



GRACE LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
1212 Jefferson
Brenham, Texas 77833
(979)-836-3475
www.gracebrenham.org

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Rev. Ryan Ogradowicz, Sr. Pastor Rev. Isaac Schuller, Assoc. Pastor Rev. William Holzer, Assoc. Pastor

PASTOR'S PAGE

“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated “God with us” (Matt.1:23).

Matthew’s beautiful quote from Isaiah 7:14 teaches us plenty about Jesus, but hardly stopped Christological disputes rocking the early church. The impetus for the Council of Nicaea was an intense debate over the person of Jesus. The Nicene Creed results from theological wrangling and discussion from theologians trying to faithfully understand and confess Christ. It would make sense for this to be a foundational discussion point at the first universal council: if the Church doesn’t know Who Jesus is, how can she possibly understand and confess the other articles of faith necessitating the right understanding of the Son of God?

The issue at Nicaea hinged on the term “begotten.” Prior to Nicaea, the traditional understanding was that “begotten” meant “generated,” not “created.” The Son was begotten of the Father, thus sharing all the divine attributes of the unchangeable, First Principle Who is God but differed from creatures which came from nonexistence. The “Word (Logos) made flesh” is of the Father and through Whom the world is called into being (Col.1:16). A theologian by the name of Arius vigorously challenged this position, claiming that between un-generated and generated there is no middle ground. Jesus is either God or creature, and he wasn’t about to accept any theology advocating for a plurality of coequal gods. On the opposite end was the argument for no difference between the Father and the Son; they were the same, just different manifestations of the one God working through whatever mode He chose, Father, Son, or Holy Spirit, a heresy known as “modalism.” The result of the Council was an understanding of God as we confess it still in the

distinction of Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the unity of the same substance and divine essence of the One True God Who is un-generated. Even if “begotten” was a tad nebulous, its inclusion into the phrase “begotten not made” rejected any Arian notion the Son was created.

Theology can get technical, as seen above, but sometimes situations call for it in endeavors to sharpen our confession in the face of real heresy. Denying the divinity of Jesus has tremendous implications on the Gospel itself because it means something less than God is sufficient payment for sin. Can a mere creature atone for the world? The Psalmist disagrees, saying “truly no man can ransom another or give to God the price of his life” (Psalm 49:8). Nothing less than God Himself can cover the problem of sin. The Catechism echoes this when teaching Jesus is “begotten of the Father from eternity” Who has redeemed us by “His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.”

There was a time in America when church was popular, part of culture, and the question of Jesus was no question at all. Times have changed, but that’s not necessarily a bad thing. “Who is Jesus?” is a question the Church still needs to articulate and confess, and one bringing us to think deeply about why we say what we do. The Creeds are a gift in the sense the Church has traversed this territory before and gifted us a confession undergirded by the Holy Scriptures we should labor to understand. When someone asks “what does this mean?” we already have an answer and pray God would make us understand it.

-by Rev. Ryan J. Ogradowicz



Worship Opportunities January 2025

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School & Bible Classes – 10:30 a.m.

Date	Festival	First Reading	Epistle Reading	Gospel	Preacher	Liturgist	Hymns	Distribution Hymns	Order of Service LSB Pg #
Jan. 5	The Epiphany of Our Lord	Isaiah 60:1–6	Eph. 3:1–12	Matt. 2:1–12	Ogrodowicz	Schuller	409 395 397	621 411	p.184
Jan. 12	The Baptism of Our Lord	Isaiah 43:1–7	Rom. 6:1–11	Luke 3:15–22	Schuller	Ogrodowicz	544 406 405	605 596	p.184
Jan. 19	Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 62:1–5	1 Cor. 12:1–11	John 2:1–11	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	402 396 408	555	p.151
Jan. 26	Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Neh. 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10	1 Cor. 12:12–31a	Luke 4:16–30	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	349 534 548	417 839	p.203

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

As of December Council Meeting

Baptism: NONE

Death: NONE

Profession of Faith: NONE

Transfer In: Jim & Jan Taylor: from Gethsemane Lutheran, Houston, 11/17/24

Sue Gravett: from Redeemer Lutheran, Austin, 11/24/24

Transfer Out: Howard Holzer: to Ascension Lutheran, Alabama, 11/15/24

Transfer in by Profession of Faith: NONE

Souls: 578

Communicants: 493

Meetings This Month

january 2025



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

Grace Lutheran Ladies Afternoon LWML will meet on Thursday, January 9th at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are the officers: Dorothy Holle, Sally Blum, Marilyn Standlee and Ruth Schoppe

Grace Lutheran Ladies Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are Virginia Hillman and Nancy Joiner.



Men's Bible Breakfast meets every Tuesday at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.

January 7 – Melvin Riske

January 14 – Rev. Lee Kunkel

January 21 – Rev. Ken Watson

January 28 – Doug Schoppe



The Men's Club will meet on Tuesday, January 28 at 6:30 p.m. It will be Sausage and Pancakes. Please bring FRUIT Toppings, Hors d'oeuvres & Desserts.

Annual Reports

Just a reminder to all boards and organizations of the church to gather information to be included in the Annual Report. **The information should be submitted to the Church Office by Monday, January 13th.** Reports may be emailed to carol@glcsbren.org.

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANTS

Communion Ware: Barbara Maurer

Paraments: Susie Thaler

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Randal Hoppens, Donald Becker, Charles Blake, Steven Guebert



ALTAR FLOWERS

January 5 -
January 12 -
January 19 -
January 26 -

RADIO MINISTRY

(30-minute program aired on KWHI 1280 AM each Sunday at 12:30 p.m.) (Cost is \$85 per week.)



January 5 -
January 12 -
January 19 -
January 26 -



January 5 - Joe & Sheila Green
January 12 -
January 19 -
January 26 -

It is the start of a new year and that is a great time to update the prayer pages in the bulletin and thank God for all the blessings of good health and healing that He has given. Please take a moment later this week when the January 5 bulletin comes out to review the names on the prayer list and let the office know of any changes or updates that need to be made. Thank you





January 2025

O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to
follow you
more closely
and to
trust in your
loving guidance.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 1st Sunday After Christmas 9:00am Matins 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	30 Psalm 83:1 - 89:52 Daycare Open - Sack Lunch No School - Christmas Break	31 Psalm 90:1 - 95:11 Circumcision & Name of Jesus - New Year's Eve Service Daycare Noon Dismissal No School - Christmas Break	1 Psalm 96:1 - 101:8 Daycare Closed No School - Christmas Break Office Closed	2 Psalm 102:1 - 106:48 Daycare Open - Sack Lunch No School - Christmas Break	3 Psalm 107:1 - 113:9 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off Daycare Open - Sack Lunch No School - Christmas Break	4 Psalm 114:1 - 118:29
5 2nd Sunday After Christmas, The Epiphany of Our LORD Pastor O - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	6 Psalm 119:1-176 Daycare Closed No School - Christmas Break	7 Psalm 120:1 - 125:5 Daycare Closed No School - Christmas Break 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 6:00pm PTL Meeting	8 Psalm 126:1 - 134:3 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Elders	9 Psalm 135:1 - 137:9 8:15am Chapel 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle 4:00pm Varsity BB Game - Serbin @ Grace	10 Psalm 138:1 - 143:12 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Vespers	11 Psalm 144:1 - 150:6
12 3rd Sunday After Christmas, The Baptism of Our LORD Pastor Schuller - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	13 Proverbs 1:1 - 3:35 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Varsity BB Game - Thorndale @ Grace	14 Proverbs 4:1-27 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 7:00pm Ladies Evening Circle	15 Proverbs 5:1 - 6:35 8:15am Chapel 12:00pm Trustees 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm GLSB	16 Proverbs 7:1-27 8:15am Chapel 9:00am Texas Confessional Lutherans Conference	17 Proverbs 8:1-36 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Vespers	18 Proverbs 9:1-18
19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany Pastor O - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	20 Proverbs 10:1 - 11:31 NO SCHOOL Daycare Closed Newsletter Deadline	21 Proverbs 12:1 - 13:25 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel	22 Proverbs 14:1 - 15:33 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice	23 Proverbs 16:1 - 17:28 8:15am Chapel	24 Proverbs 18:1 - 19:29 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Vespers	25 Proverbs 20:1 - 21:31
26 3rd Sunday After Epiphany Pastor O - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	27 Proverbs 22:1 - 23:25 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Varsity BB Game - Giddings @ Giddings 7:00pm Council Meeting	28 Proverbs 24:1 - 25:28 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 6:30pm Men's Club	29 Proverbs 26:1 - 27:27 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Voters' Assembly Meeting	30 Proverbs 28:1 - 29:27 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Players vs. Parents BB Game	31 Proverbs 30:1 - 31:31 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Vespers	1 Ecclesiastes 1:1 - 2:26



Happy New Year 🎉 Happy New Year 🎉 Happy New Year 🎉

