Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024 Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting VI Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor Douglas Shabe, Director of Music Hannah Lee, Organist Kate Radford, Soloist Bob Menzies, Assistant Minister Katherine Johnson, Lector Natalie Russell & Sue Rose, Sunday School

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

John B. Dykes

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

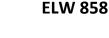
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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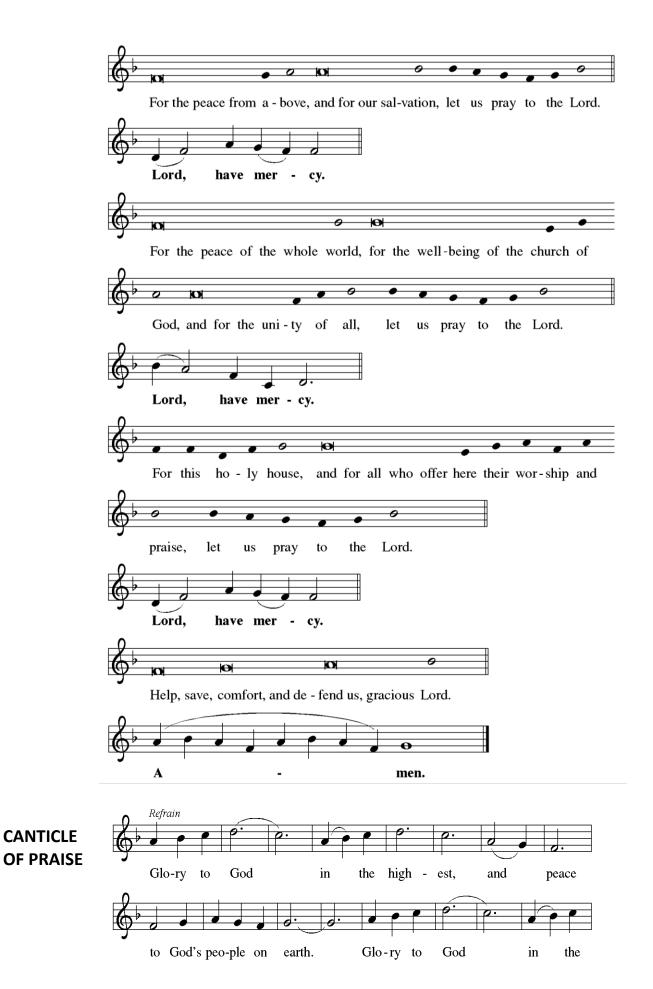
Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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.**











PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

- ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
- ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
- ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c The congregation responds with the bold verses.

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises ¹ to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor [|] God with praise!

²The LORD re-¹ builds Jerusalem, and gathers the ex-¹ iles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the ¹ brokenhearted and binds ¹ up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number | of the stars | and calls them all | by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and might-¹ y in power; there is no limit ¹ to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts [|] up the lowly, but casts the wicked [|] to the ground.

⁷Sing to the Lord ¹ with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp ¹ to our God,

⁸who covers the heav- ¹ ens with clouds

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- $^{|}$ on the mountains.

⁹God provides food ¹ for the cattle and for the young ravens ¹ when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed by the might [|] of a horse,

and has no pleasure in the speed [|] of a runner,

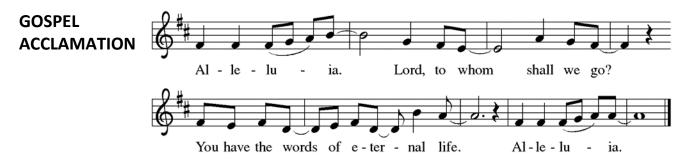
¹¹but finds pleasure in those who ¹ fear the LORD,

in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20cl} Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

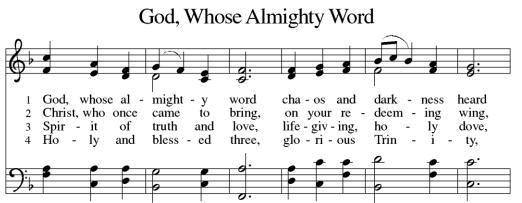
The Gospel of our Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 673





Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.* The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"To Thee O Lord"

- Sergei Rachmaninoff

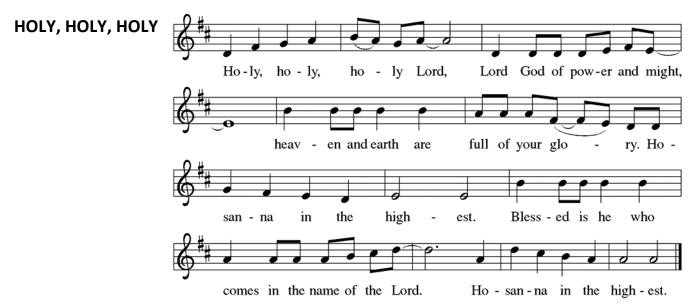
OFFERING PRAYER - All speak the prayer together.

Merciful Father, the magi brought gifts to your Son, the Babe of Bethlehem. Graciously accept our gifts, given to glorify and worship Christ our Savior, and to bring healing and hope to the people he came to redeem. 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.

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,

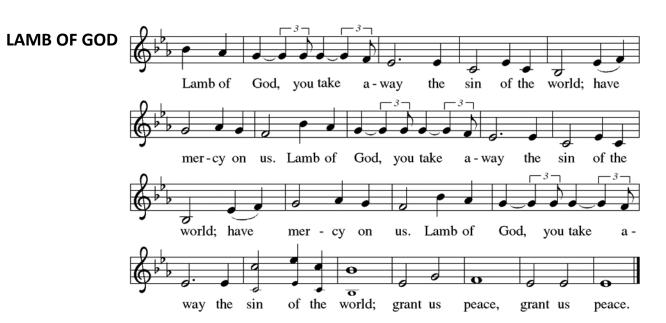
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: **"The body of Christ given for you."** Wine/grape juice: **"The blood of Christ shed for you."**

COMMUNION HYMN

"Let All Things Now Living"

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - All speak the prayer together.

Gracious heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of your dear Son, given to us in this holy Sacrament. Strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Light and our Life. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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ELW 836



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace; Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Oliver Holden

This Sunday's altar flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God.

Calendar This Week			
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service	
Wed 2/7/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel	
Wed 2/7/24	7:00 PM	Bible Study - Virtual & in the Chapel	
Thurs 2/8/24	7:00 PM	Choir Practice	
Sat 2/10/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thanks to all who attended our Annual Congregational Meeting! Here is a listing of the 2024 Congregation Council:

President	David Russell	president@hillavenuegrace.org
Vice President	open	
Secretary	Sandra Rozman	sandirozman22@gmail.com
Treasurer	open	
Community Ministries	Tobe Poehlmann	tap1981@gmail.com
Education	Shirley Gudal	Shirlgudal@gmail.com
Evangelism	Kris Pilon	kfpiloncuatt@gmail.com
Finance	open	
Personnel	Ed Donohue	mynetstuff@pacbell.net
Property Management	Dave Cuatt	mrquat@hotmail.com
Stewardship	Sue Rose	chezroses@gmail.com
Youth & Congregational Life	Irene Amon	ireneamon6@gmail.com
Worship and Music	Bob Menzies	robtmenzies@gmail.com

There are still a few open slots on council, so contact David Russell if you'd like to join the leadership team. Please contact the office if you need a hard-copy of this year's annual report.

The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please contact Angela Jorgensen at foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org.

Mark your calendars:

Wed	2/14/24	Ash Wednesday
Sun	3/24/24	Palm Sunday
Sun	3/31/24	Easter Sunday

Mid-week Lent services will start on February 21st and continue each Wednesday through March 20th. We hope to see you there, either in person or via Zoom!

Have you had training in the Stephen Ministries? Would you like to learn more? Contact the

office or Pastor Garry to find out how you can get involved! Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-toone care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.

A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour. **Training courses will be provided** so you have all the tools you need to bring Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.



Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom! Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshiping together!

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpxcU5RUT09 Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439 Passcode: worship

One tap mobile +16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (Houston)

Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!