



January 11, 2026

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
500 South Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980*

*A community of servants sharing in the
word and work of Jesus.*

HOLY COMMUNION
(Based on Bread of Life, Setting V—With One Voice)
Congregational responses are in bold print.

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of the Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card.

We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available.

Please inform Communion Assistant of your need.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

*During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are the parts you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so **as you are able**.*

As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.



Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

We stand.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Father, and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit, one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**



The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*

#311

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

Kyrie



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Hymn of Praise

HYMN OF PRAISE

The Hymn of Praise or another appropriate hymn may be sung.

☺ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I 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, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

II 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.

Continued



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



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
II



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.



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



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Let us pray.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

Baptism
All things have
become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

A reading from Isaiah:

- ¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;
- ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- ⁵ Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:
- ⁶ I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
- ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Continued

⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

We read responsively

¹ LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
² **You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
⁹ **Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
¹¹ **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

¹² The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
¹³ **Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.**

... he will
**SPEAK
PEACE**
to his people,
to his faithful,
to those who
turn to him
in their
HEARTS.



Psalm 85:8, NRSV

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts:

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

We stand.



Gospel Acclamation



Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?



Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children's Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day: "Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized"

#304



Affirmation of Baptism

Confirmation marks the completion of the confirmand's period of instruction in the Christian faith as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Those who have completed this program were made members of the church in Baptism. Confirmation includes a public profession of the faith into which the candidates were baptized, thus underscoring God's action in their Baptism.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Reva, one with us in the Body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism.

Presentation

I present Reva Sloan Franklin who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Reva, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished her in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

A representative of Grace presents the confirmand.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

The confirmand responds:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

The confirmand responds:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

The confirmand responds:

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**



Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant?

God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

The confirmand responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support Reva and pray for her in her life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The confirmand may kneel.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth,
cleanse us from sin and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Reva the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever,
Amen.

Let us rejoice with our sister in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God

And proclaim the good news to all the world.

Confirmation Verse: Joshua 1:9

⁹I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”



Prayers of Intercession

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



Please greet those around you and offer a sign of peace to one another.

We sit.

Meal

Offering

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle. If you give electronically, you can use the QR Code below to make your gift on your cell phone through Tithely. (Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate.)

Offertory

We stand.



Offertory Response:



Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God,

maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time, and our possessions.

**Use us, and when we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,**

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
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.

Sosanna
IN THE
Highest

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only son, so that everyone
who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy
will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.



Invitation to Communion

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.
Thanks be to God.

We sit.

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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Baba Yetu

Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako litukuzwe;
ufalme wako ufike,
utakalo lifanyike
duniani kama mbinguni.
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,
utusamehe makosa yetu,
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.
Usitutie katika kishawishi,
lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.



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

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

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Holy Communion

We sit.

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. We commune at the railing, filling up the rail from the center out. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available on the center table as you come forward, or you may receive the bread and wine from the Pastor and/or Communion Assistants. You may kneel or stand at the railing. The Pastor or assisting minister will announce "the body of Christ" as you receive/eat the bread/wafer, then the Communion Assistant will announce "the blood of Christ" as you receive/drink the wine/grape juice. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Hymn: “Now We Join In Celebration”

#462

Communion Hymn: “Give Me Jesus”

#770

The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.



Sending

Thanksgiving at the Conclusion of a Call

Pastor Paul, on June 17, 2012, we of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church called you to be pastor in this place: to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you [and your family] have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. [As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.]

People of God, members of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, do you release Pastor Paul from service as your pastor?

We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Pastor Paul, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church?

I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Thanksgiving and Sending

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ
you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock.
You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them,
and you call them to various avenues of service.
We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Paul among the people of God in this place.
You watch over our going out and our coming in: bless this time of ending and beginning.
You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:
prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.
Help Pastor Paul and his family and all of us
to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Song: *"Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng!"*

Page 25, Verses 1-4, 7

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng!

1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Yet, on and on - ward still, with hymn and chant and song,

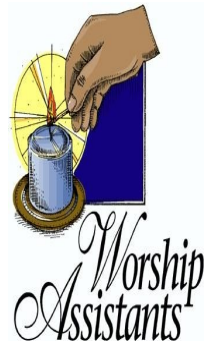
your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
through gate and porch and col - umned aisle the hal - lowed path-ways throng.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Re - joice! Re - joice!

- 5 Still lift your standard high,
still march in firm array,
as pilgrims through the darkness wend
till dawns the golden day. *Refrain*
- 6 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 7 Praise him who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today



Altar Flowers:

Church Council

Altar Guild:

Jim & Gloria Nelson

Assisting Minister:

Ron Almarode

Communion Assistant:

Donna Gum

Council Person of the Week:

Jim Nelson

Offering Stewards:

Pat Brady

David Proctor

Ushers:

Pat Brady

Jerry Kite



Chancel flowers are given this morning by Church Council Members to the glory of God and in honor of Pastor Paul's faithful service to Grace.



Next Sunday's Schedule

Sunday, January 18, 2026

Second Sunday After Epiphany

*Service of Holy Communion
and via You Tube*

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 2:29-42



Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Jane Brown, Friend of Gail Johnson
Roger Clark, Employee of Grace
Rob Cooley, Friend of Gail Johnson
Couch Family, Friends of Sandy Johnson
Nicole Dodge and Family, Friends of Many
Reagan Gordon, Friend of Donna Gum
Steve Matheney, Friend of Gail Johnson
Laura Siwik, Niece of Linda Meyer
Evelyn Wilson, Mother of Charlie Wilson

Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Berenice Archambeault | Liz Ann Binns |
| Beth Brady | Phyllis Kite |
| Ron Knicely | Lee Lynch |
| Vivian Proctor | Bob Shumate |

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)

| | |
|---|---|
| Bishop C. D. Brown , Friend of Grace | David & Judy Drayer , Parents of Peggy Caister |
| Michaela Spellman , Daughter of Alexandra Spellman | Judy Timm , Friend of Donna Gum |

Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks*)

Family of Donna Dodge, Grace Member
Family of Pete Warren, Husband of Amy Warren
Family of Mark Wolf, Son of Carol Wolf

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Ron Knicely (1/13)

Karla Rankin (1/16)

Phyllis Kite (1/16)

Prayers for the World

For the peace of God which passes all understanding in a nation and world in turmoil: as traditional alliances between nations are tested, immigration raids result in death, separation of families and tumult; war and hardship continues in Sudan, Ukraine, Myanmar, Congo, Gaza.

For Racial Equity and Justice in our land, as the National Day for Racial Healing approaches on January 20th.

For the unhoused, those who travel or drive for a living, senior adults and others who are weathering severe winter weather across our nation.

For the nations of Ukraine, Russia, and European and U.S. officials, as they seek an equitable peace after years of war.

For Christians in this world who suffer for their faith: in Nigeria and Somalia, threatened by El-Shabab; in the Sudan, Libya, Yemen and North Korea.

The Church

For the Church throughout the World, to be faithful to Jesus and his Gospel in uncertain times.

For the Christian Coalition of Equity and Justice (CCE&J), as it seeks a new path to continue the work of Racial Justice in our community.

For the 17 congregations that make up the Southern Valley Conference of the Virginia Synod (Lutheran congregations from Lexington to Harrisonburg, Churchville to Waynesboro).

For Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in the New Year as we discern God's mission for us and enter into the process of seeking a new pastor.





Grace Lunch following today's service. Today is Pastor Paul's last Sunday and we plan to have a nice lunch to celebrate his service and retirement. We hope you can join us!



Flowers - Each week we have flowers to remind us of the Resurrection, that God has raised us up, that God has created a very good world for us to live in. The **2026 Flower Chart** has been put up in the Nave. Please consider signing up to provide Altar Flowers for Sunday services. You can either sign up on the flower chart in the Nave or call the church office.



Foundations of Faith—Midwinter Power in the Spirit—This online learning opportunity for all congregations of the Virginia Synod begins evenings, Monday, February 2nd - Wednesday February 4th. The words of II Timothy - *"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline"* form the basis of the event. Study leaders Dr. Bill Franz, Pr. Jessica Darty, Pr. Wanda Childs and Marty Holliday lead us to learn more about how power, love and self-discipline are Foundations of Faith at work in our lives. Other workshops: *Using the Enneagram*, *Spiritual Friendship*, *Youth in the Church*, and others are also a part of the event. Register at www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit, and click on the Brochure and/or Registration buttons. The event is Free! Register by January 30th.



Record of Holy Communion-In order to update our 2026 membership records for Holy Communion for each person communing, please be sure to complete a communion card the first time that you commune for the year. Once you have completed a communion card, you will **NOT** need to complete another one until 2027 as you only need to complete one card for the year.



Food Pantry Collections: A huge thanks to everyone as you continue to bring food for the food bank box near the office. Your donation is much appreciated. To date, we have collected over **5,541** pounds of food (we have made **fifty-seven** deliveries, twenty-seven to Main Street United Methodist, and thirty to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft). **New Notice!!!** There is a need for diapers, especially sizes 3-6. All diapers will be, and have been, delivered to Calvary United Methodist. In addition, 20 pounds of condiments have been delivered to the Bread Basket.

January



Life of Grace Church
January 11-18, 2026

| Day | Date | Time | Event |
|---|-------|--|--|
|  | 01/11 | 10:00 a.m. | Baptism of Our Lord Service of Holy Communion Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding |
| | | 11:15 a.m. | Grace Congregational Luncheon |
| Monday | 01/12 | 7:00 p.m. | All God's Children Meeting (Conference Room) |
| Tuesday | 01/13 | 9:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m. | Quilting (Fellowship Hall) Finance Committee (Conference Room) |
| Wednesday | 01/14 | 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m. | Backpacks Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room) Handbells Choir Practice |
| Thursday | 01/15 | 8:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. | Newcomers Club (Fellowship Hall) Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) Congregational Council (Conference Room) |
| Friday | 01/16 | | Church Office Closed |
| Saturday | 01/17 | 11:00 a.m. | Yoga (Seminar Room) |
|  | 01/18 | 10:00 a.m. | Second Sunday After Epiphany Service of Holy Communion |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | Children's Sunday School Confirmation Class |

**Monday**

Genesis 2:4-9, 16-25
Hebrews 1:1-14
John 1:1-18
Morning Psalm 5, Evening 82

Tuesday

Genesis 3:1-24
Hebrews 2:1-10
John 1:19-28
Morning Psalm 42, Evening 102

Wednesday

Genesis 4:1-16
Hebrews 2:11-18
John 1:35-42
Morning Psalm 89:1-18, Evening 1

Thursday

Genesis 4:17-26
Hebrews 3:1-11
John 1:43-51
Morning Psalm 97, Evening 16

Friday

Genesis 6:1-8
Hebrews 3:12-19
John 2:1-12
Morning Psalm 51, Evening 142

Saturday

Genesis 6:9-22
Hebrews 4:1-13
John 2:13-22
Morning Psalm 104, Evening 118



Grace Church Council

Allison Fink, President (540-448-0985)
Linda Meyer, Vice President (540-256-2277)
Peggy Caister (434-964-7461)
Jacob Dolan (720-883-1636)
Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176)
Susan Myers (434-760-1660)
Jim Nelson (434-826-8923)
Kate Van Bremen (614-746-4792)
Karen Walck (765-480-9920) Donna Yobs (650-248-4882)
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Grace Church Staff

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor
Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com
Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music
Email: mickhdking@aol.com
Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary
Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Office Hours: 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m.,
Monday-Thursday Closed Friday

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