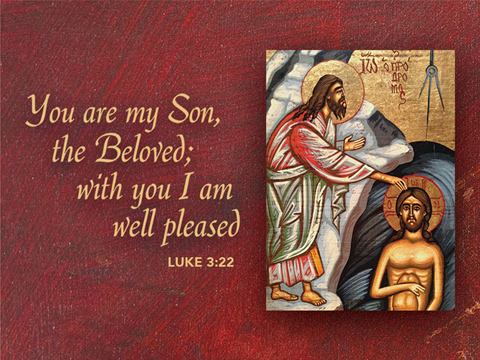
**Grace Lutheran Church**

493 Forest Avenue, Glen Ellyn IL 630.469.1555

[www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org)

**Baptism of Our Lord January 9, 2022**

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***+ Proclaim Christ + Build Community +***

***+ Serve Our Neighbors +***

**Introduction**

*Today’s festival rejoices in God’s blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God’s children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we “pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire.” On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God’s Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

**Gathering**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Entrance Hymn** ELW #448 This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now

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**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**

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Word**

**God speaks to us in scripture reading.**

**First Reading Isaiah 43:1-7**

*Near the end of Israel’s exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

1But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. 2When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. 3For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. 4Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. 5Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 6I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— 7everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 29**

1Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
2**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God’s name;** **worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**  
3The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.  
4**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;** **the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**   
5The voice of the Lord breaks thecedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
6**the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,** **and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**  
7The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.  
8**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;** **the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**   
9The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, “Glory!”  
10**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;** **the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**  
11O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

**Second Reading**  **Acts 8:14-17**

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

14Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit 16(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). 17Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn of Praise**  ELW #885 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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The holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

*The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God’s beloved Son.*

15As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”  
  21Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

### The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon** The Rev. Melody Eastman

**Hymn of the Day** ELW #450 I Bind unto Myself Today

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**Prayers of Intercession**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God’s sight. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need especially Dorothy, Rich, Dolores, Carol Norma, and those we name before you now. . . God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**Peace**

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

*Please share the peace with others in your household, or by making a sign of peace to those on Zoom.*

**Meal**

**God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

**Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.

Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world,

in the name of Christ our light. **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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:

**Sanctus**

Timeline

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**Thanksgiving at the Table**

. . . 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. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*You may hold up your (unopened) communion kit as you are able.*

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

*You may lower your communion kit.*

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**The 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**

Come to God’s table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

**Agnus Dei**

Graphical user interface, application, table, Excel

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*Peel up the clear top seal over the wafer, and hold the wafer up when you are ready.*

This is the Body of Christ, given for you. *(Eat the bread.)* **Amen.**

*Peel up the second foil seal over the juice, and hold your cup up when you are ready.*

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you. *(Drink the wine/juice.)* **Amen.**

**Post-Communion Blessing**

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

**Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

**God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

**Blessing**

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, **☩** bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn** ELW #595 Jesus Loves Me!

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**Sent to the World**

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*After the service you may unmute your mics and share a greeting with your fellow worshippers.*

From Sundays and Seasons

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**Assisting in Worship Today**

Minister of Music Bradford Thompson

Zoom Mark Hamilton, Jon & Cathy Milleville

**Current Prayer Requests**

**Name Relationship Prayer For**

Howard Bruning Member 94th Birthday (1/15)

Rich Davison Member Healing & Strength

Dorothy Tracy Member Healing & Strength

Kris Diesness Friend of Eastmans Healing & Strength

Frank Granata Friend of Barbara Sudds Healing & Strength

**Prayers for our homebound Members**

Dolores Nosal, Carol Petersen, Norma Petersen

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We have received an updated set of recommendations from our synod office regarding best practices for worship in light of the latest increases in COVID transmission in our synod. Pastor Melody and council president Jon Milleville reviewed these recommendations and have decided on the following actions:

* **January 9 and January 16 will be remote only, via Zoom**. We will not break up into groups but have everyone call in to the main Zoom link which is available every week.**Note this is a new link:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89031586315**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89031586315)

**Dial In: 1 312 626 6799   
Meeting ID: 890 3158 6315**

* *You can download/print the bulletin, or view on another device by going to Grace's website and click on Quick Link to Worship.*
* **We are in need your offerings to Grace. Please mail them to the church, have your bank mail them to the church, or go to our website,** [**www.GraceGlenEllyn.org**](http://www.GraceGlenEllyn.org)**, to make your contribution.**

Thank you so much for your understanding, patience, and faithfulness!

**Conversation with Council:** All are welcome to join Grace Council members for a conversation on **Sunday, January 16th** following the church service. This will be on Zoom using the same link as the church service that day. We will provide an overview of 2021 church finances and the 2022 budget that we will be voting to approve at the congregational meeting on Sunday, January 30th. We will also have a question/answer session to address any questions you may have. We may have an in person conversation session on Sunday, January 23rd if we are back in person by then.

**AND**

**Congregational Meeting:** We will have our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, January 30th**. We will be voting to approve the 2022 budget and also to elect new council members. We will need to have a quorum of 50 members attending in order to hold these votes so I ask for your help by attending this important meeting. The council has decided that this meeting will be held on Zoom since we have a number of members who are not able to attend in person at this time. We will use the same Zoom link as the church service that day.

Jon Milleville, Grace Council President

**Contribution Envelopes for 2022:** Are in the narthex. Please stop by anytime the building is open and pick yours up. Thank you.

**Pledge Cards:** Of the 115 pledge cards mailed to our member families, only 41 have been returned to date. That’s less than half! Grace families, certainly we can do better than that! Please return your card to the church office asap. Thank you.

**Monday Night Bible Study Group:** Starting on **Monday, January 3, at 7:00pm**, the Monday Night Bible Study group will study the **Gospel of Luke using the Kerygma Bible Study 13-session course**.  We chose this Gospel because it is the prime focus of the readings in the current liturgical year which began with Advent. We will provide both an in-person study opportunity in the Great Room and the possibility of connecting from wherever you are via Zoom.  The Monday night group has become cohesive over the years, sharing treats and conversation as well as our Bible study.  Still, there is always room for more, and we will make you feel welcome.  Kindly contact Mark Hamilton or Vince Hardt if you have not participated in the current series so that we may order a study guide for you.

**Bell Choir rehearsal Wednesdays at 7pm!** Come join us for an hour of fun, super low-pressure music-making! Not free on Wednesday evenings? You’re still welcome to join us on Sunday mornings at 8:40! Don’t know how to read music; we can work on that, too! No matter your skill level, there’s room for you!  Get excited, my friends! The fun starts now **:)**

**Go out to eat with Grace Gives*:* This month, we will kick off *Grace Gives* at Buona Beef in Glen Ellyn on Wednesday, January 12. All day all orders placed with the flyer found on the narthex table will earn a % back in fundraising profits. If you would like, dine in at Buona Beef with Grace friends from 6-7pm.** We will rotate which Ministry is supported every quarter. Take your order to go or eat on site, just be sure to bring your flyer with you that night!

**Soup for the Soul:** How does a warm pot of soup sound? The Social Committee would love to bless your household with a pot of soup! Well, not exactly a pot of soup that is already made, BUT we have already prepared the dry ingredients for this recipe for you. All you need to do is add water and drop it all into a pot and cook. Follow the instructions and enjoy!

**Split Pea or Chicken Noodle Soup (just broth and noodles, no actual chicken)**

Please let us know, **by January 23**, if your household would like a soup kit, which flavor soup kit, and if you would like it delivered to your porch or if you would prefer to pick yours up at Grace. Please contact the church office or email bficarella@graceglenellyn.org with your soup reservation. We will plan to porch deliver these late January/early February!

**Congregational Meeting:** Mark your calendars and plan to attend Grace’s Annual Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 30**. Watch for more information in E-Blasts and announcements.

**Quilting Ministry:** This ministry meets on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 9:00-10:00am**. Even if you can’t sew but are able to cut fabric into a 9” square we need you! We have 10+ bins of fabric waiting to be cut. After quilting you are invited to stay and attend the chair exercise class at 10:00am and if you like to knit hats, scarves, and gloves you can join the Wooly Knitters at 1pm! Everyone is welcome, bring a friend!

**The History of the Chicago Auto Show 1901-2021:** Saturday, January 15 at 2:00pm, the Glen Ellyn Historical Society welcomes Mitch Frumkin, Chicago Auto show Historian and Archivist, as he presents The History of the Chicago Auto Show 1901-2021. The program is scheduled at the Glen Ellyn History Center, 800 N. Main Street.  First staged in 1901, learn about the early beginnings of the largest auto show in North America through a blend of vintage photographs, color film footage, period music and voices from more than 100 editions of the Chicago Auto Show.  Refreshments. $5 Admission. Tickets sold at door on the day of program.

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**Every Member a Minister and Missionary!**

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