



*THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*December 12, 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 us 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 as you are able. 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**

### **Greeting**

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.**

## Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

The musical score consists of ten staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff has a double bar line at the end. The third staff has a double bar line at the end. The fourth staff has a double bar line at the end. The fifth staff has a double bar line at the end. The sixth staff has a double bar line at the end. The seventh staff has a double bar line at the end. The eighth staff has a double bar line at the end. The ninth staff has a double bar line at the end. The tenth staff has a double bar line at the end.

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of restoration,  
Save us when we find ourselves spiritually thirsty. Help us walk your road with your purpose, strengthened by your living water.  
**Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on the wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen**

#### **Candle Lighting**

*Three candles are lit as we sing:*

# THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH

*Ecce, Deus*

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

ISAIAH 12: 2-6\*

JACK NOBLE WHITE



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

*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: Isaiah 55:1-13**

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

*Continued*

for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**

*The congregation stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: John 4:13-14**

The holy gospel according to St. John:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children's Message**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Pingel**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

**#272, Page 9, Verses 1, 2, 4**

*The congregation is seated.*



## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4  
 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

### 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

#### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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

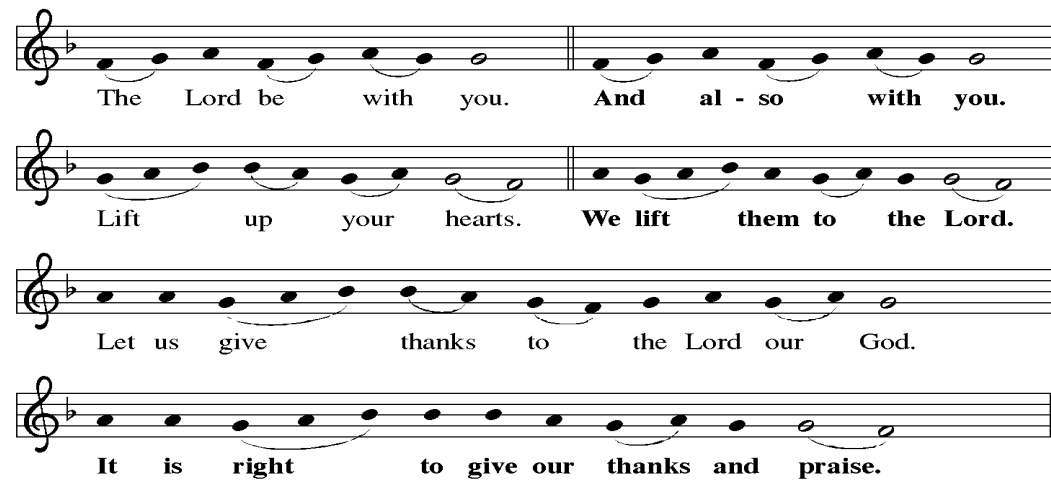
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## Offering Prayer

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 al - so with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

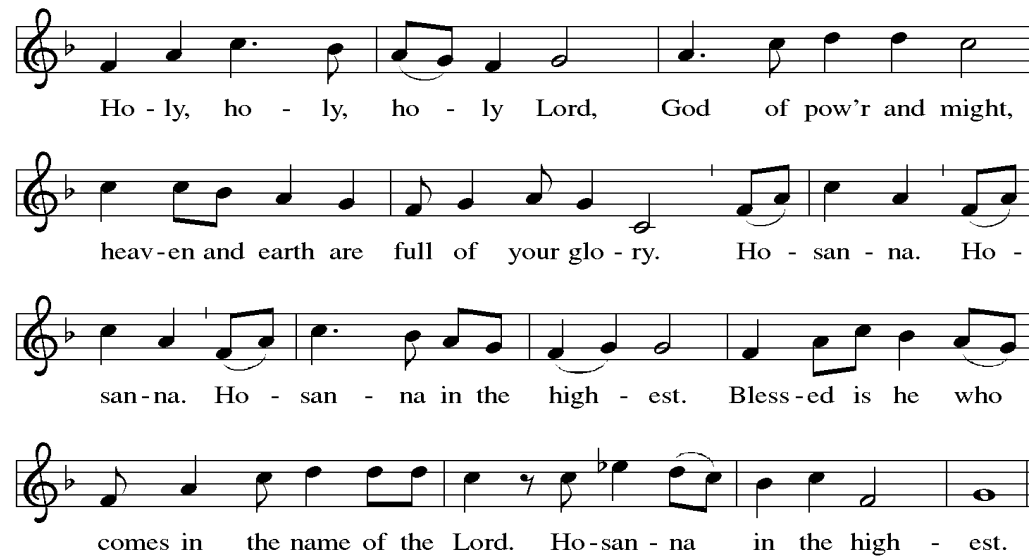
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The lyrics are in a simple, clear font, with some words in bold to indicate emphasis.

## 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 of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## 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 in 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.

*Continued*

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.

**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;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and 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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

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

**Thanks be to God!**

### **The Holy Communion**

*The congregation may be **seated**.*

*OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)*

**Communion Distribution:** *One communion team will serve the left side of the nave; another team will serve those on the right. You are invited to come to the altar by the center aisle; take an empty individual glass (or filled grape juice glass) available at the railing, and proceed to the railing, filling in from the center out toward the side aisle. As you receive the bread and wine, you may respond as follows:*

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

**Amen.**

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.

**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**

### **Blessing**

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  $\text{✝}$  for whom we wait.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song:** *“He Came Down”*

**#253, Page 18**

### **Dismissal**

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

### **Postlude**

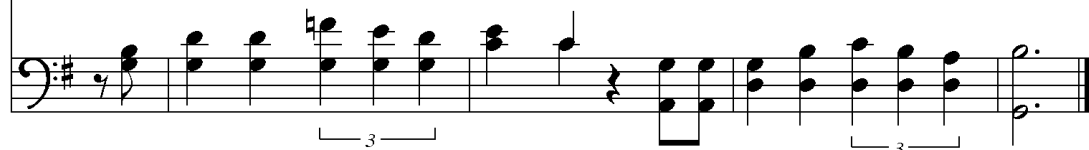
# He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.  
 he came down that we may have peace;  
 he came down that we may have joy;



Text: Cameroon traditional

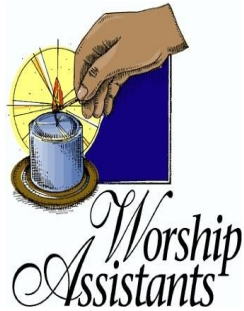
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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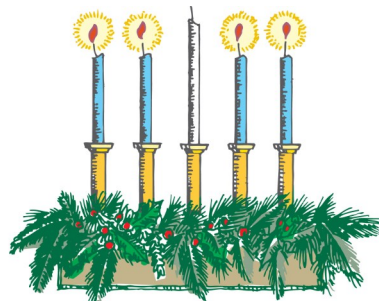
## Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today



|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Altar Flowers:</b>              | <i>Jim and Gloria Nelson</i>                |
| <b>Altar Guild:</b>                | <i>Glen and Lisa Gray</i>                   |
| <b>Assisting Minister:</b>         | <i>Marsha Howard</i>                        |
| <b>Communion Assistant:</b>        | <i>Mike Trauscht</i>                        |
| <b>Council Person of the Week:</b> | <i>Nancy Schwiesow</i>                      |
| <b>Covid Monitor:</b>              | <i>Holly Carper</i>                         |
| <b>Offering Stewards:</b>          | <i>Pat Brady</i><br><i>David Proctor</i>    |
| <b>Ushers:</b>                     | <i>Fred Biggers</i><br><i>David Proctor</i> |



*The Chancel Flowers today are given  
to the glory of God and  
in memory of PFC Thomas Randolph Wilson*



*Fourth Sunday*  
OF ADVENT

### Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

December 19, 2021

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Service of Holy Communion  
And via You Tube**

Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching

**Word Made Flesh**

Psalm 130:5-8

John 1:1-18



**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  
Pat Giesen

Dick Tomey

Beth Brady  
Stephen Van Stee

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

**Stanley Bednarczyk**, Uncle of Jean Franklin  
**Wanda Davenport**, Friend of Fred, Caroline and Sam Biggers  
**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  
**Hilary Hoffman**, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow  
**Gary Lee Kimber**, Cousin of Kathryn Johnson  
**Patricia Wasielewski**, Sister of Pat Brady  
**Dave and Diana Whitling**, Friend of the Mike and Cindy Trauscht

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

Linda Meyer, Healing Well

**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                  | Nancy Delaney, Dave Delaney's Wife            |
| Kyle Getler, Member Relative                     | Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump |
| Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow |   |
| George Toop, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow |   |

**Members/Friends Grieving**

Family of Liz Erskine Leichliter, Friend of Sharon Lynch  
Family of Bobby Hull, Member of Grace  
Family of Louis Pingel, Cousin of Paul Pingel  
Family of David Shields, Grace Member  
Family of Kathleen Snead, Friend of Berenice Archambeault

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year**

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Judi Goodrich   | Larry Meeks       |
| Deloris Wertman | Beth Ann Doerring |
| Donna Dodge     | Richard Quickel   |

**The Needs of the World**

**Health Crises— epidemic of drug overdoses and continuing mental health concerns**

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

**Our Veterans who have served with selflessness**

Victims of Waukesha, Wisconsin parade

**The continued epidemic of gun violence in schools (Michigan) and the workplace**

**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 near Berkeley Glenn

**Monday**

Amos 7:1-9  
Revelation 1:1-8  
Matthew 22:23-33  
Psalm Morning 24, Evening 150

**Tuesday**

Amos 7:10-17  
Revelation 1:9-16  
Matthew 22:34-46  
Psalm Morning 122, Evening 40

**Wednesday**

Amos 8:1-14  
Revelation 1:17—2:7  
Matthew 23:1-12  
Psalm Morning 50, Evening 53

**Thursday**

Amos 9:1-10  
Revelation 2:8-17  
Matthew 23:13-26  
Psalm Morning 18:1-20, Evening 126

**Friday**

Haggai 11:1-15  
Revelation 2:18-29  
Matthew 23:27-39  
Psalm Morning 102, Evening 130

**Saturday**

Haggai 2:1-9  
Revelation 3:1-6  
Matthew 24:1-14  
Psalm Morning 90, Evening 80



**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.:

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** at St. James, Fishersville – *Darkness Holds Promise* – Masking is optional at St. James if you are vaccinated. There is no virtual option of live attendance, but you can view the service on Grace's You Tube channel.

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

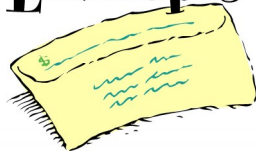
Come into the *darkness* of early night Wednesdays to make time for the Glory of God this Advent season!



**Budget Meeting**

**Congregation Meeting on December 19th immediately after Worship:** There will be a called Congregation Meeting for the purpose of reviewing - and voting on - the 2022 Spending Plan/Budget for Grace. A letter and 2022 Spending Plan/Budget has been sent to you via e-mail or U.S. Mail last week (please call the Church Office if you have not received a copy). Your participation and attendance are very important, since all matters of God's Mission for us, including a Church budget and its approval, are a part of being A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus!

**Offering Envelopes**



Giving envelopes for 2022 are available in the Nave. Please pick them up or contact the church office to have them mailed to you. In an effort to reduce waste, we did not get envelopes for those who have been giving electronically. And, as a result, many giving numbers have changed this year and not everyone will receive envelopes. If you have any questions, etc., please contact the



**Sign-Up for Christmas Eve Worship Today!** – Grace will offer **three services** on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Because of lingering concerns of the Coronavirus we are *limiting attendance* at each service to 80 persons sitting in the congregation (not including soloists, musicians, etc.). Find the Sign-Up Sheet in the Narthex at Grace or call Nancy at the Church Office. We ask that you **SIGN-UP** 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.



**Prayer Vigil at Constitution Park** - This Saturday at 3:00 p.m., we meet at Constitution Park for our monthly Prayer Vigil for Racial Equity and Christian Unity. Hope to see you there!



## worship WITH US

**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 and *bear with one another* with care and Christian friendship during Covid:

- We continue to mask during worship
- Fellowship is a blessing of our time together! Remember social distancing, and take good conversations outside.
- Smart phones are a marvel of our time! Please check your phone before worship and mute, silence or turn your phone off before the service begins.

**Holy Communion at Grace**—We have returned to a more “active” form of Holy Communion:



- 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 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.



**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.



**Psalms added to the Daily Lectionary** - Each week in the bulletin is a set of readings designed to allow people to read through the Bible in two years. After our Bible study on the Psalms (finished in November), we are including Psalms for those who wish to pray the Psalms as a part of their everyday discipline (see page 24). There is a Psalm for the morning, and one for the evening. *Whether you read all the readings, or choose one reading, or only pray the Psalms, being daily in the Word of God is a great discipline and aid to faith. If you don't have a daily discipline in the Word, Advent is a great time to start!*



**Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus!** Thanks to Jack Eckstrom, Jerry Kite, Lee Lynch, Rick Bump, and Ron Myers for assembling the Advent Wreath in Grace's front yard as a witness to the community. Once again we are grateful to Liz Ann Binns and family for the greenery for the wreath from their property on Afton Mountain.



Thanks to Caroline Biggers, Gwen Kite, Holly Carper, Karen Walck and Susan Smith for their help in preparing breakfast for Afghan Refugees on Saturday, November 20th. On very short notice, Caroline and crew helped to give Massanetta Springs staff a weekend off from 24/7 care of Refugees! We will include more information on how you can continue to help these refugees as they begin a new life in the New Year.





**Disciple's Kitchen Christmas Gifts**—Thank you for your donations of shampoo and deodorant that Grace collected for the Disciple's Kitchen program to use as part of their Christmas gift bags. We were able to provide items for 45 men and 14 women.



**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-two deliveries thus far, ten to Main Street United Methodist, and twelve to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **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.



**Life of Grace Church  
December 12-19, 2021**

| DAY OF WEEK      | DATE  | TIME                   | MEETING  |
|------------------|-------|------------------------|--|
| TODAY—<br>SUNDAY | 12/12 | 10:00 a.m.             |  <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b><br><i>Service of Holy Communion</i><br><i>In Person and via You Tube</i><br>Pastor Paul Pingel<br>Presiding and Preaching<br><br><b>Coffee Fellowship</b> via Zoom                                     |
|                  |       | 10:50 a.m.             |  |
| Wednesday        | 12/15 | 9:00 a.m.<br>7:00 p.m. | <b>Backpacks</b> (Stage in Fellowship Hall)<br><br><b>Advent Vespers @ St. James</b>   |
| Thursday         | 12/16 | 8:00 a.m.              | <b>Newcomers Club</b> (Fellowship Hall)<br><br><b>Grace Walkers</b> (Meet in Parking Lot)<br><br><b>Bridge Club</b> (Fellowship Hall)<br><br><b>Discussion with Christ Tabernacle</b><br>via Zoom (CCE&J)  |
|                  |       | 8:30 a.m.              |  |
|                  |       | 12:30 p.m.             |  |
|                  |       | 6:00 p.m.              |  |
| Saturday         | 12/18 | 3:00 p.m.              | <b>Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconciliation</b><br>(Constitution Park)   |
| Sunday           | 12/19 | 10:00 a.m.             |  <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b><br><i>Service of Holy Communion</i><br><i>In Person and via You Tube</i><br>Pastor Paul Pingel<br>Presiding and Preaching<br><b>Congregational Meeting</b><br><br><b>Coffee Fellowship</b> via Zoom |
|                  |       | 10:50 a.m.             |  |



**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](mailto:pastorpingel@gmail.com)

**Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music—Email:** [mickhdking@aol.com](mailto:mickhdking@aol.com)

**Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary—Email:** [Grace.lc@comcast.net](mailto: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](https://youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)

Internet: [www.gracewaynesboro.org](http://www.gracewaynesboro.org)

**Telephone: 540.949.6171**