

Epiphany 6  
February 13, 2022

## **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Making Christ Known to all Through Grace*

2225 Washington Street, Lincoln NE 68502 + 402-474-1505 + [www.egrace.org](http://www.egrace.org)

Network: GLC-Balcony

Password: AlphaOmega

### **WELCOME to worship**

Grace Lutheran Church, a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been at the heart of the faith community in Lincoln since 1889.

- We follow our mission: "Making Christ known to all through Grace."
- We celebrate our purpose: "That by God's grace we have been gathered to worship, called to witness, and sent to serve."
- We seek our vision: "To become a church with a passion for fostering a welcoming community that strives for peace and a sense of belonging."

Thank you for worshipping with us today and join our community at any time!

### **WORSHIP notes**

Remember your response is marked in **BOLD** font.

**Hearing enhancement devices** are available near the welcome table. Ask an usher to assist you.

**Restrooms** are located next to our chapel on the other side of the courtyard.

**Masks** are required for everyone during worship.

### **INTRODUCTION to worship**

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe to” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

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### **GATHERING**

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

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### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** “Guide Me Ever, Great Jehovah”, Bill Ingram

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## STAND

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news: In ☩ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN ELW 717

#### Let Justice Flow like Streams



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,  
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,  
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.  
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.  
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

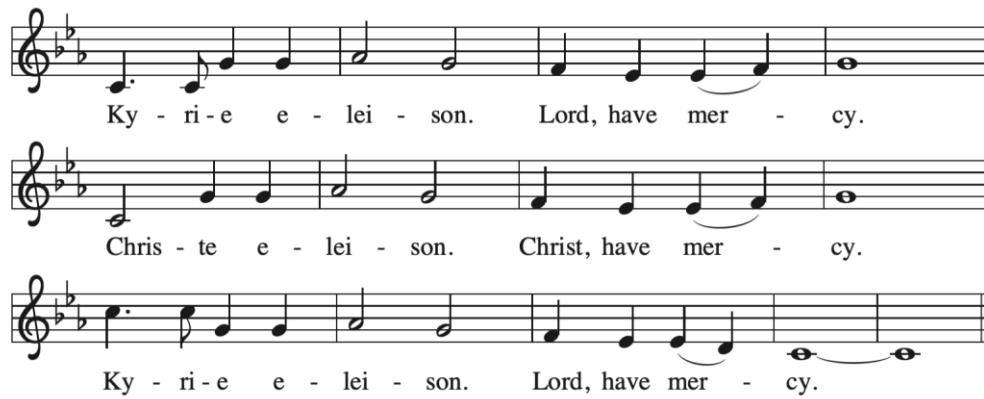
Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

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### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## KYRIE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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## WORD

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

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### SIT

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

*These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.*

A reading from Jeremiah:

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 1



Psalm 1:3

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel <sup>|</sup> of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats <sup>|</sup> of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law <sup>|</sup> of the Lord,  
and they meditate on God's teaching <sup>|</sup> day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves  
that <sup>|</sup> do not wither; everything they <sup>|</sup> do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so <sup>|</sup> with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind <sup>|</sup> blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when <sup>|</sup> judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council <sup>|</sup> of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the Lord knows the way <sup>|</sup> of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall <sup>|</sup> be destroyed. R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

*For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.*

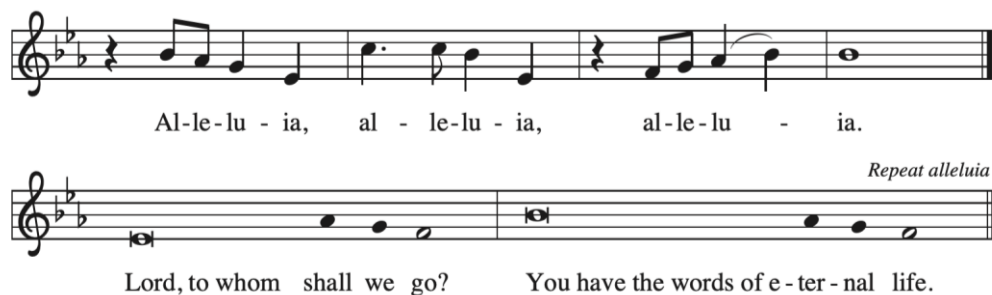
A reading from 1 Corinthians:

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup>and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup>If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

STAND

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

*After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.<sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>“Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup>“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup>“But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup>“Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup>“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

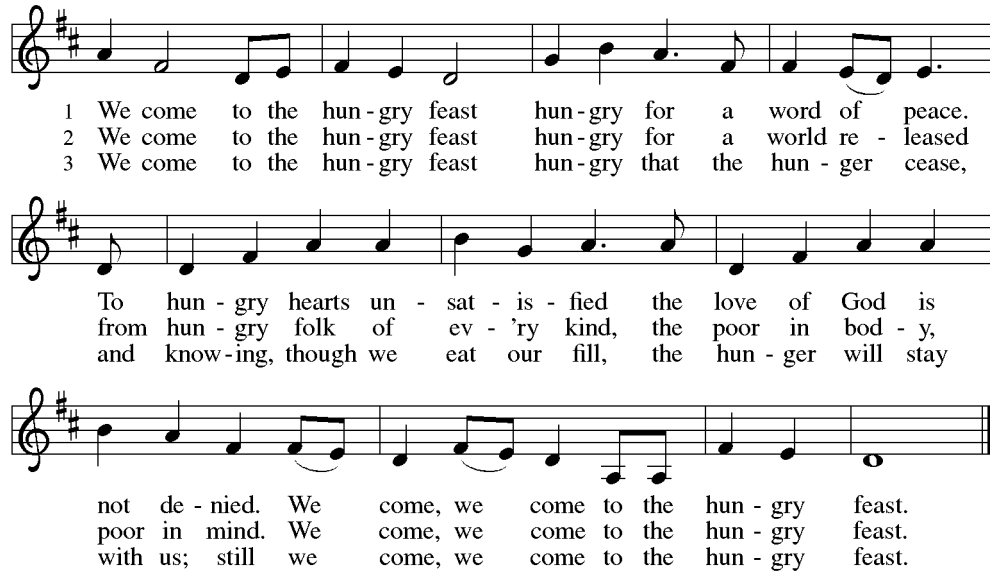
SIT

## SERMON

## STAND

### HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 479

#### We Come to the Hungry Feast



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943  
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever  
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended to the living,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made. *A brief silence.*

Blessed are those whose trust is in you. Strengthen the faith of those who profess your name and bring reassurance to those who doubt or fear. Through your church speak continued blessing into the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Those who trust in you are like trees planted by streams of water. Bless fruit trees with an abundant harvest. Protect rainforests from destruction. Restore land that has eroded after deforestation. Resurrect woodlands after forest fires. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Search the hearts of those who govern, that they lead with humility. Inspire leaders to collaborate on policies that protect people and the planet. Sustain truth-tellers and social movements that challenge society to become more honest and just. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Send your blessings of mercy upon those who long for consolation. Tend to those struggling with poverty, unemployment, or uncertainty. Provide for all who are hungry. Console those who face persecution. Grant peace to all who suffer, especially those we name before you now.... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renew this congregation in our shared mission. As we plan and dream for the future you are preparing, inspire us by the examples of Martin Luther and all the reformers. Bless new projects and new ministry partnerships. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Christ is raised from the dead, and so we cling to the hope of the resurrection. We praise you for the lives of the saints who lived and died in the hope of eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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### MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

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*SIT*

**MUSIC OFFERING** "Blest Are They", David Haas, b. 1957

*Blest are they, the poor in spirit;*

*theirs is the kingdom of God.*

*Blest are they, full of sorrow,*

*they shall be consoled.*

*(Refrain)*



*Rejoice, and be glad!  
Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice, and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God!*

*Blest are they, the lowly ones;  
they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;  
they shall have their fill.  
(refrain)*

*Flute solo*

*Blest are they, who seek peace,  
they are the children of God.  
Blest are they, who suffer in faith;  
the glory of God is theirs.  
(refrain)*

*Blest are you who suffer hate,  
all because of me.  
Rejoice, be glad, yours is the kingdom;  
shine for all to see.  
(refrain)*

**STAND**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

### **DIALOG**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

*SIT*

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome. Come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the wafer (Body of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. Move to the next station to receive the cup (Blood of Christ). Grape juice is available upon request. Return to your pew by way of the side aisle. Please dispose your used cup into the basket at the head of the side aisle.*

## COMMUNION HYMN ELW 754

### Jesus, the Very Thought of You



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;  
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call  
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,  
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.  
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!  
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!  
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878  
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## STAND

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

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### SENDING

*God sends us in mission to the world.*

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## SENDING HYMN

# Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ☩ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE "Lord of Light", *Abbott's Leigh*, arr. K. K. Patterson

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## WORSHIP SERVANTS

Worship Leader:	Eric Lesher
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson
Cantor/Soloist/Flutist:	Julene Lesher
Bell Choir:	Wendy & Chris Apple, Dave Ripa, Bev Madison
Reader:	Cindy Eberspacher
Communion Assistants:	Kurt and Cindy Eberspacher
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Doug and Sarah Krueger
Ushers:	Robert Stimbert, Neil Larson, Ron Holtgrewe
Wine Donors:	Rod and Debbie Basler

## WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS

The following temporary changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, please stay at home and watch the service online.
- **Masks are required** for everyone during worship.
- We will enter the building through the **Atrium doors**. These doors will be locked at fifteen minutes past the hour. All other **doors will be locked**.
- There will **hand sanitizers** at the doorways. If you wish you can sanitize your hands prior to entering the worship space.
- There will be no offering. There will be an **offering basket** located at both entrance doors to the sanctuary.
- There will be **no sharing** of the peace.
- There will be **no acolyte or assisting minister**.
- There will be **no nursery** available.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Coffee Hour**

Suspended until further notice.

### **Adult Class**

Class starts at 10:15 in Leshar Lounge. Masks required. The people of Israel return to the land from which they had been taken. Returning required restoration of both the country and the temple in Jerusalem. The heart and soul of God's people. Today, the priest and scribe known as Ezra leads this effort through specific persons and practices that will reestablish the centrality of the temple in the people's lives.

**Green attendance cards** can be filled out and returned to the Offering basket in the front of the church after worship or the Welcome Table basket on the top of the atrium stairs.

**The Lutheran** magazine and **Daily Devotionals** are available in the narthex after worship or in the atrium during the week. Limited copies available.

**Flower chart** is available in the atrium. You can sign up for flowers there and leave through the east main entrance.

### **2022 Offering Envelopes**

Available in the atrium for you to pick up today or during the week.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### February 14:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 pm
Lessons	4:00 pm
Scouts BSA	7:00 pm

### February 15:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
WELCA Group 6	7:00 pm

### February 16:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Bell Choir A practice	6:00 pm
Bell Choir B practice	7:00 pm
Confirmation	7:00 pm

### February 18:

Suzuki Rehearsal	3:00 pm
BNRR	4:00 pm

### February 19:

Worship	5:30 pm
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### February 20:

Worship	9:00 am
Adult Class	10:15 am
LLC Practice	3:00 pm

