

## Grace at a Glance

### More than a Prophet

Luke 7:18-35

Sunday, February 16, 2025

### Annual Meeting Part II



#### Scripture - Luke 7:18-35

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples <sup>19</sup>and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>20</sup>When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?'" <sup>21</sup>Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, plagues, and evil spirits, and had given sight to many who were blind. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." <sup>24</sup>When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' <sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." <sup>29</sup>(And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, because they had been baptized with John's baptism. <sup>30</sup>But by refusing to be baptized by him, the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves.) <sup>31</sup>"To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? <sup>32</sup>They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.' <sup>33</sup>For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>34</sup>the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' <sup>35</sup>Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

#### Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,

In all that we do, help us to point to you just as John the Baptist always pointed to Jesus as the one who was and is to come. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



QR direct link to 'Give' feature on Grace website!



#### FEBRUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Mission of the Month for February at Grace is **Operation Smile**. A cleft is a gap in the mouth that did not close during the early stages of pregnancy, and it happens more often than you realize. Cleft lip and palate are believed to be the most common craniofacial differences worldwide. Without intervention affected children battle a lifetime of difficulties with eating, breathing, speaking and mental health.

Cleft lip and palate go untreated due to cost, lack of access to qualified medical staff and social stigma against medical intervention. At Operation Smile, they are committed to erasing these barriers to care.

The cost of care and surgery varies by country. A cleft surgery can cost as little as \$240.00. This is made possible by the generosity of volunteer medical professionals and corporate donations of essential supplies and equipment. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to Operation Smile to reach out and improve the quality of life for children who are waiting for access to medical intervention around the world. Please use your blue multi-purpose envelope, mark mission of the month and place in the offering plate or mail to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Grace. Thank you.

**This Sunday we worship at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary.**

**Confidential Prayer Link:** <https://forms.gle/oCUEbVJ6CkmdD3nB6>

We have established a confidential prayer email that we have added to our website which can be used by anyone wishing for prayers. This can be made available to just the pastor, the pastor and the prayer chain, OR the pastor, the prayer chain, and the congregation **as you choose**. Please feel free to test it out. This is just one more way you can access our pastor and/or the prayer team.

We have a dedicated free phone line which you can call in and listen to the livestreaming worship services. So if you don't have a computer or would rather just listen, call in on 1-(833) 579 - 2830. We are working on improving the quality of this experience. Please pass this number to your friends without computers.

**We will continue to post recordings of the services** each week on our website and Facebook page. Stay tuned for more information as we go forward. We pray for everyone to stay safe and healthy.

**Your giving is very important to continuing our missions as always.** You can give electronically using the give button on the website ([www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi](http://www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi)), mail it in to the church (1730 Old Hudson Road, St. Paul 55106) or place in the offering at worship on Sunday.

The office hours are M-Thurs, 9:30-1:30. Feel free to call the church (651-774-9617) with any questions, prayers, or requests for help.

**Upcoming:** **February 23** Pancakes & Puppets during Fellowship hour.  
**March 2** Mardi Gras Appetizer & Dessert potluck during Fellowship hour!

We have some interest in starting a group of crocheters and knitters to meet together 1 or 2 times a month for fellowship and handwork. If you might be interested also, please let the office or Linda Sackreiter know. We are looking at the possibility of meeting at the same time as the Quilters are working in the Tower room twice a month. Warm up those hooks and needles!

Sound & Video System - The upgrade in the Tower rooms is complete and the new system in the Sanctuary has been installed!! The Special Gifts and Memorials Committee has given a donation of \$10,000 toward the funding as well as another \$5000 in matching funds for any incoming donations. We are currently at **\$23,975.00** including the SGM gifts. Please label any gifts for the Sound System so that they get to the right place. Thank you!!



#### Monday, February 10 – Sunday, February 16, 2025

<b>Monday, February 10</b>	10:00 am	Missions Committee
	1:30 pm	Business Mgmt Committee
<b>Tuesday, February 11</b>	1:00 pm	Worship Comm. + Hymn planning
	6:00 pm	Property Mgmt Committee
	6:30 pm	Community Conn. Comm. (virtual)
<b>Wednesday, February 12</b>	<b>10-12</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Conversation</b>
<b>Thursday, February 13</b>	1:30 pm	XYZ Movie Day!
<b>Friday, February 14</b>	10-1 pm	Memorial Service for Russ Carlson
<b>Sunday, February 16</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Bells of Grace rehearsal</b>
	<b>8:50 am</b>	<b>Sanctuary Choir rehearsal</b>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship-</b>
		<b>Live streamed and recorded</b>
		<b>Phone in line</b> 1-(833) 579 -2830
	<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Annual Meeting Part II</b>
	<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>

#### Sunday School question of the week -

**How many Beatitudes can you name?**

Answer from last week:

(No question last week)

#### Church Chuckles

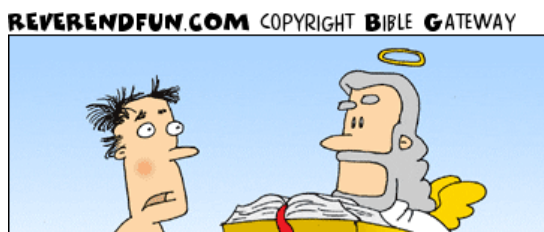
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Thanks to Pieter Strydom 02-03-2005

OH NO ... SNAILS GOT INTO OUR GOOD WINTER CLOTHES

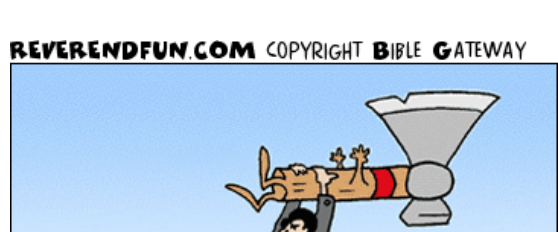
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(See 1Thessalonians 5:1-3) 02-23-2004

THIS WAS UNEXPECTED!

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Thanks to Los 02-14-2006

LAMENTATIONS SURE HAD A HARD TIME EVER SINCE DUDERONOMY HOOKED UP WITH THAT ACTS GUY