

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
January 6, 2019

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH

Dearest Jesus, Morning Star, fair and bright, You came to bring light to the darkness, giving Your life as a ransom for sin. In You I have forgiveness and I have been given to see, by the Holy Spirit's power, the light of the glory of God in Your face. Grant me to live in Your light and further grant that I reflect it to others in what I say and do. Grant this Lord, for Your name's sake. Amen

WELCOME

Welcome to Grace! This morning we celebrate **Epiphany**, sometimes called the "Gentile's Christmas." On occasion January 6, the date for Epiphany, falls on a Sunday which allows our Sunday Service to celebrate this event in the life of Christ, and so today we observe the coming of the Magi (sometimes referred to as the Wise Men) to bring gifts to Jesus, the newborn King. **We are glad you are here with us this morning!** Grace is a family of believers dedicated to sharing the Good News of salvation in Jesus. We believe and confess that this is done as the Means of Grace, God's Word and Sacraments are shared and administered in their truth and purity. Living as His people we bear witness to His love and mercy shown to us and to all. We recognize that others will know that we are Christians by our love shared in word and deed which is our response to His love for us. If you are visiting it is our prayer that you will realize these things about us as God's people gathered in this place. If you wish to learn more about our teachings from God's Word please speak with our Pastor.

We ask that everyone fill out an attendance registration card found at each pew and return it to an Usher as the Offering is collected. Children are welcome in our Service and will be invited to come forward for a Children's Message. Parents may accompany them if they wish. We have a staffed nursery facility for infants and toddlers located downstairs in this building for anyone who has need. Restroom facilities are located downstairs as well as on this floor level across the bridge before entering the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please speak with an usher or greeter.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be celebrated in our 10:45 Service today. In this sacrament we receive Christ's very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Those who are not members of Grace are asked to speak with our Pastor before partaking of this sacrament so that the unity of faith might be established. Thank you for honoring this request.

AS WE GATHER

The star that once led the Magi to the Christ Child is a type of the light that God has caused to shine so that all of us may know Jesus as Savior and Redeemer. We would not have known Him except that the Lord made the light to shine in our darkness to reveal Jesus Christ to us and to lead our fearful hearts to faith. The star still shines through the light of God's Word and leads us into the presence of Him whom the Father sent to be our Savior. The glory of God is His steadfast love and mercy, which He has revealed to all in Jesus Christ. Blessed Epiphany to you!

THE ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given today to the glory of God and the beautification of His House by Ed and Susan Mahnken in celebration of Ed's birthday and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor:		Rev. James C. Walter
Director of Parish Music:		Charles Russell
Secretary:		Pat Funk
Early Childhood Center Director:		Colleen Moorman
Acolyte:	(8:15)	Johnna Litwa
Cantor:	(8:15)	Chuck Fandrei
Ushers:	(8:15)	Bobby Bemberg, Daniel Loyd, Tim Loyd Ed Mahnken, Claude Rigglin
Greeters:	(8:15)	Sally McNabb, Brenda Parscale
Altar Guild:	(8:15)	Angie Proud
Acolyte:	(10:45)	Matthew Faulkner
Cantor:	(10:45)	Jeff Ralston
Communion Assistant:	(10:45)	Jeff Ralston
Ushers:	(10:45)	Charlie Buchanan, Dave Roberts James Tyhurst
Greeters:	(10:45)	Shaun and Justine Baker
Altar Guild:	(10:45)	Karolyn Ziemer
Choir:		Adult Choir
Coffee Hosts:		Catherine Manchester, Diane Roberts
Altar Guild:	(Wed. evening)	Suzanne Raddle and Wilma Richter
Nursery Attendant:		Mary Ann Dyer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - The appointed readings for next Sunday, January 13th, the Baptism of Our Lord, are: The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7, The Epistle Reading: Romans 6:1-11, and The Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-22.

Grace Lutheran Church
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Telephone Number: 501-663-3631

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Prelude

*As with Gladness Men of Old ~ Donald Rotermund
O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

Lighting of the Chancel Candles

Ring of the Church Bell

Opening Hymn: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395 sts. 1-4

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins (8:15)

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

- C** **Amen**

Confession of Sins (10:45)

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

John 20:19-23

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen**

Hymn: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395 sts. 5-6

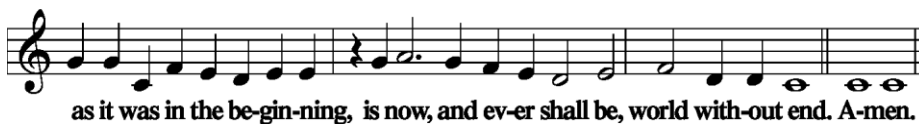
Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 45:6–8a; antiphon: Ps. 45:17

- P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
C **therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**
- P** Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
C **you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**
- P** Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
C **your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.**

Gloria Patri



Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



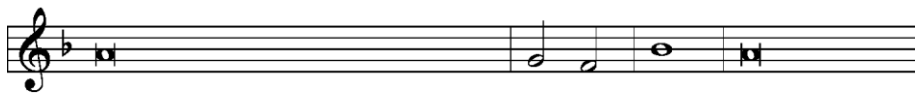
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Adult Choir

Arise, Shine: for Your Light Has Come ~ Mark Bender

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 117:1–2a; 96:8

Praise the Lord, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

*For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!*

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Matt. 2:2b

P Where is He who has been born king | of the Jews?*

For we saw his star when it rose and have come to | worship him.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



The reading of the Holy Gospel.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed (8:15)

C 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

Nicene Creed (10:45)

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen

Sit

Children's Message

Sermon

Matthew 2:1–12

“Lighten Up!”

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright ~ Paul Manz

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends with the following:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with the following:

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen**

10:45 service continues on page 13

Service Concludes (8:15)

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- C** **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**

Collect

P Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen

Closing Hymn: The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

LSB 399

Postlude

As with Gladness Men of Old ~ Walter Pelz



Service of the Sacrament (10:45)

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1 Psalm 136



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;
and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who
tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight measures of music, each corresponding to a line of text. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are: "Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread, and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [✠]bod - y, which is giv-en for you. This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My [✠] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [✠]bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My [✠] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Communion Instructions: The Pastor invites the communicants, those who are able, to kneel and then distributes the host which may be received into the hand or the mouth. The Elder distributes the individual cups. The communicants are asked to hold their cups until the Pastor says, “Take and drink.”

Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

LSB 623

Hymn: Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

LSB 400

Hymn: O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

LSB 554

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

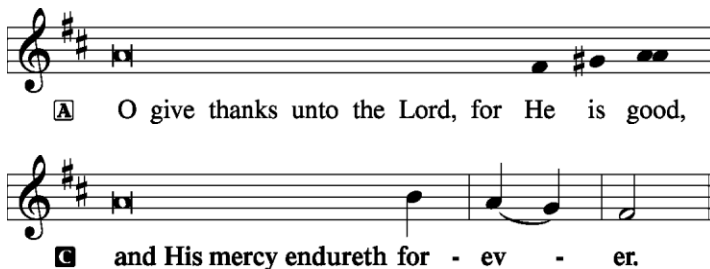
Luke 2:29–32

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



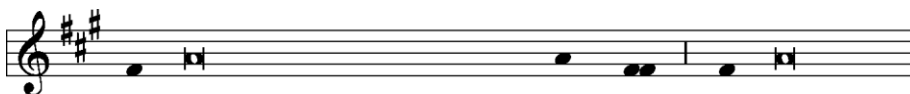
A Bless we the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



Postlude

As with Gladness Men of Old ~ Walter Pelz



Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT GRACE

- SUNDAY:** 8:15 a.m. – Divine Service
Coffee and Fellowship in the Parlor
9:45 a.m. – Sunday School downstairs in Parker Hall
9:45 a.m. – Junior and Senior High classes downstairs in the church
9:45 a.m. – Pastor Walter’s Bible Class upstairs in Parker Hall
10:45 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion
12:30 p.m. – Take down the Christmas trees and decorations
- MON - FRI:** 7:30 a.m. – Early Childhood Development Center
- MONDAY:** 6:00 p.m. – Board of Christian Education
- TUESDAY:** 5:15 p.m. - Confirmation
NO Handbell Choir
NO Adult Choir
- WEDNESDAY:** 6:30 a.m. – Men’s Bible Study (**Parlor**)
7:00 p.m. – Midweek Divine Service with Holy Communion
- THURSDAY:** 12:00 noon – Noon Devotions with Pastor

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL, we studied “An Angel Visits Joseph.” Just as the angel proclaimed to Joseph that Mary would bear an infant who is the Son of God, the Savior, so God proclaimed to us in His Word that this same Jesus is our Savior from sin and death. Parents could ask, “What important message did the angel give Joseph? What important message do we hear in God’s Word?”

PASTOR WALTER’S CLASS meets upstairs in the Family Life Center in Parker Hall. This morning Pastor Walter continues a study of St. Peter’s Epistles with Jude.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for children ages 3 years through 6th grade meet in the lower level of the Family Life Center. **JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES** meet in classrooms downstairs in the church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD’S BLESSINGS TO:

- Jan. 6 – Joni Jones, Katie Litwa, Elsie Westerfield
Jan. 7 – Perryn Andrews, Lindsay Zweifel
Jan. 8 – David Cossey, Bradley Stillman
Jan. 11 – Afton Calvillo
Jan. 12 – Larry Stillman

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Susie Barlow continues her recovery following surgery.

Jack Funk continues his recovery at home.

Kay Jenkins continues her recovery at The Lakes in Maumelle.

GRACE WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP - Attendance: Sunday 12/30 137 (8:15 – 63 and 10:45 – 74). New Year's Eve 12/31: 49. **Offerings:** Sunday 12/30: \$14,203.00. Christmas Eve: \$5,986.00. Christmas Day: \$2,305.00. Missions: \$125.00. Member Assistance: \$500.00. Memorials: \$515.00. Scholarship Fund: \$2.00. Building Fund: \$250.00. Christian Welfare Fund: \$500.00.

TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS TREES AND DECORATIONS - TODAY at 12:30 p.m. we will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. Please take time to help us take down the trees and put away all the decorations. Thanks!!!

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION will meet on Monday, January 7th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Bob Bryant is the director.

NOON DEVOTIONS WITH PASTOR is **Thursday, January 10th, at 12:00 noon in Parker Hall.** Bring a sandwich and join us for Bible study and fellowship. Drinks, chips, and dessert are provided. Call the church office for more information.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES are on the table on the bridge as you go across to Parker Hall. Please pick them up and begin using them now.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for **January – March, 2019** are on the table on the bridge next to the offering envelopes. Please pick up your copy today. Remember to recycle your old *Portals of Prayer* with your recycle material at home.

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR is posted in the Ushers' room at the back of the sanctuary. Please sign up for the date that you would like to place flowers on the altar in 2019. The chart fills up quickly, so sign up now.

ALTAR GUILD - The 2019 Altar Guild schedule is posted on the bulletin board by the Parlor. Please sign up for the month and service where you would like to serve. If you haven't served before, contact Angie Proud for more information.

EPIPHANY DINNER - The ACTS group invites you to join them for their Epiphany Dinner tonight, January 6th at 5:30 p.m. at the Butcher Shop. Contact Sammye Harrill to make your reservation.

MEMORIALS -

IN MEMORY OF MR. ALLEN DEISLINGER
TO THE GRACE BUILDING FUND
By Kim Woodyard

IN MEMORY OF MR CARL WALTER
TO THE GRACE BUILDING FUND
By Malcolm and Judy Ward

IN MEMORY OF MR. LEO ESGET
TO THE GRACE BUILDING FUND
By Roger Anderson
Brian Borg
Harold Duke
Arnold and Cheryl Gustafson
Daniel and JoAnne Nordstrom
Beth Schoolman
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Virginia