

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*President - Mike Cape*  
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*Church Secretary - Lorie Souther*  
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*Accompanist- David West*

## **Today**

*Service Elder - John Wegner*  
*Scripture Reader - Shelby Giroir*  
*Offering Stewards - Lisa Giroir*  
*Altar Guild - Mary Lou & Lorie*

## **Next Sunday**

*Joey Souther*  
*Belinda Thibodaux*  
*Lisa Giroir*  
*Jerrie & Stacie*

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>The Purification of Mary</b> | <b>February 2, 2025</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|

Welcome to God's house! Please allow us to keep in touch with you by signing the register in the foyer/narthex. Thank you!

**Altar Flowers** are placed today to the glory of God by Berta Custodio in memory of her daughter Luz.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is celebrated each week. Those Christians who truly believe that they receive the true body and blood of Christ Jesus our Savior, in, with and under the bread and wine are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper.

The Apostle Paul's words in Corinthians 11:27-29 set forth, "*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.*"

If you are concerned about having a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper, we urge you to speak with pastor. Questions and answers that may aid your understanding of and preparation for Holy Communion are on pages 329-330 in the pew hymnal.

**Non-alcoholic wine** is white and located in the center of the individual cup trays for those who cannot tolerate alcohol.

# Divine Service

Setting One

Lutheran Service Book, Page 151

## Pre-Service Music

### Introit

*Psalm 48:1-3, 8; antiphon: v. 9*

Pastor: We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,

**People: in the midst of your temple.**

Pastor: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised

**People: in the city of our God!**

Pastor: His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,

**People: Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.**

Pastor: Within her citadels

**People: God has made himself known as a fortress.**

Pastor: As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts in the city of our God,

**People: which God will establish forever.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**People: and to the Holy Spirit;**

Pastor: as it was in the beginning,

**People: is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,

**People: in the midst of your temple.**

## Collect of The Day

**Almighty and ever-living God, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, grant that we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***This is the House of God.***

***Let us be thoughtful and reverent.***

***Before the Service, speak to the Lord.***

***During the Service, let the Lord speak to you.***

***After the Service, speak to one another.***

1. Opening Hymn # 519
2. Confession and Absolution p 151
3. Introit Bulletin
4. Kyrie p 152
5. This is the Feast p.155
6. Salutation p 156
7. Collect of the Day Bulletin
8. Old Testament Bulletin
9. Epistle Reading Bulletin
10. Alleluia Verse p 156
11. Glory to you, O... p 157
12. Holy Gospel Bulletin
13. Praise to you, O... p 157
14. The Nicene Creed p 158
15. The Word for Children
16. Sermon Hymn # 615
17. Sermon
18. Meditation
19. Prayer of the Church p.159  
Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord;  
**People: Lord, have mercy.**
20. Offertory\* #955
21. Preface p 160
22. Holy, Holy, Holy... p 161
23. Prayer of Thanksgiving p 161
24. The Words of Our Lord p 162
25. The Lord's Prayer p 162
26. Pax Domini p 163
27. Agnus Dei p 163
28. Communion Hymn # 529  
Communion Hymn # 712
29. Thank the Lord p 164
30. Post Communion Collect p 166
31. Benediction p 166
32. Closing Hymn # 719

## Postlude

\*Offering boxes are on each side of the doors exiting the sanctuary.

## Old Testament

### 1 Samuel 1:21–28

<sup>21</sup>The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. <sup>22</sup>But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the Lord and dwell there forever.” <sup>23</sup>Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the Lord establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. <sup>24</sup>And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young. <sup>25</sup>Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. <sup>26</sup>And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. <sup>27</sup>For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.”

And he worshiped the Lord there.

## Epistle

### Hebrews 2:14–18

<sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

## Gospel

### Luke 2:22–32

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation  
<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

## The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord

Even as a helpless babe, Jesus was our Savior, who came to fulfill the Law in our place. Through His blood shed on the cross, we are purified from our sin so we can have eternal life.

### ***What does the Law say about purification?***

It is written in Leviticus 2 [2–5] that if a woman bears a male child, she shall remain at home six weeks until she is purified. She shall touch no holy thing, and shall not come to the sanctuary; but if she bears a female child, she shall remain at home twelve weeks.

### ***What do we find in this Law?***

Two things that seem to us almost unfitting: First, a new mother was regarded as unclean even though marriage is God's work and the infant that is born is God's pleasing creation. Second, she was to offer five shekels in silver for a lamb, a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons, in exchange for the firstborn. But setting aside the Jews for a moment, it used to be held in the church that new mothers were not members of the church, but were cut off at that time and in the power of the devil. This led to the abominable superstition of sprinkling water and salt, burning candles and incense, and making many signs of the cross on doors and windows so that Satan would not be able to gain entrance. . .

### ***Why did God give this commandment to the Jews?***

For three reasons: first, that they might be mindful of how He struck down all the firstborn in their exodus from Egypt, both men and animals. Second, that the priests and Levites might have their living from it, since they had no inheritance in the land. Third, that he might remind us of the true Firstborn, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the firstborn of all, in whose blood we are cleansed and sanctified.

### ***Did this law apply to Christ, too?***

No, Christ is Lord of every law. He served us with it, that He might satisfy the Law. As St. Paul says, Christ was not subject to the Law; thus Christ stood in our place and fulfilled the Law on our behalf (Gal. 4 [4–5]).

### ***Has the Law been abolished, then?***

With respect to justification the Law has been abolished. This is why St. Paul says, "You are not under the Law but under grace" [Rom. 6:14], so that by grace and through the merits of Christ you have forgiveness of sins, righteousness, and blessedness. But as far as the obedience of faith is concerned, we are required to do what is becoming of Christians and children of God.

Devotional reading is from The Christian Year of Grace, pages 394–95 © 2014 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

## **BUILDING SECURITY & STEWARDSHIP**

**If you're among the last to leave the church building at any time, please be sure *all* doors are locked *and* closed completely. Also, please make sure all thermostats are returned to vacant-building settings.**

## This Week at Grace

|                  |            |  |
|------------------|------------|--|
| <b>Today</b>     | 9:00 a.m.  | <b>Worship<br/>Coffee &amp; Youth Biscuits</b> |
|                  | 10:45 a.m. | <b>Sunday School for all ages</b>              |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 6:00 p.m.  | <b>Bible Study</b>                             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Bible Study</b>                             |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 4:30 p.m.  | <b>Confirmation</b>                            |
|                  | 6:00 p.m.  | <b>Potluck Fellowship</b>                      |
|                  | 6:45 p.m.  | <b>Prayer &amp; Praise</b>                     |

## **For the week February 2-8, 2025**

### **Birthdays**

**02/02 William Williams**

**02/03 Lorie Moreau-LaPlume**

**02/04 Darin Crawford**

**02/06 Zaylee Dinger**

### **Baptismal Anniversaries**

**02/05 Kaitlyn Moore**

**02/08 Dave Akins**

**Derek Crawford02**

## **In the palm of God's Hands...**

**PRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS:** Elijah Thalheim, Ike McDavitt, Rana DaSilva and Richard Hauser.

**BATTLING CANCER:** Annick George Matherne, Eldon Authement, Helen Duplantis, Isla Granger, Jenny Ford, Lance Griffin, Laura Robson and Michael Hamilton.

**RECOVERING FROM SURGERY/INJURY:** Brigitte Kinsella, Donna Elke, Jacqui Kaplan and Kim Cape.

**CHRONIC CONDITIONS & ELDERLY:** Connie Oswalt, DeAnn Barrios,

Elaine Waswick, Ellen DeSoto, Frank Alessio, Gloria Ashley, Jackie Webb, James Hillman, Jaxon Greene, Joe Deane, John Wegner, Lyle Souther, Marilyn Beach, Mary Jane Schouest, Mike Wallace, Patsy Wegner, Rhonda Roan, Richard LaCour and Toni St. Amant.

**MOURNING A LOSS:** The families of Betty Melancon, Rev. David Green and Sue Ackett.

**NEW & EXPECTING MOTHERS:** Allyssa Andrews & Owen.

**SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES & THEIR FAMILY:**

Avery St. Amant, Chandler Crawford, Haily Crawford, Haize Shroyer, Jason Reid-O'neill, Julia Shroyer, Justin Scherf, Katie Cahill, Kyle Turcott, Lei'Lyn Hebert, Noah Scheufens and Todd Mueller.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS:** Alyssah Kinsella, Donovan Domangue, Gabbie Corbitt, Hannah Norman, Jacob Harding, Nicholas Scott, Peyton Kraus, Shelby Giroir and Victoria Thalheim.

