



Order of Worship: January 4th, 2026

Prelude/Postlude (Casey Derksen)

Welcome/Announcements

Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Songs: *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*
"We Three Kings"

Scripture:

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7,10-14
Matthew 2:1-12

Unison Prayer

Song: *"Open the Eyes of My Heart"*

Message:

"A Necessary Darkness"

Offering/Doxology/Offertory Prayer

Song: "Gather Us In"

Wesley Covenant Prayer

Song: "Give Thanks"

Communion

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Song: *"Shine, Jesus Shine"*

Blessing

The Week at Grace:

Tuesday:

Bible Study
9am

Wednesday:

Funeral
11am

Thursday:

Men's study 930am
(offsite)

If you are planning to meet at Grace UMC, please 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

Tuesday

9 a.m. to noon

Wednesday

10-noon

Worship

Online--available at

www.graceumcpequotlakes.org

In-Person Worship

Sunday--9am

We have seen
His *star* in the East
and have come to
Worship Him

MATTHEW 2:2



Unison Prayer

O God of light and peace,
whose glory, shining in the child of
Bethlehem,
still draws the nations to yourself:
dispel the darkness that shrouds our
path,
that we may come
to kneel before Christ in true worship,
offer him our hearts and souls,
and return from his presence to live as
he has taught.
Amen.

Call to Worship

L: Arise, shine, for your light has
come!
P: The glory of the Lord has risen upon
us.
L: The star has led the way, and the
nations are drawn to the brightness of
God's dawn.
P: We come, bringing our gifts, our
worship, and our hearts.
L: In Christ, God's love is revealed to
all people.
P: We will follow the Light, rejoicing in
the hope it brings.
ALL: Come, let us worship the Lord,
who is our light and our salvation!

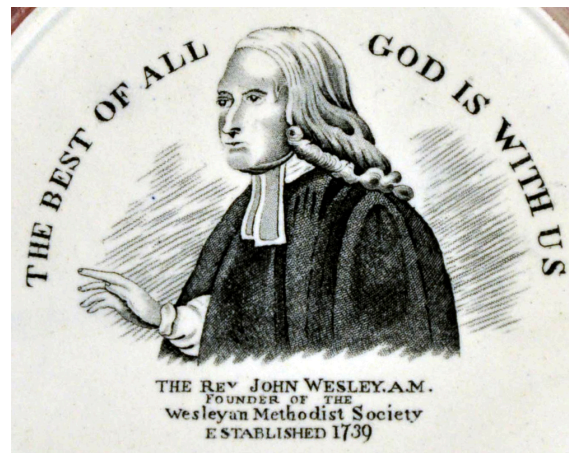


Scriptures for next week:

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Matthew 3:13-17

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being.
In truth, O God, I am Yours.
Make me into what You will.
Make me a neighbor with those whom You will.
Guide me on the easy path for You.
Guide me on the rocky road for You.
Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You;
Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You;
Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing;
I give all that I have and all that I am for You.
So be it.
And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.

Written/Revised by:
Rev. Jeremy Smith

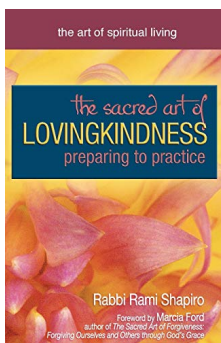


Covenant Prayer

From John Wesley's Covenant Service, 1780

*I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

A memorial service celebrating the life of Sharon Wortham will be held on Wednesday, January 7th at 11am. A luncheon will follow. Please keep her family in your prayers as they prepare for this day.



Calling men who are interested in a book study: A group has been meeting regularly and will begin a new book on January 8th. They meet at 9:30am on Thursday mornings at the home of Dean Fitch. All men are welcome for coffee and a spirited discussion. Questions? Please speak to Dean F, Les M, or Ken Q. The new book is "The Sacred Art of Loving Kindness" by Rabbi Remi Shapiro, contact Pastor Jen if you would like a book.

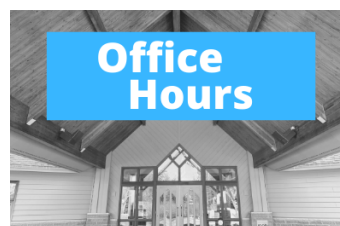
The church office is open **Tuesday from 9am until noon. It is also open on Wednesdays from 10-noon.** Ring the doorbell and we will come to open the south door!

--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**



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.

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.

If you wish to connect with me directly and it is not an emergency, please know that I will respond as needed during regular office hours. I am generally in the church on Tuesday (830-12) and Thursday (10-1) call the office to be sure, as my weeks 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, and **Monday is a full school day** (unless it is an emergency, Monday calls will be returned on Tuesday).

--Pastor Jen.

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!



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!
www.graceumcpequotlakes.org

Grace United Methodist Church

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(use P.O. box for mailing)



The United Methodist Church forms disciples
of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy
Spirit, **love boldly**, **serve joyfully**, and
lead courageously in local communities
and worldwide connections.



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