

Grace Presbyterian Church

January 12, 2025

9:30 am

WELCOME and VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people
of all ages, race, ethnicities,
genders, sexual orientations, beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

**Our vision is to be
a community of love and purpose,
each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**



Baptism of our Lord

Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship (Psalm 29:1-4)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;

worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders,

the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful;

the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

*Hymn # 634 "To God be the Glory"

Call to Confession

Humbly we approach God, knowing our failings and trusting God's love and promise of forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Creator of the universe,

we stand amazed at your power and glory.

We are eager to worship you and offer our praise,

but we are often reluctant to answer

when we hear you calling our name.

**We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary,
but shy away from the river,
lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit.
Forgive us when we forget your promise
to be with us always, O God.
Renew us with the power of your ever-present
love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice
throughout the world. Amen.**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance

Hear the words of our creator,
spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
"I have called you by name.
You are mine. Do not fear,
for I have redeemed you."

~ posted on the Ministry Matters website by Laura Jaquith Bartlett.

Hymn #155 "Raise a Song of Gladness"
(remain seated and sing 2X)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

**God our Parent,
your voice claims us as your people
and calls us into new relationships
with ourselves and others.
By your Holy Spirit, help us hear your voice
speaking to us
through these words of scripture,**

**and prepare us for your service,
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

-Submitted by Rev. Nathan Williams, Echo Hill Presbyterian Church, IA

Reading the Prophet Isaiah 43:1-7

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading the Gospel of Luke 3:15-17,21-23

SERMON

*Hymn #408 "There is a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

We offer our gifts in recognition that we are baptized people, transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. So, we will hold nothing back but will share our lives, our hearts, our energies, as well as our efforts, in ministry to the world around us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and ministry of our church in offering plates during worship and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

We Are Sent

*Hymn #688 "Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart"

*Charge and Benediction

May the path
that Christ walks
to bring justice
upon the earth,
to bring light
to those who sit
in darkness,
to bring out those
who live in bondage,
to bring new things
to all creation:

may this path
run through our life.
May we be
the road Christ takes.

~ written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on The Painted Prayerbook.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

****Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.***

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