



Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 3:21-22

WELCOME TO GRACE: We rejoice over your presence on this day as we gather in the Name and in the worship of our Lord. If you are a GUEST with us today, we hope you feel welcome in our church family and invite you to worship with us again. If you are interested in membership at Grace or want to know more about our church and our faith, please indicate your interest on the ATTENDANCE FORM in the pew.

Grace's Mission

✝ Sharing God's Grace

✝ Living His Word

✝ Making Disciples

Grace Lutheran Church is one of more than six thousand congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

We Believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the sole source for all Christian teaching and practice. *II Timothy 3:16*

We Believe "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*

We Believe "by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." *Ephesians 2:8-9*

We Believe our relationship with everyone is based upon Jesus' words: "Love one another as I have loved you." *John 15:12*

Child Care We care about your children. We encourage parents with small children to help them participate in our worship. We ask you to have your children go to the restroom and get a drink before the service, and refrain from leaving during worship, unless there is an emergency. We have available a cry room equipped with sound located at the back of the sanctuary. Children's bulletins with activities are available.

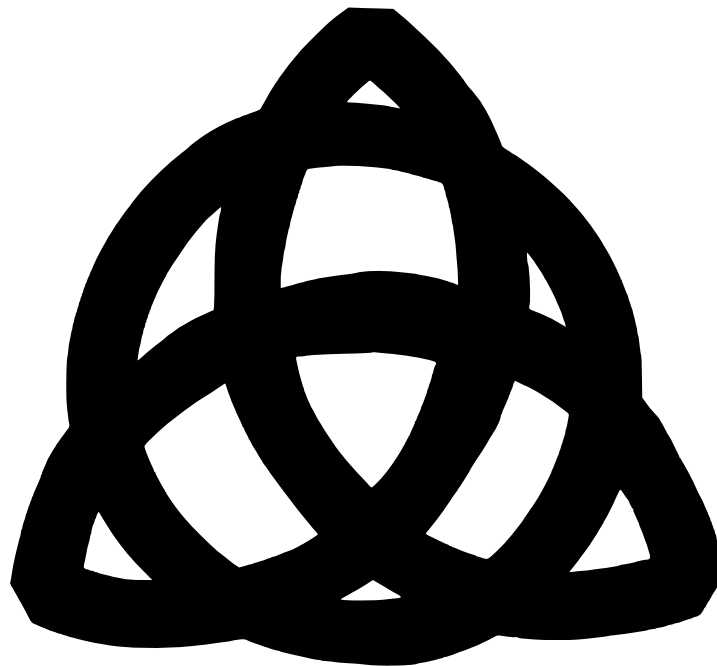
Hearing Impaired For those who need assistance, please ask an usher for a wireless hearing aid. They are easy to use.

WORSHIP FOLDER
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 12, 2025
“YOU ARE MINE”

AS WE GATHER

Today is the first of the bookends that mark the Epiphany season—the Baptism of Our Lord and His Transfiguration. In common is the command from God to “listen to Him.” We begin our journey of listening to the Lord, learning from those who went before, acknowledging the revelation of the Lamb of God in baptismal water, and looking to Him, the Word made flesh. In the prophet Isaiah comes a voice of comfort to a troubled Judah. By these words, the Lord reminds us that despite the circumstances of the moment, the faithful are beloved in the eyes of the Lord—a love made profoundly manifest in the gift of His own Son to die that we might live and to live that we might never die.

[If your health limits you, please don’t feel required to stand during the worship service.]



✠ SERVICE OF PREPARATION ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

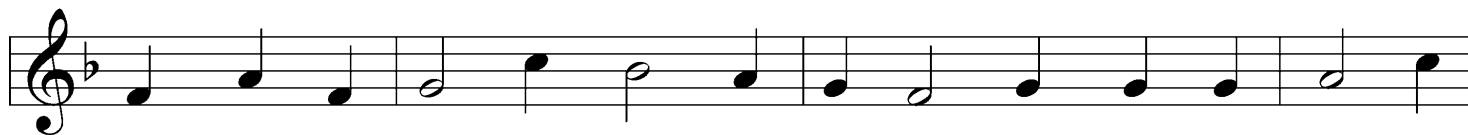
WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN

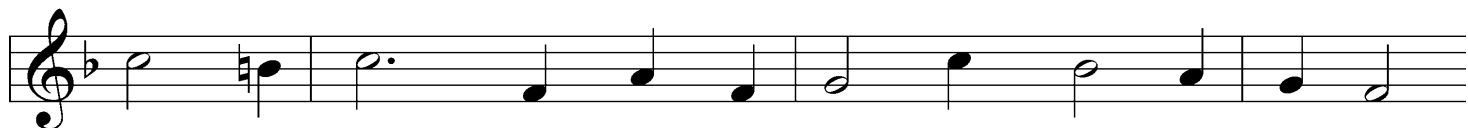
(please stand for last stanza)

LSB 590

“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me When threat - ning clouds a - round I see.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text and tune: Public domain

RITE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Dear friends, we were buried into Christ by Baptism into His death and raised with Him to newness of life. I call upon you to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced the devil and all his works and ways and were made members of the Holy Christian Church. Do you renounce the devil?

C Yes, I renounce him.

P Do you renounce all his works?

C Yes, I renounce them.

P Do you renounce all his ways?

C Yes, I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

C Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

P Is it your purpose to continue steadfast in this faith and in the promise of Your Baptism and, as a member of the church, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?

C Yes, with the help of God.

P Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C Amen.

P May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 204

“Gloria in Excelsis”



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. “A - men!” our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

(please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 43:1-7

(“I have called you by name, you are Mine.”)

¹But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. ⁶I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE

ROMANS 6:1-11

(By Baptism, we were united with Christ into His death and resurrection.)

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

(please stand)

VERSE AND ALLELUIA

P Alleluia. You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased. Alleluia.

Mark 1:11b



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 3:15-22

(Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River by John.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. ²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB 406

“To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord”



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His
 2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him -
 3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y
 4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to



Fa - ther's plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
 self has spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell
 word and won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
 us ex - tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
 And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His
 Which we do well to pon - der: “This man is My be -
 Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
 Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.
 lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
 sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's
 God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while
 Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full -
 That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find



op - pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
 be - stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing.
 est mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken.”
 a dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.

**5 To His disciples spoke the Lord,
“Go out to ev’ry nation,
And bring to them the living
Word and this My invitation:
Let ev’ryone abandon sin
And come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win
Full pardon and remission
And heav’nly bliss inherit.”**

**6 But woe to those who cast aside
This grace so freely given;
They shall in sin and shame abide
and to despair be driven. For
born in sin, their works must fail,
Their striving saves them never;
Their pious acts do not avail,
And they are lost forever,
Eternal death their portion.**

**7 All that the mortal eye beholds
Is water as we pour it. Before the
eye of faith unfolds the pow’r of
Jesus’ merit. For here it sees the
crimson flood to all our ills bring
healing; The wonders of His
precious blood the love of God
revealing, Assuring His own
pardon.**

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(please be seated)

SERMON TITLE: *“THE BELOVED OF THE LORD”*
SERMON TEXT: *LUKE 3:21-22*

✠ INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS ✠

P Beloved in the Lord, according to the Church's usual order, these brothers and sisters have been elected to be leaders of *Grace Lutheran Church*. Their offices have been established in love by the Church to support the Office of the Holy Ministry and to assist the faithful in their God-given vocations. They have been prepared for this office by prayer and study. They have been chosen to serve the congregation and their fellow members.

P You have been chosen to fill specific offices and positions of responsibility at *Grace Lutheran Church*. You are to work with the pastor, that our life together in Christ may be orderly and pleasing in His sight.

You are to see that the services of God's house are held at the proper times, that the Word of God is purely preached and taught according to the Lutheran Confessions, that the Sacraments of Christ are administered according to His institution, that provision is made for the Christian instruction of young and old, that the erring are admonished, and that discipline is maintained.

You are to see that the temporal affairs of the congregation are properly administered and that proper support is provided for the workers of this congregation. You are to assist in caring for the poor and the sick, in cultivating harmony among the members, in promoting the general welfare of the congregation, and in furthering the kingdom of Christ here and throughout the world.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you, as office-bearers in His Church, show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the office(s) entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

R *I do.*

P Gracious and most merciful Lord, by Your Holy Spirit You have given Your people diverse and singular gifts. We thank You for providing faithful men and women in Your Church to assist the Office of the Holy Ministry and to support Christians in their vocations. Grant our leaders with wisdom and a faithfulness to serve the needs of Your people and the goals of our shared mission and ministry; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(please stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

(please be seated)

WE OFFER OUR FIRST FRUITS

(Financial support of Grace Lutheran Church is considered a privilege of membership. Although all offerings are welcome, we do not expect them from our visitors.)

VOLUNTARY

ORGAN

“Christ, Unser Herr”

(please stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with,

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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.**

MORNING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN TO DEPART

LSB 404

“Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered”



1 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Had no blem - ish
2 John con - fessed Him as the Sav - ior— “Look, the sin - less
3 This the bap - tism that our Sav - ior Great - ly longed to
4 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Full o - be - dience



of His own; In the wa - ters of the Jor - dan
Lamb of God!” Yet he dared not loose the san - dals
un - der - go; This the crim - son cleans - ing need - ed
was Your path; You, by death, have con - se - crat - ed



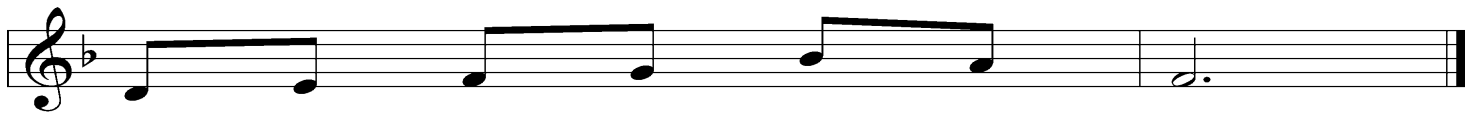
His true worth and work were shown: Heav - en o - pened
Of the One God’s love had shod. Oh, how fair the
So the world God’s love might know; This the mis - sion
Wa - ter in this sav - ing bath: Dy - ing to the



and the Spir - it There de - scend - ed like a
feet of Je - sus, Bring - ing news of peace to
of Mes - si - ah As He stepped from Jor - dan’s
sin of Ad - am, Ris - ing to a life of



dove, As the Fa - ther’s voice re - sound - ed,
us, Christ, the her - ald of sal - va - tion,
stream, He, the cho - sen and a - noint - ed
grace; We are count - ed with the righ - teous,



“Hear My Son, the One I love.”
Preach - ing mer - cy from the cross:
Son of God, sent to re - deem.
O - ver us the cross You trace.

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POSTLUDE


To God Alone Be the Glory

THOSE WHO SERVE

Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Mike Ramey
 Reader Rachel Pelletier
 Acolyte.....Jenna Powell
 Organist.....Pat Lufholm
 Elders Tim Benton / Steve DeShaw
 Ushers Mark Zimmerman
 Brent Keesee
 Jim Raven
 Dennis Wehmeyer
 Altar GuildKelli Jones / Khristi Moritz
 Teller.....Malcom Moerbe
 Nursery AttendantAlanna & Kate Stansell

GRACE PRAYS

We continue to pray for the following:

- Wisdom for our nation’s leaders.
- Strength and commitment in tending our baptismal journey.
- For the ministry of our ECP and the families it blesses.
- For our congregation’s leaders, the Spirit would guide their work.
- For our congregation, each member would see that he/she is a vital element for our mission and ministry as a church.

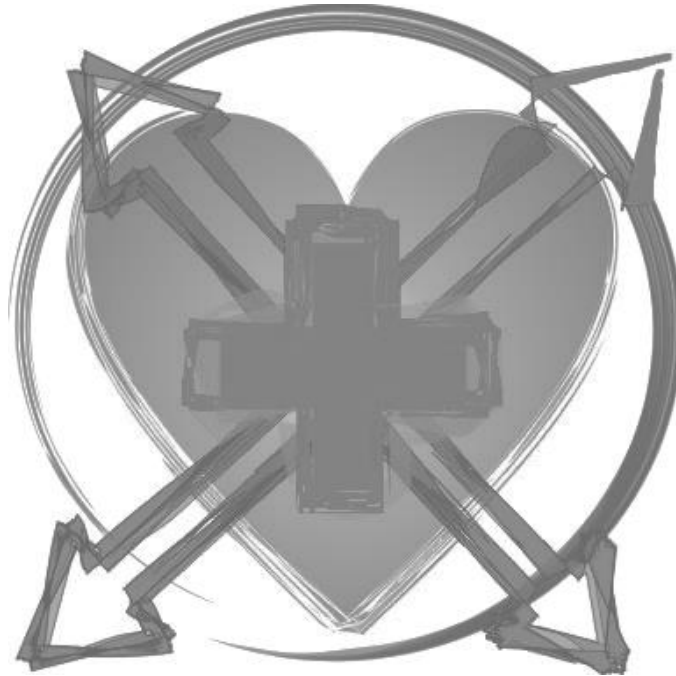
ILL OR RECOVERING

- ❖ Susan Johnson (Virginia DeBerry’s mom) will have surgery to remove her left kidney from cancer was rescheduled to 1/20/25.
- ❖ Cindy Hilton’s surgery was successful and is home and recovering well.

PRAYERS OF MOURNING

- ❖ Gail Granat died on 12/13.
- ❖ Bradley Norton who died on 12/21.
- ❖ David Stock who died on 12/23.
- ❖ Cory Rodriguez, (10 yr. old friend of former member Stephen Byrd) his organs were donated on 1/8.

The flowers this morning have been provided to the Glory of God by
Stephen & Michelle Boyles
In celebration of Bruce Boyles' 3rd birthday on January 10th



Grace Lutheran Church – LCMS

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Our Ministry Staff

Reverend Dr. Mike Ramey, Interim Pastor..... 443-655-1485
.....pastor@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org
Carol Massie, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Life.....638-4153
Mrs. Amy Hoppman, Early Childhood Director.....894-7027
Ms. Victoria J. Crawson, Church Office Administrator 626-484-9723

Please see Grace in Action for the week's calendar and other important information regarding the ministry of our congregation!