



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

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Sunday, February 7, 2021 * 9 AM * ONLINE

Those who hope in the Lord renew their strength,
they put out wings like eagles,
they run and do not grow weary

Isaiah 40: 31



Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON – *The time after the Epiphany signifies how the Christ among us impacts our life and world. Mark's Gospel details the inauguration of Christ's ministry and mission, and what it means for those who encounter Jesus. We will focus on meeting Christ (for the first time, or again), what it means, and how we can, let our light so shine before others, so they will see and share the good works of God among all people.*

TODAY'S THEME - *God strengthens the powerless, rendering void all forces that diminish human life, and following Jesus, we are also given power to strengthen the powerless.*

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP FROM HOME.

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.

Announcements are televised or found on our website

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.

We hope all people find it easy to follow along.

GOD GATHERS US

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

O God Our Help in Ages Past

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 147)

P Let us celebrate God's grace!

ALL **It is awesome to sing praises to our God.**

P God rebuilds and renews! God heals the brokenhearted and binds all wounds.

ALL **Praise! Sing praise to our God.**

P God counts each star and calls them each by name.

ALL **Praise! Sing praise to our God!**

P How great is our God – whose power is absolute and understanding beyond comprehension.

ALL **Praise to you O God.**

P God lifts the lowly and weary. Casts down the wicked. God provides for all and tends the earth.

ALL **Praise the living God.**

P We will praise your holy and righteous name all our days in all our ways.

ALL **We give thanks with our whole heart and honor you alone O God. Amen.**

OPENING SONG

“Arise, Your Light has Come”

ELW 314 vs. 1, 2, 4

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL And also with you.

P Let us pray..... Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P Come and See! God is the way of peace and wholeness.
May the peace of the Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:21-31 *(Living Bible)*

INTRODUCTION - The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

²¹ Are you so ignorant? Are you so deaf to the words of God—the words given before the world began? Have you never heard nor understood? ²² It is God who sits above the circle of the earth. (The people below must seem to God like grasshoppers!) For God is the one who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and makes his tent from them. ²³ God dooms the great and powerful of the world and brings them all to naught. ²⁴ They hardly get started, barely take root, when God blows on them and their work withers, and the wind carries them off like straw.

²⁵ “With whom will you compare me? Who is my equal?” asks the Holy One.

²⁶ Look up into the heavens! Who created all these stars? As a shepherd leads his sheep,^[a] calling each by its pet name, and counts them to see that none are lost or strayed, so God does with stars and planets!

²⁷ O Jacob, O Israel, how can you say that the Lord doesn't see your troubles and isn't being fair? ²⁸ Don't you yet understand? Don't you know by now that the everlasting God, the Creator of the farthest parts of the earth, never grows faint or weary? No one can fathom the depths of his understanding. ²⁹ God gives power to the tired and worn out, and strength to the weak. ³⁰ Even the youth shall be exhausted, and the young people will all give up. ³¹ But they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

R Word of God; Word of Life.

All Thanks be to God.

What is Pastor cooking up today?

“Counting Stars and Sheep”



THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. Mark.

Mark 1:29-39

ALL *Alleluia.* Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,* and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. *Alleluia!*

INTRODUCTION - Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to You O Christ.

MESSAGE FOR ALL

"Weariness and Wings"

Pastor Dawn Roucka

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What has knocked you for a loop in your life? Really disrupted where you are headed? Plain tuckered you out?
- What do our texts tell us about finding strength and balance?
- How do you make space for filling your empty tank? What brings you joy and healing? And how can you invest getting what you need today??

“On Eagle’s Wings”

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
 who abide in this shadow for life,
 say to the Lord: "My refuge,
 my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
 bear you on the breath of dawn,
 make you to shine like the sun,
 and hold you in the palm of his hand.

- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
 and famine will bring you no fear;
 under God's wings your refuge,
 with faithfulness your shield. *Final refrain*

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
 bear you on the breath of dawn,
 make you to shine like the sun,
 and hold you in the palm of his hand;
 and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957

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RESPONDING TO GOD’S GOODNESS**Affirmation: Walk and Not Faint**

(based on Isaiah 40: 28-31)

**This we have come to know,
 this is what we have heard:
 the Eternal is an everlasting God,
 creator of heaven and earth,
 who does not grow weary or faint;
 whose wisdom is unsearchable,
 giving energy to the meek
 and strength to those who have none.**

**Even youths shall faint and grow weary,
 young athletes shall fall exhausted;
 but those who love the Lord Jesus
 and patiently put their trust in God,
 shall renew their strength;
 they shall soar with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not weary,
 they shall walk and not faint.**

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P Through Jesus Christ, God has shown us what it means to love and calls us to follow his example – to love our neighbors as ourselves and continues to write the law of love on our hearts. We thank you for all your gifts that serve as generous and unwavering passion for justice and show a tenacious faith where all the hungry are fed, the oppressed find relief and the outsider finds welcome.



PLEASE CONSIDER IN THIS TIME OF NEED, TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH, IF POSSIBLE, AND SUPPORT OTHERS AS WELL BY BEING AS GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENTS AND YOUR VARIOUS TREASURES.

You may mail offerings to Grace at 5N600 N. Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175 or send through your bank or online; there is also a DONATE on our website or a plate by the entryway.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

ALL Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online.
Please let us know your prayer needs.*

Please respond accordingly

P Let us pray,

All Have mercy O God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional)

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.

(Modern)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen

GOD SENDS US

BENEDICTION

P May you run and not be weary.
May you rise up on the wings of eagles.
May you know without doubt that the everlasting God – Father, Son + and Holy Spirit - goes with
you now and always!

ALL Amen.

CLOSING SONG

“O God our Help in Ages Past”

ELW 632

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, Be the Light of Christ.

ALL Thanks be to God. Amen.

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSONS

February 7, 2021

Traditionally, there are four readings weekly. We usually focus on 2 but often refer to the others so it may be helpful to have them at your fingertips. The lectionary is a three year cycle which gets us through hearing MUCH not all of the Bible, but not always in order.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31 SEE ABOVE IN BULLETIN

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c SEE Call to Worship ABOVE IN BULLETIN

The LORD heals the brokenhearted. (Ps. 147:3)

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!

²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem, and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the | brokenhearted and binds | up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars**

and calls them all | by their names. R

⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power; there is no limit | to God's wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly, but casts the wicked | to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp | to our God,

⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds**

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains. R

⁹God provides food | for the cattle and for the young ravens | when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,**

and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,

in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} | Hallelujah! **R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Mark 1:29-39 *Jesus the healer and wholeness maker* - See ABOVE BULLETIN

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 24, 2020

ZOOM FELLOWSHIP WILL CONTINUE WEEKLY **AT 10 AM** on Sundays following our online worship services. Join our Grace family for sharing news, prayers information and more. Don't miss out! Check your eblast for details.



Annual Meeting Minutes are available soon at Grace and Online

REAL NEWS TO USE DURING THESE TIMES

VISIT OUR Website www.graceoflilylake.com FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES
Check out our updated website. **Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services**

And our FACEBOOK PAGE or Youtube page for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

<https://youtube.com/graceoflilylake.com>

630-365-6751



January 17, 2021

THOSE TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- For the healing of the divisions in our Nation and the quelling of fascism and white supremacy.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- * For God's Spirit to guide Pastor Dawn, Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- * As we plan to meet regarding the future of our congregation at our Annual Meeting

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- * Glenn Adams, son of Mark and Renee Adams * Lucy Adams
 - * Adam Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren * William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- (If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

- * The continued support of our members * For all members of healthcare around the world
- * For those serving as first responders and in the military * For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT

Margaret Swanson

FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

For George and Gloria and their family, at the death of George's sister, Linda Donna, upon her husband Joe's death. We grieve with her.

*Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers.
Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.*

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GRACE'S MISSION IS

To share God's GRACE with all through our rich traditions of faith, family, and community.

Gospel – God's love shared in all we say & do

Respect for all God's people & creation

Action – response to the Gospel

Community – Loving God, neighbor, & self

Everyone – we are all God's children