



**January 5, 2025**  
**9:30 AM Worship Service**



*“Tender to Obedience”*  
*- Pastor Doug Widger*

## **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

### **Opening Song: In Christ Alone**

vs. 1-3

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

## Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God almighty.

C: Holy and righteous God, we confess that like Isaiah, we are a people of unclean lips. But it is not only unclean lips we possess. We are people with unclean hands and unclean hearts. We have broken your law times without number, and are guilty of pride, unbelief, self-centeredness and idolatry. Affect our hearts with the severity of our sin and the glory of your righteousness as we now acknowledge our sins in your holy presence.

P: As a servant of God's word, I remind you of the words from Isaiah 53:

He was despised and rejected by mankind,  
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.  
Like one from whom people hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

<sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our pain  
and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God,  
stricken by him, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

My friends, peace and healing come to those who place their trust in the work of Christ alone. Now share this peace with one another.

C: Amen.

## Share Grace

### Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:1-20

- 1 And God spoke all these words, saying,
- 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- 3 "You shall have no other gods before me.
- 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,
- 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- 7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

- 8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.  
9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,  
10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.  
11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.  
12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.  
13 "You shall not murder.  
14 "You shall not commit adultery.  
15 "You shall not steal.  
16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.  
17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."  
18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off  
19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die."  
20 Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 5:17-20**

- 17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.  
18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.  
19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.  
20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

## Message Song: I Surrender All

*Verse 1:* All to Jesus I surrender  
All to Him I freely give  
I will ever love and trust Him  
In His presence daily live

*Chorus:* I surrender all, I surrender all  
All to Thee my blessed Saviour  
I surrender all

*Verse 2:* All to Jesus I surrender  
Make me Saviour wholly Thine  
Let me feel the Holy Spirit  
Truly know that Thou art mine

*Chorus:* I surrender all, I surrender all  
All to Thee my blessed Saviour  
I surrender all

*Verse 3:* All to Jesus I surrender  
Lord I give myself to Thee  
Fill me with Thy love and power  
Let Thy blessings fall on me

*Chorus:* I surrender all, I surrender all  
All to Thee my blessed Saviour  
I surrender all  
I surrender all

**Message: "Tender to Obedience" - Pastor Doug Widger**

## 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.

## Connection Points

### Offering

#### How He Loves

*Verse 1:* He is jealous for me loves like a hurricane  
I am a tree bending beneath  
The weight of His wind and mercy  
When all of a sudden I am unaware of  
These afflictions eclipsed by glory  
I realize just how beautiful You are  
And how great Your affections are for me

*Pre-Chorus:* Oh how He loves us so  
Oh how He loves us, How He loves us so

*(REPEAT)*

*Chorus:* (Yeah) He loves us  
Oh how He loves us  
Oh how He loves us  
Oh how He loves  
*(REPEAT)*

*Verse 2:* We are His portion and He is our prize  
Drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes  
If grace is an ocean we're all sinking  
So Heaven meets earth  
Like an unforeseen kiss  
And my heart turns violently inside of my chest  
I don't have time to maintain these regrets  
When I think about the way that

*Pre-Chorus*

*Chorus*

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### Communion

#### Christ Be My Leader

LSB #861  
vs. 1-3

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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## Draw Us to Thee

LSB #701  
vs. 1-5

Draw us to Thee,  
For then shall we  
Walk in Thy steps forever  
And hasten on  
Where Thou art gone  
To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee,  
Lord, lovingly;  
Let us depart with gladness  
That we may be  
Forever free  
From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Draw us to Thee;  
O grant that we  
May walk the road to heaven!  
Direct our way  
Lest we should stray  
And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee  
That also we  
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit  
And ever dwell  
Where sin and hell  
No more can vex our spirit.

Draw us to Thee  
Unceasingly,  
Into Thy kingdom take us;  
Let us fore'er  
Thy glory share,  
Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day,  
Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray  
From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love,  
Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!

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## Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

### Ways to Follow Jesus

### Benediction

P: Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.  
Amen. (*Hebrews 13:20-21*)

C: Amen.

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

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### COMMUNION NOTES

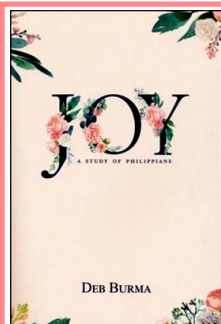
A traveling tray will be available for those who desire it.

#### **We ask ourselves questions of examination:**

- Do I believe that I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I believe that Jesus is my Savior and that through faith in Him my sins are forgiven?
- Do I believe that in this meal I receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus, for the forgiveness of my sins, not just a symbol of it?
- Do I intend, with the help of God, to live a Christian life?

***We welcome to the altar all who answer yes to these questions and believe as we do.***

Those who have never communed with us before are asked to speak to the Pastor or Elder before the service. If you're not ready to participate in the Lord's Supper with us, please feel free to come forward. Folding of your arms will indicate to the Pastors your desire to receive a blessing.



## BOOK STUDY ON JOY BY DEB BURMA

Starting January 2025!

Sign up in the Narthex/Lobby to participate in an in-person small group or in a small group online. Please let Serena Pace know if you're interested in leading a small group.



**PLEASE  
CHECK IN!**

**[go.grace.lc/links](https://go.grace.lc/links)**

SCAN THE QR CODE OR TYPE THE  
LINK ABOVE TO CHECK IN, SUBMIT  
PRAYER REQUESTS, AND MORE!



## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

### Sunday, January 5, 2025

9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary  
12:00 PM Spanish Worship Service - Fireside Room

### Tuesday, January 7, 2025

7:30 PM Community Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, January 8, 2025

6:30 PM Joybells Rehearsal - Sanctuary  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Music Room

### Thursday, January 9, 2025

12:00 PM Grace Seniors Lunch - Fireside Room  
6:00 PM Braille (Sandra's Braille Buddies)  
- Braille Room: MR1

### Saturday, January 11, 2025

9:00 AM Altar Guild  
11:00 AM Memorial for Karen Carter - Sanctuary

### Sunday, January 12, 2025

9:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary  
10:45 AM The Ten(der) Commandments  
Table Talks - Gym  
10:45 AM Thrivent Annual Meeting & Lunch - Gym  
12:00 PM Spanish Worship Service - Fireside Room  
4:45 - 6:00 PM Grace Youth: Broomball & Pizza

### ELDERS AND THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Joe Masterson	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
David Swille	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Brian Bassett	S
Jim Schmidt	T-Z
Head Elder: Joe Masterson	



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Pastor Doug Widger, Lead Shepherd  
Pastor Steve Roth, Community Care  
Dr. Serena Pace, DCE, Director of Ministries  
Mrs. Laura Scott, Director of Early Education

**BROOMBALL**

**COST \$15**

**JANUARY 12TH**

4:45PM-6PM

JOIN US FOR PIZZA AFTERWARDS. CONTACT SERENA FOR MORE DETAILS.

## New Year — New Message Series and Study

The TEN(DER) Commandments! In this series God will make our hearts tender towards the things which he built into the design of creation. The following quote explains it well: "The commandments are the most complete summary of creational design for human life."



Professor Charles Arand, pg. 72. Luther's Large Catechism, CPH 2022. Come and rediscover joyful living as we come to understand anew how life was designed to work. We'll center our worship around these themes and then move to the gym for "Table Talk" discussions. Please plan to be a part of this exciting journey.

- January 5 – 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment – *Tender to Obedience*
- January 12 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment – *Tender to His Name*
- January 19 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment – *Tender Rest*
- January 26 – 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment – *Tender to Authority*
- February 2 – 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment – *Tender to Life*
- February 9 – 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment – *Tender to Purity*
- February 16 – 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment – *Tender Simplicity*
- February 23 – 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment – *Tender to Truth*
- March 2 – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Commandments – *Tender Contentment*



## EMBRACE GRACE

Is this a ministry you feel called to help with?

Contact Serena Pace, Barb Spivy or Barb Koehn for information. Training is available. Embrace Grace meets on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Please keep this ministry in prayer.

The new launch is February 5.

## Pushpay Instructions



1. Use your cell phone text messaging feature.
2. Type (833) 630-9900 in the send to line
3. Type GRACELC in the message line.
4. Press to send message. Almost immediately you will receive a message back thanking you for your generosity.
5. Click the link shown in the message.
6. This takes you to the page where you will see our church logo.
7. You have the option to make a gift to the church's ministries.
8. You can insert the dollar amount of the gift.
9. You can choose the frequency of the gift (one-time gift or recurring gifts).
10. Choose the fund type (tithes, etc.).
11. Click Next.
12. You will be able to confirm the details you just chose, then add your credit card or bank account information, and it can be stored for you or not, as you desire.
13. Check the box to authorize the transaction.
14. Press GIVE, and you are done.