



WHO IS CREATION?  
WEDNESDAYS IN LENT 2023

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

**How We are Royal Rulers over Creation**

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Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

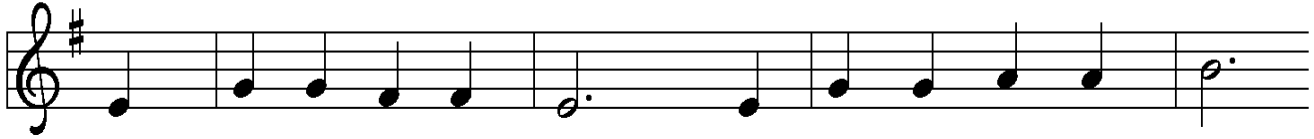


**Gathering:**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*The assembly gathers in silence.*

## Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

### Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray,

Sovereign of the universe, your first covenant was with every living creature.

When your Beloved Son came among us, the waters of the river Jordan welcomed him, the heavens opened to greet his arrival, the animals of the wilderness drew near as his companions. With all the world's people, may we who are washed into new life through baptism seek the way of your new creation, the way of justice and love, mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: **Amen.**



### The Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

Reading:

## **Genesis 7:1 – 3, 9:8 - 17**

Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. <sup>2</sup>Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; <sup>3</sup>and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth.

<sup>8</sup>Then [after the Flood] God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

## **Sermon**

### **\*Hymn of the Day** *“Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom”*

- 1 Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
sounding God's delighted laugh,  
from the tiny roly-poly  
to the treetop-tall giraffe.  
All creation sings in wonder;  
even rocks and trees rejoice  
as they join the ringing chorus:  
echoes of our Maker's voice.
  
- 2 Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
woven into harmony.  
Ev'ry creature has a purpose,  
ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.  
Spider, human, redwood, gecko,  
monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake  
live within a single fabric:  
cloth that only God could make.

3 Earth is full of wit and wisdom:  
penguin, platypus, and snail,  
cactus, sea slug, oak, and algae,  
from the microbe to the whale.  
In this great and strange creation,  
with a breath God gives us birth:  
born of soil to live as stewards,  
called to love and serve the earth.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

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### **\*Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray:

### **\*Lord's Prayer**

All: **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.**



### **Sending**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **\*Sending Hymn** ELW #561 *“Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory”*

1 Joyous light of heav'nly glory,  
loving glow of God's own face,  
you who sing creation's story,  
shine on ev'ry land and race.  
Now as evening falls around us,  
we shall raise our songs to you.  
God of daybreak, God of shadows,  
come and light our hearts anew.

- 2 In the stars that grace the darkness,  
in the blazing sun of dawn,  
in the light of peace and wisdom,  
we can hear your quiet song.  
Love that fills the night with wonder,  
love that warms the weary soul,  
love that bursts all chains asunder,  
set us free and make us whole.
- 3 You who made the heaven's splendor,  
ev'ry dancing star of night,  
make us shine with gentle justice,  
let us each reflect your light.  
Mighty God of all creation,  
gentle Christ who lights our way,  
loving Spirit of salvation,  
lead us on to endless day.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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### **\*Blessing**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

### **\*Dismissal**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

### **Postlude**

**WEDNESDAY OFFERING:**

Offerings received at our Lenten midweek services are designated for the Crossways Camping Ministries and the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you.



**WHO IS CREATION?  
WEDNESDAYS IN LENT 2023**

**Wednesdays in Lent:  
March 8, 15, 22, 29 at 6:00 p.m.**

- February 22<sup>nd</sup>: How Dust is Alive**
- March 1<sup>st</sup>: How We are Royal Rulers over Creation**
- March 8<sup>th</sup>: How Biodiversity is God's Plan**
- March 15<sup>th</sup>: How Creatures Have Souls**
- March 22<sup>nd</sup>: How All Creation Worships God**
- March 29<sup>th</sup>: How Creation Mourns**

Our Wednesday services are live streamed and can be found on You Tube and our Web Site [www.gracegb.org](http://www.gracegb.org).

## PREPARING FOR CHANGE: PASTORS AND STAFFING AT GRACE

- We spent last year trying to replace the help Pastor Dick and Pastor Rebecca offered to our pastors by looking for a Youth and Education Ministry Leader.
- At the Annual Meeting and the past 3 Council Meetings we've been talking about calling a pastor instead.



*We need more input on this decision!*

Please join us for open forums on this topic on

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
(Sunday's forum will be streamed and available on YouTube)  
Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**OR**

E-mail or call the pastors with input or questions...



## KNIGHT SECURITY SYSTEM FOR SALE

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Best offer at [office@gracegb.org](mailto:office@gracegb.org) by Sunday, April 2nd



## WORSHIP MINISTERS TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Larry Lange  
Liturgist: Pastor Julie Wrubbel-Lange  
AV Technician: Josh Moyer  
Ushers: Lois & Russ Kopidlansky  
Accompanist: Denise Zenko

## GRACIOUS CALLERS NEEDED!

Purpose – Help connect new members to the present Grace community.

What you will do. Make a phone call (or email or text message) to a new member once a month for at least 6 months. Be a friendly caller to see how they are doing, answer any questions they may have about Grace's ministry and talk about how they can share their talents at Grace.

Will they be expecting a call from me? Yes. At or after the new member orientation the new members will confirm their willingness to receive a call and be asked when is the best time to call.

How will I know what to talk about? The interests card filled out by the new member will be shared with you.

Contact Gayle Schmeling ([schmeldorf@aol.com](mailto:schmeldorf@aol.com)) if you would be interested in serving in this ministry.



## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.gracegb.org



Grace Lutheran Church Green Bay



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**Organist: Denise Zenko      Choir Director: John Kopp**

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