

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church November 28, 2021

"A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus"

HOLY COMMUNION

(Based on ELW Setting Three)

Congregational responses are in bold print

Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church! There are four key parts to our Worship Service: we **GATHER** before our God to prepare to worship, and bring ourselves and all that we are before God. Then we hear the **WORD** of God; we share the four Bible Readings with at least one billion other Christians around the world each Sunday! And we hear that word proclaimed through the Sermon, confess our faith in the God whose Grace we hear about in the Word, and offer our prayers to God, for the sake of the Church, the World, and each other in our needs and joys. We then share in the **MEAL** of Holy Communion, offering ourselves and what we have to God, and then discovering God's love and forgiveness as we receive Christ's Body and Blood through the bread and wine. Finally we are **SENT**, the shortest but perhaps most important part of worship, because it is THEN that we live out our Faith and what we believe about God's Grace and Love, and how it makes <u>us</u> a blessing in this world as we share it.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are parts the you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in **bold type**. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to **stand**, please do so <u>as you are able</u>. As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, + one God who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

God for whom we wait, in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace.

Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.
You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy.
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

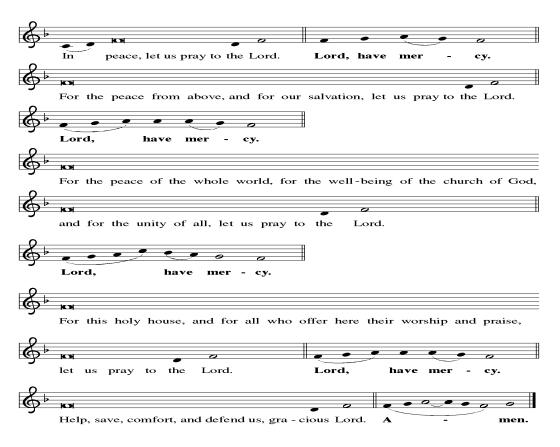
Prelude

<u>Greeting</u>

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

And also with you.

<u>Kyrie</u>



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God of hope,

How often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence! Restore us, and let us find you when we seek you.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

First Sunday of Advent

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

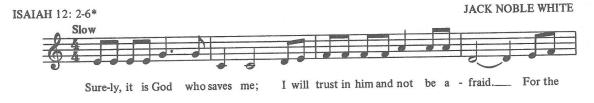
Amen

Candle Lighting

The first candle is lit as we sing:

THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH

The congregation is asked to join the choir singing this refrain after each verse is sung:





VERSE

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

REFRAIN

Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

A reading from Jeremiah:

¹These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

Continued

⁴Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, ⁹for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.

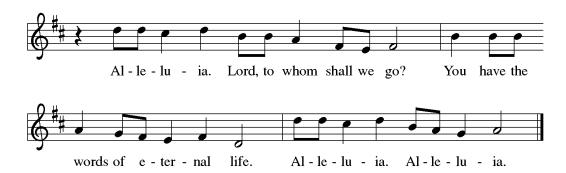
¹⁰For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. ¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

The congregation stands to welcome the gospel.



Gospel: John 14:27

The holy gospel according to St. John:

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

<u>Sermon</u> Pastor Radecke

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: "Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven" #865, Page 9, Verses 1, 3, 4

The congregation is seated.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Apostle's Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 into heaven,
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

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The congregation is seated.

Meal

Offertory Response



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people.

Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

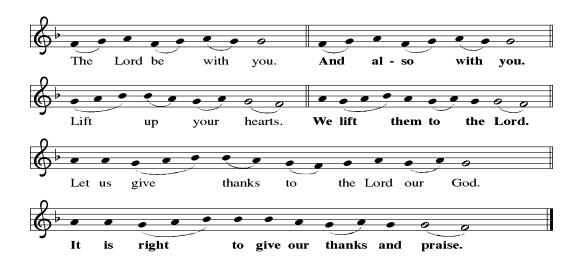
Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

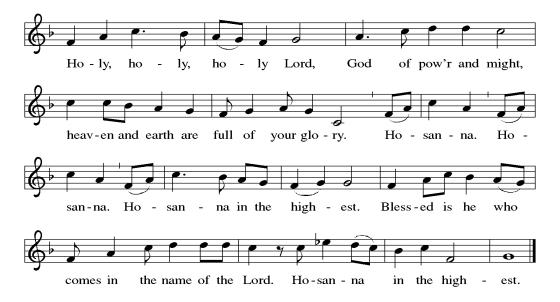
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs and angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

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 is 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 remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God Incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Invitation to Communion

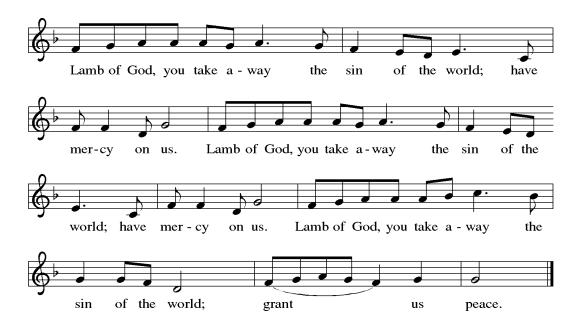
Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

Thanks be to God!

The Holy Communion

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

Amen.



The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

Sending

<u>Blessing</u>

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus 🕂 for whom we wait. **Amen.**

Sending Song: "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" #763, Page 17, Verses1, 3, 4

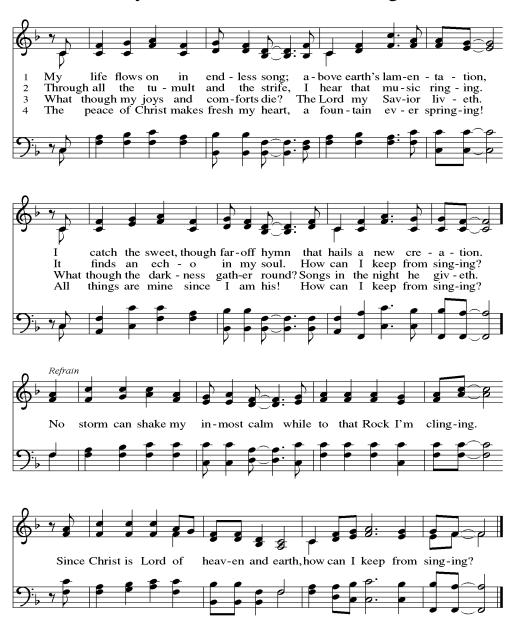
Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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My Life Flows On in Endless Song



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today



Altar Flowers: Jean Morgan

Altar Guild: Jean Morgan

Assisting Minister: Susan Myers

Communion Assistant: Linda Meyer

Council Person of the Week: Jerry Kite

Covid Monitor: Bill Lucas

Offering Stewards: Pat Brady

David Proctor

Ushers: Pat Brady

Jean Morgan



The Chancel Flowers today are given by Jean Morgan to the glory of God and in Memory of her husband,
Robert Morgan.



Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

December 5, 2021 **Second Sunday of Advent**

Service of Holy Communion And via You Tube

Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching

Ezekiel Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

John 11:25-26



Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks,

in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Tom Blosser

Linda Meyer

Stephen Van Stee

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Stanley Bednarczyk, Uncle of Jean Franklin
Lois Dettweiler, Mother of Donna Marshall
Redd Fitzgerald, Friend of Donna Gum
Emily Girard, Daughter of Rick and Kathy Bump
Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf
Dana Haney, Friend of Kathy Johnson
Liz Erskine Leichliter, Friend of Sharon Lynch
Patricia Morrison, Mother of Gary Morrison

Sherando United Methodist Church

Dave and Diana Whitling, Friend of the Mike and Cindy Trauscht

Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Please advise of status changes)

Liz Ann Binns Fred Brower
Marie Brown Nancy Fitzgerald
Sandra R. Hoy Phyllis Kite
Bob Knemoller Glenn and Flossie Myers
Janet Parmer Barb Susen

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Please advise of status changes)

Janice Collins, Friend of Grace

Kyle Getler, Member Relative

Nancy Delaney, Dave Delaney's Wife
Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump

Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Members/Friends Grieving

Family of Bill Faistenhammer, Friend of Nancy Dowdy
Family of Louis Pingel, Cousin of Paul Pingel
Family of David Shields, Grace Member
Family of Kathleen Snead, Friend of Berenice Archambeault
Family of Chip Stratton, Friend of Linda Meyer
Family of Valerie Weiss, Friend of Many Grace Members

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year

Robert Moyer Woody Graf Kathy Bump David Schwiesow

Wyatt Carper

The Needs of the World

Worldwide crisis over immigration—
Poland/Belarus, U.S./Mexico/Central
America and elsewhere; and Afghan
refugees at Massanetta Springs,
Harrisonburg

Safe travels for many over the Holidays

Health Crises- epidemic of drug overdoses and continuing Covid concerns

Our neighbors at Sherando United Methodist Church (fire destroyed the worship space)

Our newly elected governor, representatives and local leaders

Our Veterans who have served with selflessness

Victims of Waukesha, Wisconsin parade

The Church

Pray for (at least) five others from
Grace this week - three who you
know, or whose needs you are
aware of, and two that you are less
familiar with (pray for their daily
walk of faith, and their blessing)

Pray for God's plan for Grace—our life together and witness and service to the community

Reverend Phyllis Diamond, newly installed at Pleasant View Lutheran, Staunton (11/13/21)

Our Neighbors

Our neighbors in the Tree Streets



Advent Vespers In Person on Wednesday Evenings – We join with our sister congregations in the area under the theme: Holy Darkness. While darkness can often have a negative connotation, as the absence of light, or as an opposition to goodness, God's Word often points to the Glory of God being found in the darkness. Think of Nicodemus visiting with Jesus and hearing Jesus tell how God so loved the World...or of Christmas Eve and the shepherds discovering in the night sky the Good News of Jesus' birth. We ponder the presence of God in the darkness of our worship at our area Lutheran Churches Wednesdays in Lent at 7:00 p.m.:

<u>December 1st</u> at Zion, Waynesboro – *Darkness is Holy* – Masking is strongly encouraged. There will be no virtual option of attendance.

<u>December 8th</u> Bethlehem's Advent Service will be held at Grace – *Darkness is Beautiful* – Masking is required. Grace offers this worship service live via Grace's YouTube channel, or by telephone via Zoom (audio).

<u>December 15th</u> at St. James, Fishersville – *Darkness Holds Promise* – Masking is optional at St. James if you are vaccinated. There is no virtual option of attendance.

<u>December 22nd</u> at Grace – *Darkness Holds God* – Masking is required. Grace offers its worship Live via Grace's YouTube channel, or by telephone via Zoom (audio).

Come into the *darkness* of early night Wednesdays to make time for the Glory of God this Advent season!



Christmas Eve In-Person at Grace! - Grace will offer three services on Christmas Eve, December 24th. Because of lingering concerns of the Coronavirus we are limiting attendance at each service to 80 persons sitting in the congregation (not including mas Ove soloists, musicians, etc.). We ask that you <u>SIGN-UP</u> for one of the following services, all held in the main worship space at Grace:

- 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve We will "create the manger scene," with lessons read by families, carols sung joyfully, special music, Holy Communion, and Silent Night sung by Candlelight.
- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve We will "create the manger scene," with lessons read by families, carols sung joyfully, special music, Holy Communion, and Silent Night sung by Candlelight.
- 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve A traditional Christmas Eve liturgy of Holy Communion, filled with carols, special music, Holy Communion and Silent Night sung by Candlelight.

Find the Sign-Up Sheet in the Narthex at Grace or call Nancy at the Church Office.

Monday

Joel 3:1-2, 9-17 1 Peter 1:13-25 Matthew 19:1-12

Tuesday

Nahum 1:1-13 1 Peter 1:13-25 Matthew 19:13-22

Wednesday

Obadiah 15-21 1 Peter 2:1-10 Matthew 19:23-30

Thursday

Zephaniah 3:1-13 1 Peter 2:11-25 Matthew 20:1-16

Friday

Isaiah 24:14-23 1 Peter 3:13—4:6 Matthew 20:17-28

Saturday

Micah 7:11-20 1 Peter 4:7-19 Matthew 20:29-34





Welcome to Worship! We gather in praise, we hear a living Word from our God, and God nourishes us at the Table so we can go forth as Ambassadors, as Salt and Light, wherever we are! Please remember the following as we continue to worship together in a transitional time with concerns from Covid, and *bearing with one another* with care and Christian friendship:

- We continue to mask during worship
- Fellowship is a blessing of our time together! Since the narthex area is tight because of additional tables and equipment necessary during this pandemic time, remember social distancing, and take good conversations outside.
- Smart phones are a marvel of our time! As is the Word and Grace of God as we worship together! Please check your phone before worship and mute, silence or turn your phone off before the service begins.



Holy Communion at Grace—Beginning Sunday, December 5th, the Second Sunday of Advent, we will be returning to a more "active" form of Holy Communion approved by our Worship Resumption (Covid) sub-committee and endorsed by Grace Council: We will receive Holy Communion at the altar in the following way:

- Ushers will invite communicants by row to come down the center aisle, safely distanced.
- The Communicant will receive the bread (the body of Christ) from the Pastor, who will be masked.
- The Communicant will then go down the communion railing and pick up a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice from the trays, and hear the pronouncement of "the blood of Christ" from the (masked) worship assistant located on the other side of the communion rail.
- The Communicant will then put their glass in another tray located further down the aisle, and return to their seat via the side aisle.
- Those unable to come forward will have Communion brought to them by the Pastor and communion assistant.

In addition to participating more fully in Holy Communion, this will reduce the plastic waste from the use of chalices—or more recently, the bags and containers—used in Holy Communion.



"Coffee Fellowship After Worship via Zoom" is still available!!

Ron Almarode hosts a fellowship time via Zoom immediately following worship. It's a great opportunity to engage in casual fellowship, as well as being kept up to date about the concerns and needs for prayer by Grace members and friends. We will be sending this link weekly with the other links to Worship and other activities available via Zoom.



Request from Disciples' Kitchen—The past several years, we have helped with gift bags that are given to those attending the lunch meals at Second Presbyterian Church. This year, we would like to collect 35 men's regular size body wash/shampoo and 35 men's deodorants. There will be a tote in the hallway for your donations. We do need to have them by **December 5**th. Any questions, please contact Gwen Kite.



Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food banks. We have made twenty-one deliveries thus far, ten to Main Street United Methodist, and eleven to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. Last week, 126 pounds of food went to Calvary United Methodist. Overall, we have given well over a TON of food! If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Holy Communion Chalices remain available from the Church Office - Call the Church Office in order to pick up Communion Chalices for Sunday worship if you are watching via You Tube or Zoom.



Waynesboro Youth Mission

First Baptist Church
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
St. John's Episcopal Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church

Waynesboro Youth prepared a dinner meal for over 40 Afghan refugees who are staying at Massanetta Springs conference just outside of Harrisonburg. These refugees helped the American mission in Afghanistan, and could not stay in their own country because of fears for the safety and/or life.

A group of 32 from Grace (six from Grace) Westminster Pres, First Baptist, St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic, and St. John Episcopal churches assembled a meal of chicken, flavored rice, fruits, vegetables and dessert. The group also prepared cards and made a video of greeting and well wishes for the refugees.

The Refugees are staying at Massanetta into the New Year; Church World Service is working to establish the refugees in the area in the New Year, and will be working with churches to provide housing, supplies, and perhaps most importantly, friendship to these families.







Life of Grace Church November 28— December 5, 2021

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY— SUNDAY	11/28	10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Mark Radecke Presiding and Preaching Coffee Fellowship via Zoom
Tuesday	11/30	7:00 p.m.	Round Tables (Fellowship Hall) In-Person and Zoom
Wednesday	12/1	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks (Stage in Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 p.m.	Advent Vespers @ Zion Lutheran Church
		8:30 a.m.	Grace Walkers (Meet in Parking Lot)
Thursday	12/2	12:30 p.m.	Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.	Discussion with Christ Tabernacle
Sunday	12/5	10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Coffee Fellowship via Zoom



Members of Grace Congregational Council

Robin Crowder, President
Jerry Kite, Vice-President
Bob Barrette
Fred Biggers,
Kathy Bump
Kim Hull,
Jean Morgan
Nancy Schwiesow,
Andrew Sell
Amy Warren
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Vivian Proctor, Secretary
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary



Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor—Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music—Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary—Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. (Lunch 11:30—12:30) Monday-Thursday; 8:00 a.m.—Noon - Friday

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youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

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