

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Parker, South Dakota

Rev. Don Reiffenberger, Pastor

Music Leaders: Shirley Oswald, Deone Christensen, Grace Reiffenberger, Michele Reiffenberger

Church Office: 297-4417 Pastor's Cell: 605-759-6065

[graceluth@iw.net](mailto:graceluth@iw.net) [pastordongraceluth@gmail.com](mailto:pastordongraceluth@gmail.com) [www.gracelutheranparker.com](http://www.gracelutheranparker.com)



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 17, 2019

## PRELUDE, VISUAL PRAYERS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to celebrate our faith and to worship the living God.

**All: We celebrate our Lord Jesus who leads us. We celebrate our Lord who is present for us.**

Leader: We celebrate our Lord who saves, and we celebrate our Lord who cares.

**All: We celebrate the Lord of light and life — of love and hope.**

Leader: We celebrate our Lord Jesus who calls us. We celebrate our Lord who provides for us.

**All: We celebrate our Lord who loves us, and we celebrate our Lord who nourishes us now and always.**

Leader: We gather to celebrate our faith and to worship the living God. Let us begin by proclaiming our shared mission:

**All: “We believe we are forgiven and saved by faith in Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection. As people of God, through love, we are God’s hands. We are called to invite and welcome everyone into the fellowship of believers. We worship together, teach His word, pray for, encourage and uplift each other. We witness to His love and forgiveness to our congregation, community and world.”** *(Written by members from Grace Lutheran)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God of great joy, you offer us the gift of happiness, yet we continue to pursue what we think will make us happy. You give us a world of companionship, yet we ignore our neighbors and fail to love even our families as we ought.

**All: You bless us with the beauty of creation, yet we threaten the planet entrusted to our care. You offer us abundant life, yet we chase after too many material goods.**

Leader: You promise us comfort in sadness and healing in sickness, yet we pretend that our lives are just fine. You have told us not to be afraid, that you walk with us, even through the darkest valleys, yet we live according to the shadows of our fears.

**All: Merciful God, forgive us for following false pleasure. Like a tree, planted by a running stream, plant us in your soil and nourish us in what is true, that we might be rooted in the goodness of all you offer. Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

### PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Even when we refuse God’s gifts, divine hands remain outstretched. Even when we fail to recognize God’s desires for us, God continues to offer us possibilities for divine joy. Friends, believe the Good News!

**All: In Jesus Christ, we receive the gifts of forgiveness, wholeness and reconciliation, so that our joy may be made complete. Thanks Be to God!**

### OPENING HYMN

“Give Me Jesus”

ELW 770

### KYRIE/PRAYER OF THE DAY

“O God, We Call”

Spoken Words – Cantor – ALL [4X]

O God, we call (2X)

From deep inside we yearn (3X)

For You

### THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10

### THE READING RESPONSE

“Thanks Be to God!” (After each reading)

### RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 1

### THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

### KID TALK

“The Believer Tree”

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Please remain **standing** for The Gospel)

### THE GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

(Pew Bible p. 49 – New Testament)

### GOSPEL RESPONSES

“Glory to You, O Lord” (After The Gospel is announced)

“Praise to You, O Christ” (After The Gospel is read)

### SERMON

“Sermon on a Level Place”

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“Blest Are They”

ELW 728

## APOSTLES' CREED

pg 127

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Congregational response after each petition of "Lord, in your mercy:" "Hear our prayer.")

## RETURNING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*"God calls us because God loves us. God desires to use all our gifts to bring light into this world."*

*~Kimberly Knowle-Zeller~*

**Music Video – "Be with Us Now (Emmanuel)" (Building 429)**

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**"Give Thanks"**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (repeat)**

**And now, let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say, "I am rich,"**

**Because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)**

**Give thanks.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: Gracious God, your gifts to us are boundless: life and liberties, forgiveness and your divine presence, love and compassion.

**All: There is no end to your goodness and generosity toward us, and we thank you. We offer these gifts in response to all you have shared with us, for we always and only give you what is already yours. Amen.**

## COMMUNION PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT BY INTINCTION *(Special Music played during Communion)*

## BENEDICTION

Leader: Let us go out to be Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth.

**All: We accept our mission to be God's people in the world.**

Leader: The blessing of God – the One who through Christ would bless all nations on earth – goes with you.

**All: Praise and Thanks Be to God! Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving one another!

**All: Thanks Be to God!**

***In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, welcome to Worship at Grace Lutheran Church, Together may we be wrapped in God's Word, love and grace. Amen. As we celebrate Holy Communion by Intinction this morning, we invite all baptized Christians who seek forgiveness and who believe in Christ's real presence in the Sacrament to join us at the altar. \*\*\* If you want Pastor Don to come to you with Communion, please let an usher know.\*\*\****

*Please join us in the fellowship hall after the service this morning. Coffee will be served, and Kathy McHenry, the Executive Director of Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota (LPGSD), is also here to share ideas about efficient, impactful generosity in light of new tax laws; estate planning that benefits your family AND ministry; and how your life's work can make a real difference. Kathy's role is to provide information and inspiration – she does not sell or recommend any financial products and does not receive commissions. This presentation is a **free gift** from the partners of LPGSD, including the South Dakota Synod and the ELCA Foundation. If you can't stay or would like to visit with her privately, Kathy may be reached at 605-274-5030 or [kmchenry@sdsynod.org](mailto:kmchenry@sdsynod.org).*

## This Week at GRACE

Today: 10:00 am: Sunday School  
10:00 am: Kathy McHenry – Lutheran Planned Giving  
Tues: 4:30 pm: Bread Give-Away @ Courthouse  
Wed: 4:00 pm: Pre-Confirmation  
5:00 pm: Confirmation  
6:30 pm: Worship (Holy Communion)  
7:00 pm: Choir  
7:00 pm: Luther League  
Sun: 9:00 am: Worship  
10:00 am: Sunday School

*Thank you to the following people for helping with our Worship service this morning: ushers Roger & Sue Deutsch, reader Don Nolan, Communion Assistants Derik & Stacey Hazen and Deb Van Hove, greeters Dustin & Jessica Haase and family, and AV assistant Grace Reiffenberger.*

**Attendance 2/10/2019: 113**

Last week's offering total was \$2,170.00. This includes Sunday's and Wednesday's offerings, Simply Giving, and direct EFT through First Savings Bank Our weekly offering goal is \$2,600.00. We were \$430.00 under goal. Remember - to ensure all bills and salaries of the church are paid, we need to meet our weekly goal!

## Announcement:

**Please submit all March newsletter items to the church office by this Tuesday, February 19. Thank you!**

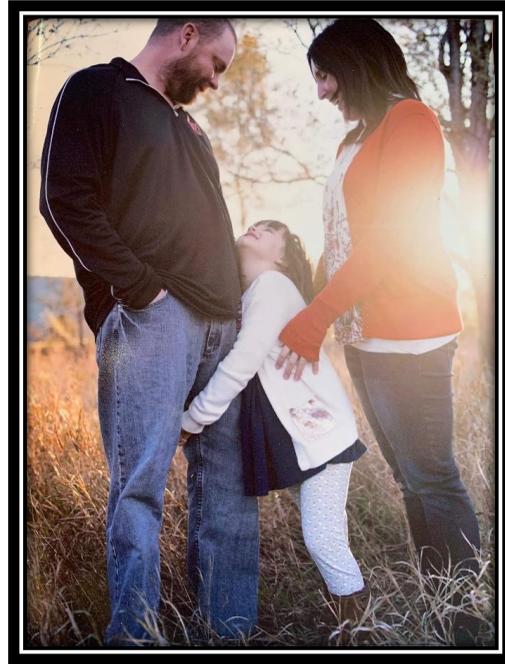


*New Member*



**Spotlight**

## The Rye Family



Grace Lutheran Church welcomes the Rye family: Craig, Dawn & Havana.

Craig and Dawn Rye moved to Parker over eight years ago where they purchased their home out in the Meadows Development off of Hwy. 19.

On November 22, 2011, Havana was born a health girl, but on March 28, 2014, she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She will be celebrating five years in remission on June 4, 2019.

Craig has worked at Billion Toyota in Sioux Falls for the last 17 years as a Certified Master Technician.

Dawn has worked at The New Era in Parker as the office manager and writer for the last four years.

Havana is 7 years old and currently is a 1st grader at Parker Elementary. She is on her second year of being part of the Parker Stars dance team. She loves to play outside, ride her bike and enjoys listening to music.

Cade, their 11-year-old black lab is currently going blind but still loves to be outside and play catch.

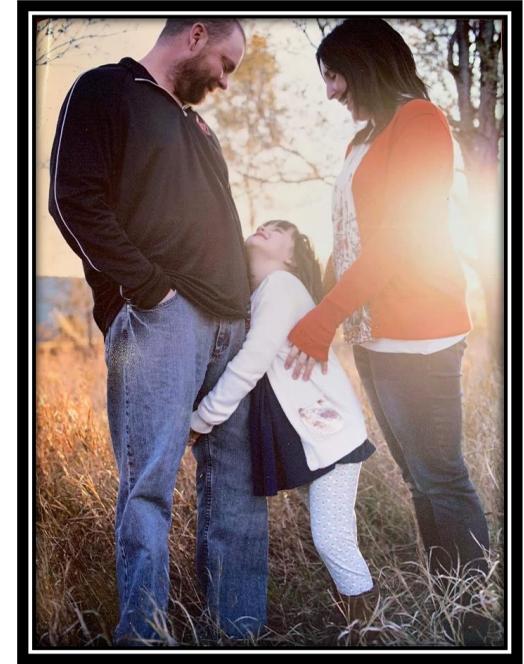
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