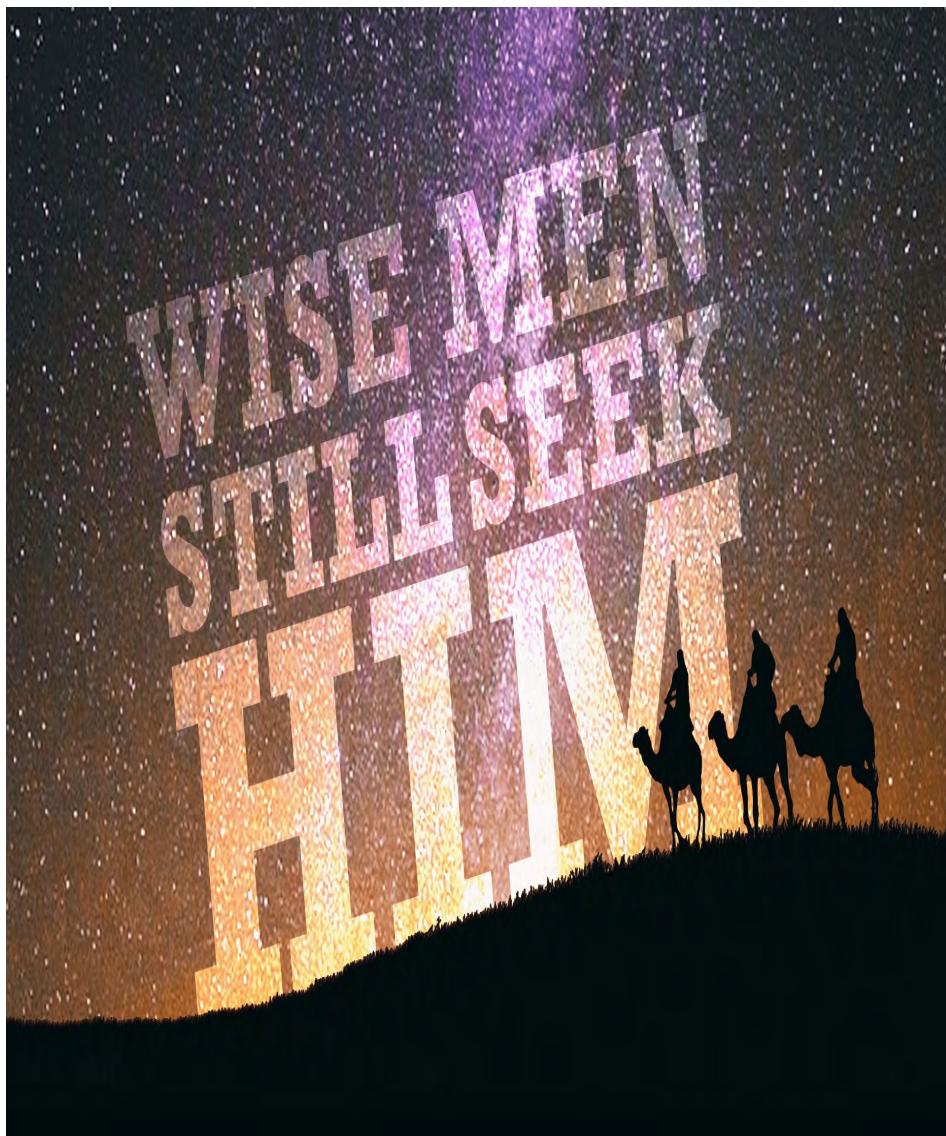




Welcome to  
Grace Lutheran Church  
January 4th, 2026  
Founded 1924



~Preservice Music: *“What a Beautiful Name”*  
*“King of Kings”*

~Welcome and Announcements

~Prayers of the Day

*~In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.~*

~Prayer of Invitation:

*People of God, arise, shine, for your light has come! The light of Christ has come into the world. Immanuel. God with us. So arise, shine, for your light has come! And we will follow the light when it shines brightly in the night sky when it glows dimly on the horizon. We will follow the light when it leads down familiar paths to expected destinations when the road is unfamiliar and the star rests above a dubious-looking home. We will lift up our eyes and look around. And when we see the Christ child, may our hearts be overwhelmed with joy. When we are in the presence of Immanuel, may our knees bend in worship. When our journey brings us, finally, to the heart of God, may our hands open in generous sharing; may our mouths open in generous praise.*

~Hymn of Praise: *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

### **~Confession of Sins:**

*O God of light and peace, whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem, still draws the nations to yourself: dispel the darkness that shrouds our path, that we may come to kneel before Christ in true worship, offer him our hearts and souls, and return from his presence to live as he has taught His Glory. Amen.*

### **~Absolution:**

**P:** *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

**C:** *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

**P:** *Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.*

**C:** *We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.*

**P:** *To us a child is born, to us a Son is given and the government will be on his shoulders.*

**C:** *And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

### **~Readings:**

*Ephesians 3: 1-2*

*Matthew 2: 1-12*

**~Prayer:** *Dear Jesus, as You led the Three Kings to You by the light of a star, please draw us even closer to You by the light of Faith. Help us to desire You as ardently as they did.*

*Give us the grace to overcome all the obstacles that keep us far from You. May we, like them, have something to give You when we appear before You. Amen.*

~**Hymn of Praise:** “*Mary’s Little Boy Child*”

~**Sermon**

~**The Nicene Creed**

~**Offering**

~**Prayer:**

*ALL: O Glorious, holy, almighty God, you always have compassion for the many wanderings of humanity. For this reason, you guided the Magi, who lived in a land of dark superstition, to your sacred cradle by the light of a star, that you might enlighten all with the desire of knowing you.*

*Enlighten us also with burning love for you, that we who already know you by the gracious illumination of Your Word, may cling to you forever. Amen.*

~**The Lord’s Prayer**

~**Communion**

~**Prayer:**

*-Let the just rejoice, for their Justifier is born.*

- Let the sick and infirm rejoice, for their Savior is born.*
- Let the captives rejoice, for their Redeemer is born.*
- Let slaves rejoice, for their Master is born.*
- Let free men rejoice, for their Liberator is born.*
- Let all Christians rejoice, for Jesus Christ is born.*

~Hymn of Praise: *“We Have A Savior”*  
*“We Three Kings”*

~Prayer:

*O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star! O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light! O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel! O come, let us worship the Lord, for God has done wondrous things! Amen.*

~Benediction

~Closing Hymn of Praise:

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

## **Pray for Our Families**

The families of Grace that we will keep in our prayers this week are: **Rich & Susan Thompson**

**John & Mary Thompson**

**Jim & Nancy Tingley**

Remember to keep our **Grace Family** and the **CLC** in your daily prayers. Pray for This Week's Ministry:

**Altar Guild**

## **Happenings This Week**

**January 5th -** Firm Foundations 3:30pm

**January 6th -** Firm Foundations 3:30pm

**January 7th -** Firm Foundations 3:30pm

Deep Roots 5pm

**Deacon's Meeting 6pm**

**January 8th -** **Women's Bible Study 10:30am**

Firm Foundations 3:30pm

Grace out Loud 5:30pm

## **January Service Schedule**

**Reader:** Laura Keesler

**Prayers:** Michele Evers

**January Altar Guild:** Stacia Roggenbaum

Laura Keesler

**January Counters:** Jim & Stacia Roggenbaum

If you would like anything placed into the weekly bulletin, please turn it into the office by the Wednesday of each week.  
Thank You!

Jeremiah 29:11 tells us, "for I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." No matter what your goals are at the beginning of the year - more physical strength, emotional health, or financial stability, the power of prayer can help you achieve your goals as you seek God's plan for your life!

As we say goodbye to this year and welcome the new one, let's do it with a thankful heart. Let's start the new year with peace and faith. We should let go of any hard feelings or frustrations from the past year. Take this opportunity of new beginnings to say sorry to those we've hurt or to extend forgiveness to others. Remember, God loves us and wants the best for us. Let's enter the new year, ready to live the life He wants for us!

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
10am-2pm.

**December 28th, 2025 Attendance and Giving:**

**Attendance:** 54

**Recycling:**

**Giving:** \$53,057.00

**Destinations:** \$23.34



## Holy Communion

We believe that Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, is a Sacrament of God, instituted by Christ Himself, giving and sealing the gift of forgiveness to those who believe and follow Him.

To help you to decide if you would like to join your brothers and sisters at the Communion table, ask yourself the following questions:

- 1.) Have I been baptized with water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?
- 2.) Do I believe the Good News of Jesus' victory over sin and death on the cross for me?
- 3.) Do I recognize the Body and Blood of Christ in and with the bread and wine of Communion given for me for the forgiveness of sins?

If you said 'yes' to each of these questions and desire Holy Communion, the Lord welcomes you to His Holy Supper.

79 Mechanic St.  
814-362-3244

Interim Pastor Barry J. Keurulainen  
(724)996-2160 - cell

Community Life Center  
814-362-1236

Visit us at: [www.agraceplace.org](http://www.agraceplace.org)  
Email: [glmoffice@agraceplace.org](mailto:glmoffice@agraceplace.org)