

**Gran-Park-Rollag Parish and Living Grace Lutheran Church**  
*In ministry partnership since 2017*

**Gran-Park-Rollag Parish**

3 Churches – 1 Ministry: Energized by God  
To celebrate, share & show God's love  
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**Living Grace Lutheran Church**

A worshipping community of the ELCA focused on making known God's love and grace by:  
*Welcoming Everyone, Sharing Jesus' story, Growing in faith and Serving beyond ourselves.*  
Pastor Hope Deutscher  
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Worships at The Garrick Theater,  
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**Sunday, January 10, 2021**

**Baptism of Our Lord Sunday – Virtual Holy Communion Worship Service**  
**Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher, Pr. Jim Greene, and Andrea Keene**  
**Music Provided by: Pam Aakre, and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute**

*Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. In the gospel of Mark and in Acts, it is the Holy Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.*

**Happening This Week:**

**Tuesday, January 12:** 7 PM Youth and Education Meeting

**Wednesday, January 13:** 9 AM Staff Meeting; 10 AM Ephesians Bible Study (Zoom); 2 PM Rollag Stewardship Committee; 6:30 PM Confirmation (Zoom)

**Thursday, January 14:** 7 PM GPR Parish Council; Rollag Council will meet afterwards.

**Sunday, January 17:** Worship Online

**Monday, January 18:** 7 PM Women's Book Study (on Zoom) - *It's Not Supposed to be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered* by Lysa Terkeurst

**Welcome/Announcements**

- Welcome to worship for the GPR Parish and Living Grace Lutheran. Today, we come to you from a variety of locations.
- We invite you to subscribe to our YouTube channel – Rollag Lutheran Church.
- **Pastoral Care:** Pastor Jim Greene and Pastor Hope Deutscher are available for pastoral care. If you or a loved one are hospitalized or ill, we would love to be caring for you. Please call or email us at the numbers above. Andrea Keene is also available to talk to youth.
- **SMART Team/Worshipping Update:** Our Councils and Smart Team are working together to keep us safe, watching the guidelines and numbers to prepare safe ways for us to be together when and how it is safe to do so.
- **Bible and Book Studies:**
  - *Wednesdays at 10 AM: Bible Study (Studying Ephesians)*

- *First and Third Mondays @ 7 pm (Next one January 4) Women's Book Study: It's Not Supposed to be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments leave you shattered by Lysa Terkeurst. Contact Pr. Hope for Zoom log-in details!*
- Please read GPR newsletter for updates on worship, Annual meetings, and a variety of programs (and not all of them will be on Zoom) coming up to help us in our Spiritual Journey as we leave 2020 behind and enter into 2021!
- **Notes about today's service:**
  - *A Large print bulletin is available on our websites for you to use during worship.*
  - *During our service, we have the following supplies reading:*
    - *Bread/crackers and wine/juice available for partaking in Virtual Holy Communion.*
  - *Music provided by Pam Aakre and Pr. Hope Deutscher.*
  - *We are grateful for youth and their participation in our service. Andrea will have a children's sermon.*

**Prelude: Come, Holy Spirit, Dove Divine**

**Pam Aakre, Piano**

**Welcome**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

**ELW Page #97**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. On this day we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord and we recall our own baptism and our baptismal blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as daughters and sons, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of Almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . and the fire of this life."

In the waters of Baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. As we receive the gifts of baptism in word, water, wine and bread this day, we are reminded that our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**

**Leader:** Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn: God Whose Almighty Word (ELW 673/ LBW 400)**

**Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute**

**Verse 1:** *God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness hear and took their flight:  
Hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.*

**Verse 3:** *Spirit of truth and love, lifegiving holy dove, speed forth your flight;  
move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest  
place let there be light.*

**Children's Message**

**Andrea Keene, GPR Youth Director**

**Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>Then God said, "**Let there be light**"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**Message: Pr. Jim Greene**

Contact Pastor Jim at [revjamesgreene18@yahoo.com](mailto:revjamesgreene18@yahoo.com). if you want a transcript of this sermon.

**Virtual Communion**

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 in 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 in the remembrance of me.

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Hymn: Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized (ELW 304)**

**Verse 1:** *Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came,  
As peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame, as urgent as a flame.*

**Verse 4:** *Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord; your cross on us be signed, that likewise  
in God's service we may perfect freedom find, may perfect freedom find.*

**Scripture: Acts 19:1-7 (CEB)**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul took a route through the interior and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you came to believe?"

They replied, "We've not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

<sup>3</sup>Then he said, "What baptism did you receive, then?"

They answered, "John's baptism."

<sup>4</sup>Paul explained, "John baptized with a baptism by which people showed **they were changing their hearts and lives**. It was a baptism that told people about the one who was coming after him. This is the one in whom they were to believe. This one is Jesus." <sup>5</sup>After they listened to Paul, they were baptized in the **name of the Lord Jesus**. <sup>6</sup>When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in

other languages and prophesying. <sup>7</sup> Altogether, there were about twelve people.

**Message: Pr. Hope Deutscher**

Contact Pr. Hope Deutscher at [hdeutscher@gmail.com](mailto:hdeutscher@gmail.com) if you would like a transcript of the sermon.

**Hymn of Month: At The Name of Jesus (ELW 416/ LBW 179)**

**Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute**

**Verse 1:** *At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,  
ev'ry tongue confess him king of glory.  
It is God's good pleasure we should call him Lord,  
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.*

**Receiving of Offering - *With thanksgiving, let us offer our lives to God, the giver of life.***

*Offering Prayer: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.*

*Thank you for remembering the importance of continuing to Tithe your financial gifts. You can mail your offering to your church or give through [Tithe.ly](http://Tithe.ly) online (mobile and online option) or by mail. Visit [livinggracehawley.org](http://livinggracehawley.org) or [gprparish.org](http://gprparish.org) for specific information.*

**Prayers**

Creator God, the greatest gift you gave to us was your desire to have a relationship with us- a relationship in which you have blessed us beyond belief. May we learn to notice our blessings through: using all our senses; through taking care of all you created for us; and most importantly, through being an honest help to each other in all we think, say, and do!  
LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Lord Jesus, as John the Baptist pointed you out to the world, may our eyes become more open to your presence, guidance, and grace in our everyday experiences- NOT just if we read the bible, pray, or go to church. As you walk with us through all our experiences- the joyful and the painful- help us to see & use the wisdom you offer through trusting & following God's plan. LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Comforting Holy Spirit, may the light of your inspiration infiltrate our minds as we learn to **hear** you in all the sounds of life; **see** you in all creation; as we **smell** the wonders of your blessings; **taste** what truly fills us up; and **feel** the touch of your guiding Spirit deep in our souls. LORD IN YOUR MERCY HEAR OUR PRAYER

Triune God, You made it very clear how you want a relationship with us. A relationship into which you can pour all the blessings of creation. Help us to feel the light of inspiration especially when we struggle to see your plan in our lives. Help us not only to see the light but to let our light shine for others to see as we remember how you taught us to pray:

**Lord's Prayer**

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

**Benediction**

May God our creator help us to see how blessed we all are,  
May Jesus remind us how we're never alone through our struggles,  
May the Holy Spirit inspire us to see the light and let the light of our service be a blessing and help to all.

May we do all this as our way of helping to celebrate, share, and show God's love all the time, everyday, for all eternity. AMEN

**Hymn: As *With Gladness Men of Old* (#302 ELW / LBW #82)**

**Verse 1:**     *As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behind;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading on-ward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.*

**Verse 2:**     *As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed.  
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.*