



Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’” Luke 4:23

Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

February 2, 2025

The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

## Sunday Service – February 2, 2025

*How can we pray for you? Let us know in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!*

*We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in **\*BOLD\*** with us from your homes!*

*10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts*

**10:30 – Live Prelude Starts**      *Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us* arr. by Lau

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship –**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, God’s steadfast love endures forever.

**O give thanks to the God of gods, for God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for God’s steadfast love endures forever.

**O give thanks to the God of heaven, for God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

**Opening Hymn #2 “Come, Thou Almighty King”**

**Call to Confession –**

Enlightened by the grace of God, we know that we and the world struggle with the power of sin to cloud our vision and lay claim to our hearts. Through the voice of ancient prophets and God’s Son, we are called to contend with the power of sin in our lives by coming before our Lord confessing our sin. Let us be united with one another and all who long for health and peace as we confess our sin and ask for God’s forgiveness for all.

**Prayer of Confession –**

**God of the prophets, God of our Lord Jesus Christ: you alone know the content of our hearts and the desires that distance us from your holy and gracious purposes. You alone know the thoughts and beliefs that have power to plant rebellion and doubt in our souls. With understanding of the human condition, you have spoken truth and righteousness to us in the voice of the prophets, our Lord Jesus Christ and ordinary people who care about us. We confess that we often choose to be deaf to your voice and become angry when you call us to live in your grace. We**

refuse to believe that you have love for all people. We seek to silence the words that bring life and peace. God of truth and righteousness, hear our prayer and free us from the power of sin. Create in us new and right spirits who welcome your voice.

*Time for silent confession*

### **Assurance of Pardon —**

Hear the good news of the Gospel. God's love for us is everlasting. Because God is faithful, nothing in all creation including the worst of our thoughts and deeds has power to separate us from our merciful God. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Song of Assurance #581 "Gloria Patri"**

### **Passing the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you!**

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

### **Children's Message**

### **Time for Music & Meditation**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Let us Pray: God of salvation: you have inspired the words of scripture for the healing of the human soul. By the Holy Spirit, you speak across the centuries the message for this moment. Prepare our hearts and minds to hear your voice in these words of scripture and inspire our thoughts and meditations with healing and peace. **Amen.**

4 The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew[a] you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

6 “Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

7 But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. 8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

9 Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. 10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**Choir Anthem**

*Lord, When I Came into This Life*

#691

**Gospel Reading — Luke 4:20-31**

p.1596

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

23 Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

24 “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

28 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. 30 But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

31 Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people.

Sermon

*Difficult Blessings*

### **Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Response #372 “O for a World”

### **Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God. We will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread, and blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

### **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 truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image, setting us in this world to love and to serve you, and to live in peace with your whole creation. When we rebelled against you refusing to trust and obey you, you did not reject us, but still claimed us as your own. You sent prophets to call us back to your way. Then in the fullness of time, out of your great love for the world, you sent your only Son to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

### **556 Holy, Holy, Holy**

You are holy, O God of Majesty, and blessed in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

full of grace and truth. He lived as one of us, knowing joy and sorrow. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, opened blind eyes, broke bread with outcasts and sinners, and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and needy. Dying on the cross, he gave himself for the life of the world. Rising from the grave, he won victory over death. Seated at your right hand, he leads us to eternal life. We praise you that Christ now reigns with you in glory, and will come again to make all things new.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith.

### **557 “Christ has died, Christ is Risen”**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ’s body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

### **Intercessions Here**

In union with your church in heaven and on earth, we pray, O God, that you will fulfill your eternal purpose in us and in all the world. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

### 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

### Communion of the People

The gifts of God for the people of God

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Those who come to me will never be hungry. Those who believe in me will never be thirsty.”

Jesus said, “I am the vine and you are the branches. Abide in me”

### Prayer

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament you have given us your Son who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life. So



strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Call to Offering**

As our Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us around the table of grace to share a sacred meal for our souls, our Lord calls us to share nourishment for body and soul with the world through the giving of what we have and who we are. With thankful hearts, let us present our offerings to the Lord.

### **Offertory**

*A Friend Indeed* arr. by Osman

**Doxology #606** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

### **Prayer of Dedication –**

Let us pray. God of every nation: Your love knows no limits. You long to gather your people into one family of faith in Christ. Led to share your longing, we offer our love, good will and treasures for your gracious purposes. Receive our offering and fill them with your love for the world. We pray in Christ. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

**Closing Hymn #69** “Here I Am Lord”

### **Charge and Benediction**

### **Postlude**

*Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* - arr. by Thygerson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Session Meets After Service:**

**Souper Bowl of Giving:** Grace's annual soup collection event is once again upon us. Bring in cans to vote on your predictions for this year's Super Bowl champions. We will take a final count/collection on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Grace Furnace - Thanks to Everyone Involved:** Our heating issues for the sanctuary have been solved. Thanks to everyone involved and for those who were inconvenienced. Special thanks the Tim Current and Current Mechanical.

**Educational Wing Refab Project Update:** Painting has started! Thanks to those who have volunteered. We will likely need additional help. Carpet removal of the fellowship hall will begin soon. Keep your eyes open for more details to come.

**Our Elevator is Now Operational:** The elevator is now in working order. Please feel free to use it. Thanks to everyone involved in getting it running again.

**Grace's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Save the Date:** Plans are underway to celebrate Grace's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. More information to come.

**2025 Lenten Bible Study - Save the Date:** Grace will be hosting a Lenten Bible study March 12 through April 16. There is a sign up in the narthex. The study will focus on following Jesus in uncertain times. More information on times and food to come. If you'd like us to order you a book (\$7.43) please indicate that on the sign up by February 16. Holly Bouthot is the contact for this event.

**You Can Still Join the Grace's Prayer Team:** If you missed out on the opportunity to join the prayer team in 2024, you can still be part of the gang. Reach out to Tammy if you are interested.

**Custodial Assistance for February:** Tim will be away for the month of February, and we need help keeping our church facilities clean! If you are able to assist with tasks such as dusting, vacuuming, mopping, and cleaning the bathrooms, please reach out to the office or contact Cindy Bowers to be added to the schedule. Your help will ensure our church continues to shine during this time!

### Birthdays

Courtney Lehman - February 4

JoAnn Getts - February 7

### Anniversaries

## ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.

### **Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting**

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

### **Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting**

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on “Join” and enter this information:

***Meeting ID:*** 9712063468      ***Password:*** 030414

### **Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)**

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

***Phone Number:*** (301) 715-8592 ***Meeting ID:*** 9712063468      ***Password:*** 030414

## 2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy  
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,  
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred  
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:  
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.  
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.  
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;  
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,  
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.  
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

# O for a World

372

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987  
 MUSIC: Carl Gottlieb Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839  
 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

AZMON  
 CM

# 69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

## Here I Am, Lord

*Leader or All*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

*All*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

TEXT: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981, alt.  
 MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011  
 Text and Music © 1981, 2000 OCP

HERE I AM (Schutte)  
 7.7.7.4.D with refrain