

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, Greeley, CO

www.greeleylutheran.org

4th Sunday after Epiphany– February 1, 2026 – 8:30 A.M.

We rejoice in your presence with us today at this service of Holy Communion.

Please silence cell phones during worship.

ELW = red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP hymnal

Hymn numbers (#) refer to the main hymn section

*The congregation's response is printed in **BOLD type***

** = Please stand at your discretion*

Introduction: Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

GATHERING

PRELUDE
WELCOME

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

arr. by Mary McDonald

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✠ Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

*HYMN

“Build a Longer Table”

ACS #1052 (lyrics on screen)

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray. Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Jim Wickland

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15 (*read responsively with leader*) [NEW LIVING translation]

Danaé Rosso

¹ O LORD, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

² **Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right
and speak the truth from their heart;**

³ who do not slander with their tongue
and do no evil to their friends
nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

⁴ **in whose eyes the wicked are despised**

**but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

⁵ who do not lend money at interest
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

*GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Response after the announcement: “Glory to you, O Lord!”

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Response after the reading: “Praise to you, O Christ!”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

“Hold Fast to Jesus’ Promises”

Pastor Deb Abbott

Silence for reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

ELW #710

*APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS *(each petition concludes:)*

... Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Prayers for healing and strength for: Bob Smith, Jonna Christensen, Judy Wiedeman, Steve Grimes, JoAnn Mitchell, Kathy Dannatt, Patricia Albrandt

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE” MOMENT

NOISY OFFERING

MEAL

*OFFERING / PRAYER

God of majesty,

**no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*You may text your
offerings to
833-931-1874 or through
this link. Thanks for your
generosity.*



***THE 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.**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Communion is open to all who receive it as the presence of Christ. Come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles. For those who wish, white grape juice is available in the center cups. Gluten-free wafers are available by mentioning your preference to the pastor or server. Adults and children who are not communing may come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC: "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

ELW #726

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

ELW #712

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

SENDING

***BLESSING (response: "Amen!")**

***SENDING HYMN**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW #705

***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL (response: "Thanks be to God!")**

***POSTLUDE**

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for complimentary coffee and cookies following worship.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall between services.

Assisting in worship

Pastor: Rev. Deb Abbott

Music Director: Cody Thomas

Projection: Holden Packard

Video production: Joshua Matthews

Communion assistants: Jim Wickland, Cindy Ververs, Michelle Weymouth,

Larry Raimer

Ushers: Cindy Ververs, Rosemary Loper

Altar Guild: Susan Vilfroy, Linda Carey

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Scripture readings next Sunday: Isaiah 58:1-9a, Psalm 112: 1-9, 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, Matthew 5:13-20

"People connecting people with Jesus and each other."