep is a high school owned and operated by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Luther Prep's mission is to prepare and encourage young men and women to become pastors, teachers and staff ministers in the WELS.

*Preparing for Ministry.
Preparing for Life.*

See our school in action!



@lutherprepschool

1300 Western Ave, Watertown, WI 53094

920.261.4352 | info@lps.wels.net | lps.wels.net/visitLPS



Grace Groups

Gathering Together Around God's Word

UPSIDE DOWN BLESSINGS

Matthew 5:1–12

“I’m too blessed to be stressed.” In what ways might such a saying be true and how might it not quite say enough?

The Sermon on the Mount is one of Jesus’ most famous teachings in the Gospels. It covers Matthew chapters 5, 6, and 7. Why is it important to know that this was spoken to people who were already believers?

What are the typical ways the world would identify a “blessed” person? How does this contrast with the blessings Jesus describes here?

Agree/Disagree: I am usually focused on the wrong kind of blessings in my life.

Why do you suppose our God delights to turn the ideas of this world upside down as he blesses his people and works out our salvation?
