



Order of Worship: January 26th

Prelude (Casey Derksen)

Bells: *"Be Thou My Vision"*

Welcome/Announcements

Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Opening Songs:
"Stand Up and Bless the Lord"
"The King of Glory Comes"

Scripture Readings:
Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10
Psalm 19
Luke 4:14-21a

Unison Prayer

Song: *"Open My Eyes, That I May See"*

Message: "Take a Seat"

Special Music: *"Holy Forever"* (Casey Derksen)

Offering/Doxology/Offertory Prayer

Song: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Song: *"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

Blessing

Postlude (Casey Derksen)

This Week at Grace

Tuesday:
Bible Study 9am
Bell Practice 130pm

Wednesday:
Bible Study 4-6
Outreach meeting (offsite)
530pm

If you are planning to meet at Grace UMC, you need to call ahead or email the office to reserve space and to get your meeting on the church calendar. To adjust for heating/cooling needs, Pastor Jen needs to know if/when you are meeting.

Office Phone:
218-568-5755

Grace Office Hours
Monday - Wednesday
9 a.m. to noon

Worship
Online--available at
www.graceumcpequotlakes.org

In-Person Worship
Sunday--9am

Unison Prayer

Sometimes, God answers our prayers in ways we never imagined.

Sometimes, we can't perceive God's amazing faithfulness.

When the Messiah appeared in the synagogue, his own hometown couldn't believe one of their own was Christ, The Anointed One.

Through the person of Jesus Christ, God's grace was proclaimed and promise fulfilled.

Let us pause, to take a deep, safe breath.

God really does answer our prayers.

May we have the patience, wisdom, and curiosity to receive what we have already been given. Amen.

Call to Worship

L: Come into this sacred space to worship God

P: whose teaching is perfect; whose directions are sure.

L: Come into this holy place to worship God

P: whose standards are right; whose commandment is clear; whose judgements are true.

L: Come with holy fear –
to be given life, and made wise,
to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

Come — let us worship God.

All: Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according to your will, O God. Amen.



Scriptures for next week:

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Psalms 71:1-6

Luke 4:21-30





Mission Giving for January

Our Mission Focus for January will be sent to support the work of "My Neighbor to Love", and their efforts to support those who are struggling with stable housing.

If you are giving towards these gifts, please use one of the envelopes provided at the back of the sanctuary or make a note on your check with "January Missions".

We are also participating in a special collection for the food shelf. "Soup-er Bowl LIX. You can bring in any food donations to the church for this, but SOUP is especially easy to remember on these cold winter days!

We are looking ahead to a special offering to be taken to support those who have been affected by the wildfires in California.

They read from the book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read.

NEHEMIAH 8:8

Luke-Acts
2025

Join us in reading one chapter each week throughout 2025.



Dakotas-Minnesota Area
The United Methodist Church

Beginning in January 2025, **Bishop Lanette Plambeck invites** clergy and laity across the Area to join in a journey through Luke and Acts, reading one chapter each week throughout the year.

This shared experience will foster a sense of encouragement, challenge, and community as we delve into the seamless story of Jesus' life, ministry, death, resurrection, and the Spirit's work through the early church. Comprised of 52 chapters together, they provide a natural framework for intentional spiritual practice through 2025.

A checklist to use as a bookmark is available at church for this experience.

January Breakthrough Prayer

Bishop Lanette will offer a new breakthrough prayer each month throughout 2025, inviting the Holy Spirit to form and transform us through this communal reading experience. She encourages us to pray the prayer daily. The January prayer is:

Holy God, as we begin this year of reading and prayer, dedicate our hearts to your word. Shape us through the story of Jesus and his followers, that we may grow in faith and love. Prepare us for the transformative journey ahead. In Christ's name, Amen.

At a Bible study this week, some of us thought that this 2025 reading journey might be a good opportunity to explore a different Bible translation than you normally use. --Pastor Jen



It is now the time of year that you may need to consider personal safety when making plans to attend services or events. Please always choose the safest plan, because everyone lives in such a widespread area. When in doubt on the cancellation of any church function, please contact the church office or your group leader. We will also post cancellations on our Facebook page as needed as well.



Stay after worship on Sunday the 26th for "Hot Dish and Fellowship"!



Starting on Tuesday the 28th at 10:30am, a group will be meeting at Lakes Latte in downtown Pequot Lakes to begin work on MAY baskets for the annual UWF event. No skill required! Bring a willingness to work together and have fun!

The church office is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9am until noon. Ring the doorbell and we will come to open the south door!

--Church office phone: 218-568-5755

--Church office (for all general inquiries and administrative/clerical duties)

graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com

--Pastor Jen Matthees – **jenmatt20@gmail.com**

--Ann Hutchings-Congregational Care Assistant-**graceumccare@gmail.com**



Communication Reminder.....

The church office email (**graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com**) should be used to inform the office about ALL events, meetings, or use of the building you would like to schedule so they can be added to the master calendar. This enables us to avoid scheduling conflicts and make sure the areas of the building are cooled/heated as needed. The official church calendar is maintained by volunteers.

Additionally, did you know the church calendar is available on our website (**graceumcpequotlakes.org**)? There is a tab near the top, right side you can click to see the calendar!

Our Congregational Care Assistant, Ann Hutchings, is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 9:00-noon. Her role is to follow-up with our church family, through telephone calls, notes and email, as well as greet and welcome those who visit our church and assist with any needs. Ann's email (graceumccare@gmail.com) should be used for "congregational care" needs only.

If you have something that should be added to this newsletter from your group or mission, please speak with Pastor Jen or email the details to her at jenmatt20@gmail.com. The E-Grace is generally completed by noon on Thursdays, so articles need to be received by Thursday 10am at the very latest.

If you wish to connect with me directly and it is not an emergency, please know that I will respond as needed during pretty regular office hours. I am generally in the church on Tuesday (830-1030) and Wednesday (10-3) call the office to be sure, as my weeks and Mondays vary. You may find me here at other times too! I check my emails frequently throughout the day, and this is the best way to contact me. **Friday is my day off** as needs allow.

-Pastor Jen



Important note

If you are mailing something to the church, ***you must use our P.O. Box for the address.*** We do not receive mail at the church, and if you use the physical church address it will get returned and could delay your notices to us or offerings.

**P.O. Box 276
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**

[Visit our website](#)

On our website you can find links to past services, a spot to watch this week's service, an online link to giving, and much more!

Contact Information

Grace United Methodist Church

29318 Patriot Ave - P.O. Box 276

Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Phone: 218-568-5755

Email: graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com

Website: www.graceumcpequotlakes.org



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