

January 22nd, 2012

The Third Sunday after Epiphany



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD
308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
512-237-2108

Pastor Timothy Appel



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: “How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.”

In our readings today: When “*the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time,*” sending him to preach judgment against the great city of Nineveh, “*Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord*” (Jonah 3:3). By this preaching, the people were brought to repentance. Because they “*believed God,*” as He spoke to them through His prophet, “*they turned from their evil way*” and were spared “*the disaster that He had said He would do to them*” (Jonah 3:5, 10). St. Paul also warns that “*the appointed time has grown very short*” (1 Cor. 7:29). Therefore, while we live in this world and deal with it, we are not to cling to it, nor put our trust in it, for “*the present form of this world is passing away*” (1 Cor. 7:31). Rather, give “*your undivided devotion to the Lord*” (1 Cor. 7:35). When our Lord Jesus Christ comes and is proclaimed in the Gospel, “*the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand*” (Mark 1:14–15). Therefore, He still calls men and sends them to become “*fishers of men*” with the net of that Gospel (Mark 1:17).

Requests, please give written requests to be included during our “Prayers of the Church” to an usher or an elder before worship service.

Hearing, Ask an usher for one of the wireless hearing assistance units.

Attendance Registration cards are located in the Hymnal racks of each pew. We ask all members and our guests to complete one and pass it to the center aisles. An usher will collect them after the offering is taken to the altar. The cards are important as they enable our secretary to track members’ attendance as well as guests interested in joining our church. Thank you for your help.

A Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen

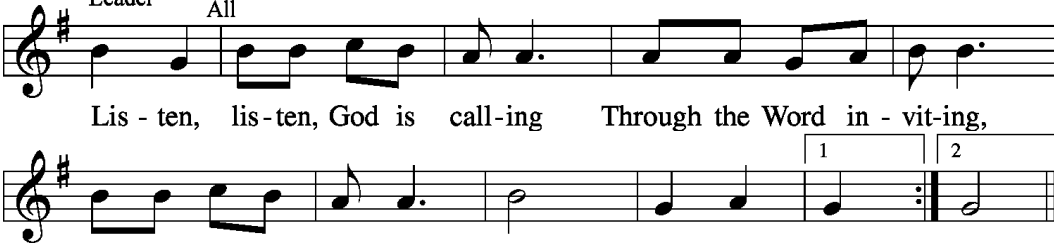
PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

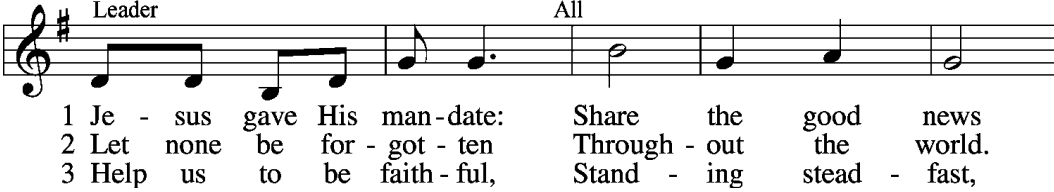
WELCOME

Leader All




Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing Through the Word in - vit - ing,
Of - fer - ing for - give - ness, Com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All



1 Je - sus gave His man - date: Share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten Through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, Stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All Refrain



That He came to save us — And set us free.
In the tri - une name of God Go and bap - tize.
Walk - ing in Your pre - cepts, — Led by Your Word.

Stand

Invocation (*God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.*)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Confession: (*We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.*)

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit: (*Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.*)
Ps. 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; antiphon: Ps. 113:3

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!

**Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD!**

Blessèd be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore!

**The LORD is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens!**

He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
**to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!

Gloria Patri



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

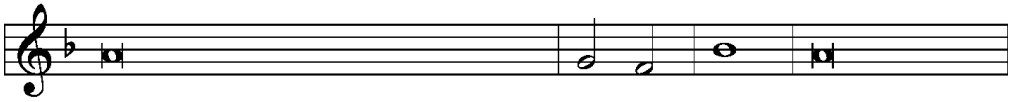
Kyrie: (Shortened form of the Greek “Kyrie eleison,” meaning “Lord, have mercy.” In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.) LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

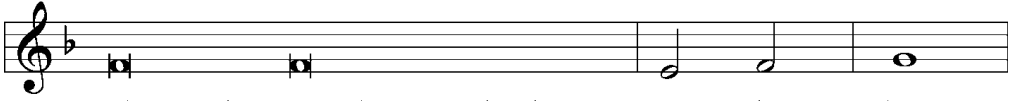
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Salutation: *(The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.)*



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir-it.

Collect: *(Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They "collect" the Gospel theme for the day.)*



P Let us pray.

P Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A-men.

Sit

Scripture Readings: (*Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.*)

Old Testament Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Epistle

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Creed: *(God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)*

Apostles' Creed

C 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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \dagger everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day: *(This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)*

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - jice.
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Sermon "Following Behind Jesus"

Mark 1:17

(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Offertory: *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.)* LSB 192



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sharing of the Peace

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Sit

Offering: *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness by bringing Him the first fruits of what He has given.)*

Stand

Prayer of the Church: *(The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.)*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

Close of the Prayers

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer: (*We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.*)

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Sit

In Holy Conversation

LSB 772, Tune: LSB 644

- 1 In holy conversation
We speak to God in prayer,
And at His invitation
Our deepest thoughts we share.
We come, His will obeying,
As children bringing needs;
And to support our praying,
His Spirit intercedes.
- 2 These holy conversations
Begin in childlike ways;
We bring our supplications
And words of thanks and praise.
With care our Father listens
To ev'ry thought expressed,
Then answers our petitions
In ways He knows are best.
- 3 As holy conversation,
In silence or by word,
In ev'ry situation
Through Jesus, we are heard.
So let us pray securely,
Expressing hopes and fears
With confidence that surely
Our Father ever hears.

Stand

Collect for the Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

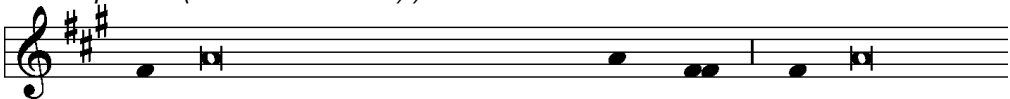


A Bless we the Lord.

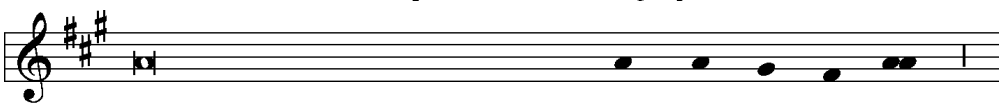


C Thanks be to God.

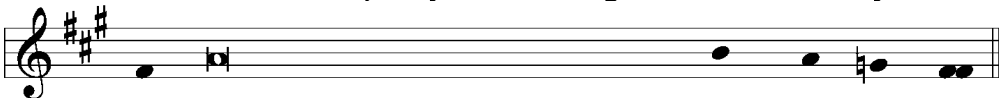
Benediction: *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)*



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Silent Prayer After Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL
POSTLUDE



Installation of
Rev. William August Qualman

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & Preschool, 800 North Franklin St., La Grange, TX cordially invites you to join them for the installation service today, **January 22, 2012 at 3:00pm**

FESTIVAL SERVICE WITH THE RITE OF INSTALLATION

Rev. John Schmidt-Installing Pastor

Rev. Donald G. Little-Preacher

Rev. Dr. LaVerne J. Fitch-Liturgist

Rev. Michael Newman-Lector

Installation Reception-Immediately following

January 22nd, 2011

The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.

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Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957

Office Phone: 512-360-2800

Fax Number: 512-237-5990

Email: gracelutheranlearn@att.net

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Jan. Elders: Jim Duty
James Landon

Organist(s): June Parker
Esther Wolff (Sub)

Jan. Altar Guild: Nelda Rohde
Wendy Rohde

Readers: **Jan. 22** **James Sanders**
 Jan. 29 **John Stelling**

Acolytes: **Jan. 22** **Harlye Bonorden & Dusty Randle**
 Jan. 29 **Kaylee Claiborne & Brody Bennight**

VISIT WITH PASTOR

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, his home phone is: 512-237-9664, his email address is: timothyappel@gmail.com, or contact the Office at 512-237-2108. Pastor Appel is normally in the office between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, Mon thru Thurs. He will be available in the afternoons as well, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits. If unable to reach Pastor, please contact your Elder (Elders list on bulletin board outside of Office).

SERMONS ONLINE

Grace Lutheran Church now has the ability to record the worship services through our audio system. Each week's sermon is now being placed online; go to www.glcs.org and follow the link on the front page to listen to Pastor Appel's sermons. This is a great resource if you miss a service, want to hear a sermon again, or help witness to a friend. If you would like a CD copy of the sermon or the entire service for yourself or to give to someone else, please let the church office know.

NEWSLETTER/BULLETINS



Also online: we now have the newsletter as well as our bulletin in PDF format for your viewing. Go to www.glcs.org and click on "Newsletter/bulletins" and then click on the PDF file to access.

DARE TO READ LIKE A LUTHERAN

Concordia Publishing House is providing us with a wonderful opportunity to save some money on some great books about what we believe as Lutherans. A poster has been placed in the narthex for more information. If you would like to purchase any of these books (*Lutheran Book of Prayer*, *Luther's Small Catechism*, *Reading the Psalms with Luther*, *Lutheran Service Book*, *The Lutheran Difference*, *Law and Gospel*, *Treasury of Daily Prayer*, *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, *The Lutheran Study Bible*), please sign up under the poster in the narthex. You can give your payment to the church office by Sunday, March 11, and we will submit one order together as a congregation. If you would like more information on any of the books before you purchase them, please see Pastor Appel. Don't miss this great opportunity to get these books while they are on sale and at the same time learn more about what we believe, teach, and confess!

GLLC CHAPEL INVITATION

Pastor Appel leads chapel for the children at the Learning Center every **Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM**. Even though the time is geared toward teaching the children about what Jesus has done for them, everyone is invited. Please join us for this short chapel service as you are able. This is a wonderful opportunity to show the children at GLLC that they are an important part of our community. Young and old—we are all children of God!



Lutheran Witness subscriptions have increased to \$12.00 a year. Please make checks payable to: Grace Lutheran Church

LARGE PRINT LUTHERAN WITNESS IS NOW AVAILABLE, please let the Office know if you need this size.

JOHN 3:16 CARDS

The Board of Evangelism would like to announce that John 3:16 cards are available through the church office. These cards were introduced to us during our Equipping to Share conference. They are a great way to share the good news of salvation through Jesus with a friend by placing their name into the Gospel message given in John 3:16. The other side of the card has Grace's contact information as well as Bible study and worship times. If you would like some of these cards as a way to share the Gospel with others in your life, please contact the church office.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In Sunday School today students learned the story "Jesus Calls Matthew." We sinners rejoice, for we, too, have been called from our own pigsty of sin to dine with Jesus around His table, and to be a friend of the friend of sinners. Consider discussing, "How did Jesus call Matthew to be one of His followers? How and why does Jesus call us to follow Him?"

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST



If you are missed in our prayer list, or if there are changes (addition, deletions or corrections) to our prayer list, please let us know. **On the first of the month we will be updating names**, so if you wish to add names, or continue to leave names on the list, please call the church office (237-2108) or write a note on the back of the attendance card.

In the Nursing Home:

Charlene Franke (sister of Ann Schroeder), **Dorothy** Heptner, **Teresa** Slusher, **Dora** Wehmeyer, **Bertha** McGinnis, **Thelma** Bunte

Long Term Health Concerns

Lawrence Goertz (Nancy Young's uncle), **Reggie** Cheak, **Alex** Metzler

Battling Cancer:

Melissa Wellman (friend of the Langer's), **Nikki** Rivera(4 yrs. old) & **Luke** Rivera (2nd grader)-friends of Kim Kunz, **Chris** Gould, **Shirley** Wilhelm (friend of Rose Pietsch), **Keith** Whatley (friend of Jim Sanders), **Mary** Knippa (Charles Knippa's mother), **Sharon** Reyna (Brenda Sander's friend), **Bob** Larson (Alvie's son-in-law), **Barbara** Geller (friend of the Langer's), **Patt** Langer, **Joe** Navarro (friend of Allan Riddle), **Patricia** Landon (James Landon's mother), **Pete** Luna (3rd grader with brain tumor), **Lula** Jones, **Jewel** Stark (friend of GLC) and **Tommy** Prochaska.

Recent Health

Deanna Niesner, **Garrette** Hoffman, **Antone & Marie** Delesandre (Rod

Concerns: Langer's cousins), **Holly** Supak (daughter of Smithville's Chief of Police), **Bill** Herbrick (Nancy Fritsche's brother) **Thomas** Kinsey (in-law of Dorothy Heptner), **Ken** Long, (Barbara Pauley's brother), **Eugene** Randle, **Leland** Prove, **Harvey** Franke (Ann Schroeder's cousin), **Joyce** Aplin (Brenda Sander's Sister), **Bobbie** Aplin (Brenda Sander's Mother), **Kenny** Wood (Sandy Kadlecek's father), **Richard** Bennatt (friend of the Langer's), **Easton** Earp (friend of Juanita Bertsch), **Charley** Rae Furr (friend of Donna Zimmerhanel), **Evelyn** Tinberg (Alvie's sister-in-law), **Bernice** Behrend, , **Floyd** Meeks, **Alton** Voight (father of Carolyn Riddle), **Martha** Rasor, **Will** Gordon (Robin Nitsche's brother), **Joe** Reyna (husband of one of our GLLC teachers), **Christopher** Harms (friend of the Metzlers), **Sandra** St.John (co-worker of Chrissy Becker), **Bill** Moberg (friend of M.W. Kasper).

In the Military: **James** Staton (grandson of Ed & Marilyn Randle), **Dusty** Organ & **Daniel** McIntyre (friends of James Staton), **Steven** Guedry (friend of Millie Fritz), **Ryan** Teague, **Richard** Gamboa, **David** Bienek, **Beck** Williams Helmcamp (George Helmcamp's grandson).

Other Prayer Requests: **Judy** Murphy (friend of Rose Pietsch), **Nicholas** Harwell, **Mark & Margie** Peres, The **Wolff** family and the **Smithville Volunteer Fire Dept.**

In Mourning:

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Jan. 22</u>	<u>Mon. Jan. 23</u>	<u>Tues. Jan. 24</u>	<u>Wed. Jan. 25</u>
8:45a Bible Class 10a Worship	8a Braille 6p Piecemakers 6:30p Brd of Ed	7p Evangelism	10a GLLC Chapel Regular Mid Week (see schedule below)
<u>Thurs. Jan. 26</u>	<u>Fri. Jan. 27</u>	<u>Sat. Jan. 28</u>	<u>Sun. Jan. 29</u>
	Pastor Away-Family Day		8:45a Bible Class 10a Worship BAPTISM OF BENJAMIN CARL APPEL

MIDWEEK MEALS

We are in need of **volunteers** to cook for midweek meals again during 2012. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board next to the office in the Narthex. Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to sign-up to provide a simple meal for the children and adults who gather each week to learn more about Jesus through Bible study. Thank you to everyone who provides this labor of love!

***MID WEEK SCHEDULE**

5:45p Mid Week Meal
6:30p Mid Week Bible Class – All ages
7:30 – 8:30p Jr. High & High School Youth
Sunday Worship (1/15) 160 Sunday School (1/15) 49



Martha Rasor is undergoing treatment at:
 Warm Springs
 Attn: Martha Rasor, Room #105
 200 Memorial Dr.
 Luling, TX 78648-3213

All cards and letters can be directed to Martha at this facility for the next two weeks.

FINANCIALS – as of January 15th, 2011

	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
General	6,302.50	8,116.00	3,450.00		
Sun School	39.00	34.50	33.00		
Lutheran Witness	48.00	36.00	24.00		
GLLC donation	335.00	300.00	50.00		
Poinsettias	20.00	8.00			
New Van	515.00	100.00			
Organ	10.00	25.00			
Bldg. Maint	45.00				
Memorial	27,000.00				
Edna Randle Mem.		20.00			
Footprints		38.00			
Fire Victims		130.50			
TOTAL	36,964.50	8,808.00	3,557.00		



Greetings Grace members! We are starting a new year. And what better way to do so than to start greeting our own folks and visitors at the door. Yes, I know. It has been done before but died. What a shame. Research indicates that initially the top two components that seem to bring people back for a second visit is 1) the effectiveness of the pastor, 2) the friendliness of the people. Research also indicates that when members greet members it makes for a closer church; breaking the ice, putting names with faces, etc. Do you know every one by name in our church? I don't. So join with me and sign up to be a greeter. It is an easy way to serve and only takes about 20-30 minutes Sunday morning. The more we get the less you will get to do it; unless you just want to hog it! We will probably have a meeting before we get started. See me, **Jim Sanders**, or sign up in the Narthex. Now, don't make me come after you!

IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE TO FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Every so often, we at Grace Lutheran Church have the opportunity to provide the service of providing meals to one of our fellow members who has recently come home from the hospital or has another situation that makes it difficult for them to prepare every meal. While it may seem like a simple or trivial thing to do, such service is truly God-pleasing because He himself has given it for us to do. In the 5th Commandment, we learn God has given us the holy task to "help and support [our neighbors] in every physical need." Jesus Christ has freed us from our self-centered sinfulness to live in such service, not because any good works save us, but because the love that Christ has showed us simply overflows into such good works. That's what we see in Matthew 25:31-40. Those whom the Lord has made righteous by faith, his sheep, are surprised when he tells them that they served him in so many ways. Jesus says to them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Service to others is simply what Christ's sheep do. Because they have already been made holy by his death and resurrection, they serve others, in such simple ways as feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, and visiting the sick. Though these tasks look simple and often go unnoticed by the world around us, they do not go unnoticed by our Lord Jesus Christ. Though it may seem that there are more "holy" things that you could do, nothing is more holy than what God has given. That's why Martin Luther says in his Large Catechism, "Know, however, that these works, commanded by God's Word, are the true, holy, and divine works in which he rejoices with all the angels." Please consider helping with this important and worthwhile service to your fellow members of the Body of Christ here at Grace. If you are interested in doing so, please talk to **Mary Ann Duty**, our hospitality coordinator, or let the church office know so that you can be contacted when such a need arises.



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & School Invites you to their 50th anniversary celebration on **January 29, 2012** with Special Worship at 9:00am. Celebration to continue at the La Grange VFW Hall at the Fayette County Fairgrounds with fellowship and music, an anniversary program at 11:30am and a banquet at noon. No charge, free will offering accepted at the door. For res. Call 979-968-3938.



**Emergency Fire
Relief**

Gift cards in the amount of \$250.00 are still available. Please let anyone you know who needs assistance that they can come into the Office and fill out an application. Applications will be taken until the end of January 2012.



Worship Service – 9:00am
10:30am – Music by Oak Wilt Boys
12 noon – Potluck Meal and Fellowship
(Bring your favorite dish to share at the potluck meal)

ST. MICHAEL'S/Winchester

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

January 29th. 2012

MATINS

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Divine Service Setting 3

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Epistle Reading: I Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28