

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024



First Sunday after
Epiphany

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

TODAY'S FOCUS: During the Epiphany season we want to get to know Jesus. This Sunday we get to know him by baptism, both his and ours. But the glory is evident only to a chosen few; notice, too, that the greater the glory, the more hidden its manifestation—the glory of our life with Christ is by faith, not by sight.

MORNING PRAYER: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT— CW, p.26

The "Service of Word and Sacrament" is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.



OPENING HYMN:

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY

*****Please Stand for The Last Verse*****

#16



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -



es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on
vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings.
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also, with you.

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

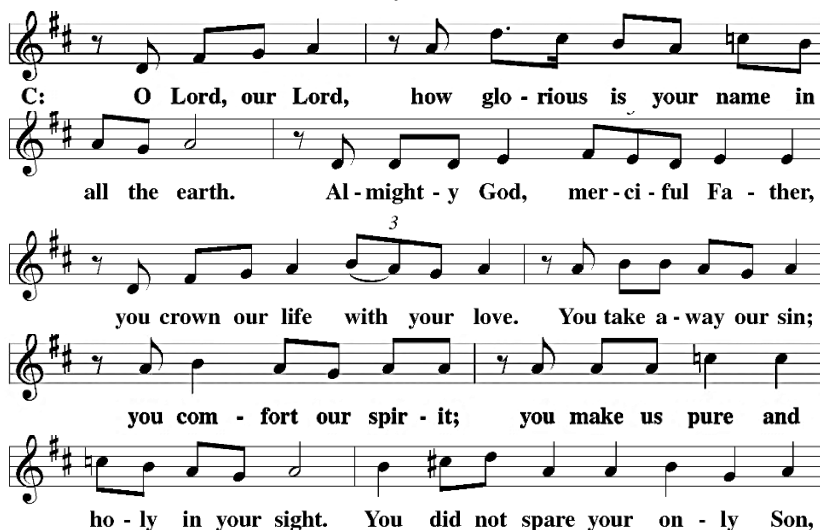


Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise. (*Psalms 145:3*)

O LORD, OUR LORD



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.
 O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

ISAIAH 49: 1 – 6

On the surface the ministry that Jesus began at his baptism appears to be an exercise in futility. But just as the Father said at his baptism, God was well pleased with his Son. That work therefore would be blessed richly, even though few realize or see it.

Listen to me, you coastlands. Pay attention, you faraway peoples! The Lord called me from the womb. When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name. He made my mouth like a

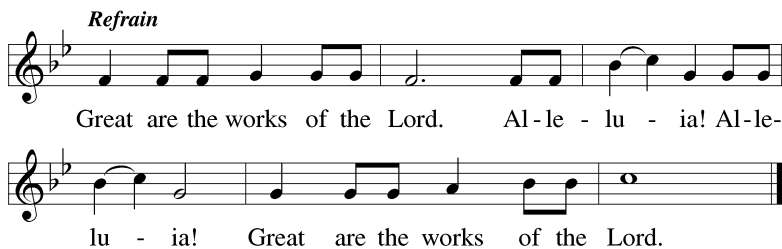
sharpened sword. He hid me in the shadow of his hand. He made me a polished arrow. He concealed me in his quiver. He said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory."

But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain. I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing. Yet a just verdict for me rests with the Lord, and my reward is with my God."

But now the Lord, who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to turn Jacob back to him, so that Israel might be gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the eyes of the Lord, because my God has been my strength—the Lord said: It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant to raise up only the tribes of Jacob and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel, so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 2



Refrain

Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.

Refrain

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,*
"I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*

and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

ACTS 16: 25 – 34

God showed his power in the earthquake. But that display of power created only dread and terror in the heart of the jailor. It was the glory embedded in the gospel, the hidden power of the gospel in Word and sacrament, that brought the jailor life and joy in the forgiveness of his sins.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Instantly all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted with a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his home. At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds. Without delay, he and all his family were baptized. Then he brought Paul and Silas into his house and set food before them. He rejoiced, because he and his whole household had come to believe in God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11b)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

****Please Stand****

GOSPEL

MARK 1: 4 – 11

It's almost a secret that Jesus was baptized; it appears that no one was there to witness it except for John. But what an amazing announcement! As the lowliest of the low baptized the highest of the high, the Trinity showed itself; the Spirit covered and filled the lowly human nature of the Son, and the Father attested to his favor in all that the Son is and is about to do. But it was all a secret except to John and now to us, to whom God reveals it in his Word and in our baptism.

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He preached, "One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you."



HYMN OF THE DAY:

#89

TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came
 5 The Fa - ther's word, the Spir - it's flight A -



Christ, whom heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The
 Son of God in flesh dis - guised— To
 John bap - tized the Lamb of God, The
 God's own voice with words pro - found: "This
 noint - ed Christ in glo - rious sight As



God from God, the Light from Light, The
 stand be - neath the Fa - ther's will And
 Ho - ly Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, De -
 is my Son," was his de - cree, "The
 God's own choice, from A - dam's fall To



Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.
 all his prom - is - es ful - fill.
 scend - ed on him from a - bove.
 one I love, who pleas - es me."
 save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!
 This man in Christ, our substitute!
 He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
 Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, b. 1949. © 1993 James P. Tiefel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LM) *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

SERMON TEXT

MARK 1: 4 – 11

SERMON:

LINKED TO JESUS' BAPTISM

****Please Stand****

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*****Please Be Seated*****

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EPIPHANY

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

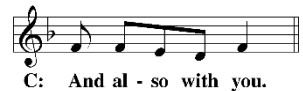
Amen.

THE 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.

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

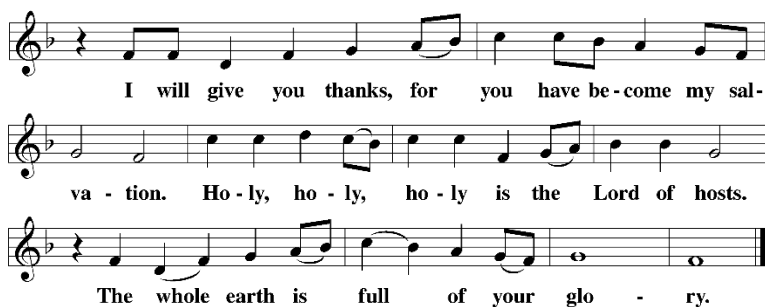


Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI

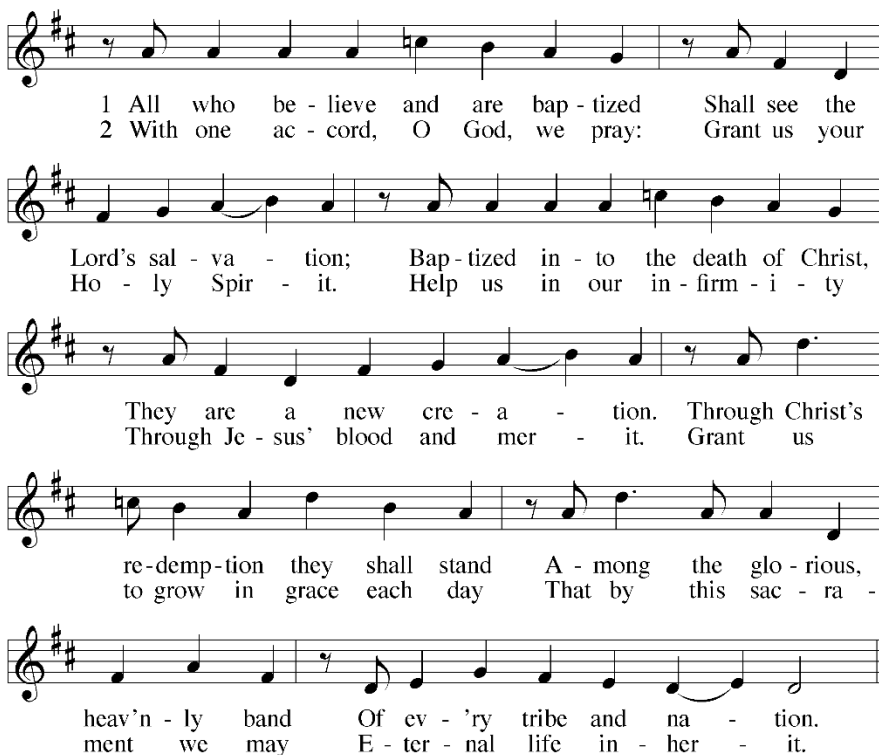


****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#78

ALL WHO BELIEVE AND ARE BAPTIZED



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us your

Lord's sal - va - tion; Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ,
Ho - ly Spir - it. Help us in our in - firm - i - ty

They are a new cre - a - tion. Through Christ's
Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it. Grant us

re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,
to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -

heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

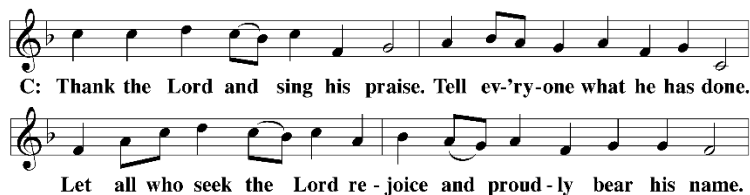
Tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (87 87 887) *Ellich Cristlich liden*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



CLOSING PRAYER

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



*****Please Be Seated*****

CLOSING HYMN:

#577

RISE, O LIGHT OF GENTILE NATIONS



1 Rise, O Light of Gen - tile na - tions, Je - sus, bright and
2 Know - ing you and your sal - va - tion, Grate - ful love dare
3 May our zeal to help the hea - then Be in - creased from
4 Sav - ior, shine in all your glo - ry On the na - tions



Morn - ing Star; Let your Word, the glad - some ti - dings,
nev - er cease To pro - claim your ten - der mer - cies,
day to day, As we plead in true com - pas - sion
near and far; From the high - ways and the by - ways



Ring out loud - ly near and far, Bring - ing
Gra - cious Lord, your heav'n - ly peace. Let us
And for their con - ver - sion pray. For the
Call them forth, O Morn - ing Star. Guide them



free - dom to the cap - tives, Peace and com - fort
sound the gos - pel ti - dings To the earth's re -
man - y faith - ful work - ers, For the gos - pel
whom your grace has cho - sen Out of Sa - tan's



to the slave, That the hea - then, free from
mot - est bound That the sin - ner has been
they pro - claim, Let us all be cheer - ful
dread - ful thrall To the man - sions of your



bond - age, May pro - claim your pow'r to save.
par - doned And for - give - ness can be found.
giv - ers To the glo - ry of your name.
Fa - ther— There is room for sin - ners all.

Text: Herman Fick, 1822–85, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

What We Believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Request Cards – We had run out of our Prayer Request Cards in the entry way, but they are back and restocked. If you have a prayer request or a message of thanksgiving please feel free to fill the card out and hand it to the usher as the collect the offering and Pastor Emmons will address those concerns during the prayer of the Church.

Sunday Morning Bible Study – For January, we will continue our study of the book of Acts. If you have questions or topics you desire to consider, please email them to Pastor Emmons. Please feel free to come and go as you like; all reading is voluntary.

Council Members Needed – Beginning in May, we offer an additional opportunity to serve our congregation. We will be holding elections for the Vice-president and Treasurer. These are 3-year terms currently held by Mike Hanson and Greg Port (respectively.) Mike can serve one more term; however, Greg has asked to step down from his position. Please consider serving; your church needs you; we need someone to assist with the church's financial matters and monthly council meeting—which you could attend via Zoom.

Council Meeting – Our council met this past Friday, January 5. There are minutes from the December meeting available as well as a copy of last quarters income/expense sheet. Please contact the council members if you have any concerns you need to have addressed.

Home Mission Convention – From January 28 to February 1, Pastor Emmons will attend the ELS Home Mission Convention in Dallas, TX. Should you have any emergency concerns, please contact Elder – Gene Baldwin at 541-610-9978.

Calendars – January calendars are available in the back of the church. Pastor Emmons emailed them yesterday; if you did not receive them as an email, contact Pastor Emmons

Midweek Bible Study – Tuesday Bible Studies will resume on January 9; we will continue studying Romans. We will meet at Pastor Emmons' home at 4384 SW 36th ST, Redmond, OR, or you can join us from the comfort of your home on Zoom. The meeting ID and password are below.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

Pastor: Roger Emmons

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