

THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
500 South Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

December 13, 2020

**“ A Community of Servants Sharing in the
Word and Work of Jesus”**

Service of the Word via YouTube

(Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship)

Congregational responses are in bold print

*In this time of Coronavirus, the "Order of Worship" that we use has changed. From the earliest years of the Church the order of Worship was to **GATHER**, bringing ourselves and all that we are before God; then to hear the **WORD** of God, letting it enter our lives with the expectation, as the prophet Isaiah tells us, that it will not come away empty, but accomplish succeed in that which God purposes for it. (Isaiah 55:10-11). We are hearing that word from (usually) two readings during this time of Coronavirus; the gospel, and one additional reading, either from the Old Testament, the Psalms, or an epistle reading. Then we hear the Word proclaimed through the Sermon. We confess our faith, we share in Prayers to God for the world we live in and in thanksgiving to God for the promises that we will not be alone in whatever we are going through. And we are thankful for God's Living Word, Jesus, the embodied Word of God, and the ways Jesus is revealed through the Old and New Testament. Then we are **SENT** into this world - perhaps the most important part of worship, even if the shortest - because it is then that we live out our faith proclaimed in Word and Worship.*

*MISSING from these weeks of physically distant worship is the **MEAL** and times to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. As mentioned during our Maundy Thursday worship, we are in a wilderness time, where the promises of God we desire so greatly, to taste and drink and see God's forgiveness of sins and new life in bread and wine, in water, are still ahead of us. And as the apostle Paul wrote so powerfully in I Corinthians 11, we wait to receive the Sacrament together until ALL can receive it, not restricted by distance, and/or accessibility to technology that might allow some in the Body to receive it, and not others. So we pray for that time when we are re-united and able to receive the Meal together, and place our hope in the God who has called us through Water and the Word to bring us together again.*

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God,
we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ.
Amen

People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ✝ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

Musical Presentation

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Let us pray.

Spirit of the Lord God,
You bring good news to the oppressed, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the prisoners. You comfort all who mourn, and shower your people with the oil of gladness instead of mourning; a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. We will greatly rejoice in the Lord, our whole being shall exult in God, for the sake of the one who brought righteousness to life, Jesus Christ, our salvation.
Amen

Hymn: "Hark, the Glad Sound"

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Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Lighting the Advent Wreath

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 this 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

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-11

A reading from Isaiah:

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion —
to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

⁵Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines;

⁶but you shall be called priests of the LORD, you shall be named ministers of our God;
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory.

⁷Because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 4:16-21

The holy gospel according to Luke:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Jones Family

Sermon

Pastor Paul Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Musical Offering

Apostles' 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

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long expected Savior fill you will love,
and unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✝ now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

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Dismissal

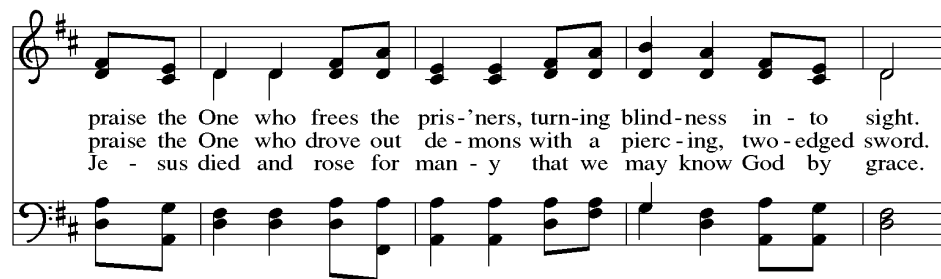
Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

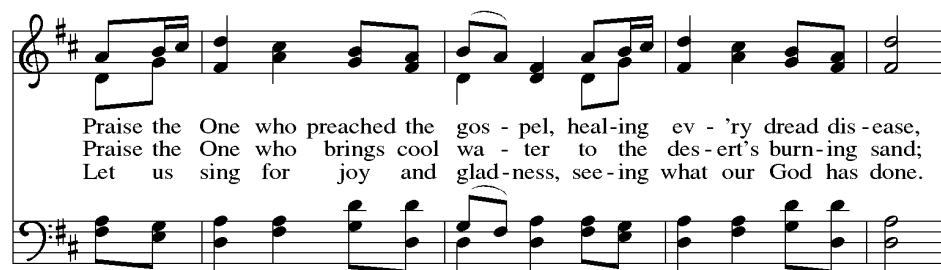
Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



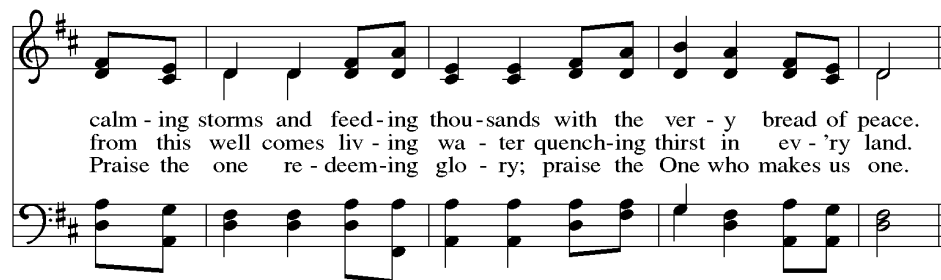
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813
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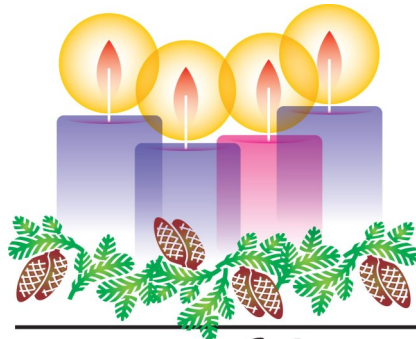
Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today



- Assisting Minister:** Cathy Crowder
Acolytes: Charlotte and Amelia Jones
Offering Steward: Pat Brady
Altar Flowers: Open
Council Person of the Week: Gail Johnson
Children's Sermon: The Jones Family



*The Chancel Flowers today are
given to the glory of God*



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**Next Sunday's Schedule
and Lessons**

December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Service of the Word via YouTube
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching & Presiding

Jesus' Birth Announced
Luke 1:26-45
Psalm 113



Please call the Church Office if you need to add someone to the Prayer List. In an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us, **names on the Prayer List will remain for four weeks.** 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*)

Caroline Biggers

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

Sarah Donnelly, Friend of the Almarodes
Curt Fitzhugh, Brother-in-Law of Holly Carper
Sally Massey, Friend of Kathy Johnson
Jeff Morgan, Friend of Amber Bokelman
Georgette North, Friend of Tomeys
Donna Rowley, Friend of Kathy Johnson

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

Liz Ann Binns	Fred Brower	Marie Brown
Nancy Fitzgerald	Pete Giesen	Sandra R. Hoy
Bob and Carol Knemoller	Bobby Moyer	Glenn and Flossie Myers
Janet Parmer		

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

Janice Collins , Friend of Grace	Nancy Delaney , Dave Delaney's Wife
Lisa Dofflemeyer , Daughter of Linda Tomey	Kyle Getler , Member Relative
Larry Hinebaugh , Friend of Donna Gum	Maxine Pierce , Mother of Cindy Trauscht
Barbara Shifflett and Family	George Toop , Friend of the Schwiesows

Members/Friends Grieving

The Family of Ginger Hood, Sister-in-law of Kathy Johnson
The Family of Billy Limbert, Ex-brother-in-law of Linda Tomey

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year

Deloris Wertman	Beth Ann Doerring	Donna Dodge
Richard Quickel	Kathy Meicke	Liz Ann Binns

The Needs of the World

Our Nation, newly elected leaders,
and those re-elected
**Veterans, and their service to our
nation**

The beginning of Covid-19 vaccine
deliveries

**Families affected by Covid-19 -
death, health, employment**

The Flu Season of this year

**Those affected by Wildfires and
Hurricane damage in the
American West and
Southeast**

The Church

The Student Care Center at Grace

**Our sisters and brothers at St. John
Episcopal, First Baptist, First
Presbyterian and St. John the
Evangelist Roman Catholic
Churches**

Our Neighbors

Our neighbors on Arch and Market Streets,
and the Tree Streets

Monday

Isaiah 8:16—9:1
2 Peter 1:1-11
Luke 22:39-53

Tuesday

Isaiah 9:2-7
2 Peter 1:12-21
Luke 22:54-69

Wednesday

Isaiah 9:8-17
2 Peter 2:1-10a
Mark 1:1-8



Thursday

Isaiah 9:18—10:4
2 Peter 2:10b-16
Matthew 3:1-12

Friday

Isaiah 10:5-19
2 Peter 2:17-22
Matthew 11:2-15

Saturday

Isaiah 10:20--27
Jude 17-25
Luke 3:1-9



Christmas Eve at Grace: We will offer three worship services for Christmas Eve at Grace Thursday, December 24th:

NOTE: We will re-locate our Parking Lot Worship to the main parking lot for Christmas Eve. All cars will be parked on the newly re-paved asphalt on level ground.

1. **4:00 p.m. in the Parking Lot - Family Reading of the Christmas Story around the Star with Holy Communion** - In the tradition of many years at Grace, families of our congregation will read the Christmas Story, focused, on this outside service, on the Star that guided the shepherds and Magi to the place where Jesus lay. *There will be space for 22 cars to take part in the Worship Service outdoors. CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (540-949-6171) to sign up* for one of the spots.
2. So far, all our Parking Lot sign-ups are for 4:00 p.m. We will add the 5:30 service of Holy Communion if we fill all 4:00 p.m. spots.
3. **7:00 p.m. You Tube and Zoom Worship Service - Family Reading of the Christmas Story and "building the crèche," with Holy Communion** - *At this service we welcome our friends in Christ at St. James, who will join us via You Tube and Zoom, and be present through the Rev. Gordon Putnam, St. James' interim pastor, and an assisting minister who will help lead worship.* - We continue the tradition of families reading the Christmas Story while building the crèche scene that has been a central part of Grace's Christmas Eve worship for many years. Families will pre-record their readings, which will become a part of the worship service. Poinsettias and other greenery remind us of God's great love for the world in Jesus Christ! No sign-up necessary! Tune in via You Tube or Zoom.

Holy Communion will be offered as a part of all worship services. For any of the services, sign up via the email or letter to the Church Office letting Nancy know which service you plan to attend, virtual or car worship (# of parking spaces), and how many and type of chalices you need. Also, let her know if you need your chalices delivered.



Advent Worship this December - Watch, Wait and Wonder - We join with Bethlehem, St. James and Zion to worship on Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. via YouTube or Zoom beginning December 2nd. Pastors Wes Smith (12/16) and Pastor Paul (12/23) will bring a message of watching, waiting and being open to the wonder of God's love in Jesus Christ, and we will sing the richness of the treasury of Advent hymns as a part of worship. Go to www.gracewaynesboro.org to find the link to our YouTube channel, and join us Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.



Budget Meeting

Grace Called Congregation Meeting on December 20th - there will be a called Congregation on Sunday December 20th after Worship via Zoom, for the purpose of voting on the recommended **2021 Budget** by Grace Council. Council will be finalizing their recommendation this coming Tuesday at a specially called Council meeting at 7pm. The Budget recommendation will then be sent to all Grace members on December 9th (those receiving by U.S. Mail will receive the budget later in the week).



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers for 2021—The flower chart is up for 2021. If you would like to sign up for a Sunday next year, please give Nancy at the Church Office a call and she will be glad to sign you up.



Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday, December 27th - We

worship via You Tube and Zoom on December 27th with a unique Lessons and Carols service that remembers the four women ancestors in Jesus' genealogy in Matthew 1; and Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, Mary, the Mother of our Lord, the mothers of the Holy Innocents, and Anna, the prophetess who gave praise to God for the "redemption of Israel" through Jesus, the Son of God. St. James, Fishersville also shares in joint worship with us, providing readers of the lessons in concert with Grace readers. Pr. Gordon Putnam also joins Pr. Paul in helping to lead worship, with a reflection on the texts.



Advent Calendars delivered to Grace

Sunday School Children - Advent Calendars, which count down the days of Advent and help our children to watch and wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus; plus some other Bible Story materials, goodies - and a handcrafted star for each child made by Grace's master woodworker Bobby Hull - were distributed the weekend of November 29 by Gail and Sandy Johnson, and friends Dave Methaney and Connie Henson (Dave's mother). Thanks to each of them for reaching out to our Grace families, and sharing the light of Christ this Advent Season!



A big **thank you** to all who contributed to the Giving Tree and to making someone's Christmas special. Thanks to Jane Stein for leading this effort.



Advent Devotion Booklet available - The Virginia Synod has compiled a devotional for Advent written by pastors, candidates for ministry, deacons, and other leaders of ministries within our Synod. Contact the Church Office (949-6171) if you would like either a hard copy, or an electronic file of the Booklet for your own personal devotions.



DISASTER RELIEF

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) to Wildfires and Hurricanes - Fires out West are newly threatened by high winds; Hurricanes Laura, Sally, Delta and Eta arriving through the Gulf of Mexico in a six week period, rocked the Gulf coast of Texas, Louisiana and Alabama, wreaking devastation across these states. You can help through LDR. Donate through elca.org, or through Grace, with "LDR Wildfire and Hurricane" in the memo line.



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 eleven deliveries thus far, six to Main Street United Methodist, and five to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully

received in the midst of great need. If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Check out our Parking Lot and Yard! The newly paved Parking Lot has received most of its final touches: protective wood "curbing" around the new traffic islands; fourteen new trees - four for the traffic islands, and eleven surrounding parking lot on the street sides - lines and arrow painting are also complete. We will dedicate the parking lot to bless God's mission in and through Grace at our December 20th worship service.



**Life of Grace Church
December 13-20, 2020**

Day	Date	Time	Meeting
TODAY—SUNDAY	12/13	10:00 a.m.	Third Sunday in Advent Service of the Word via YouTube Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship via Zoom
Monday	12/14	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Childcare in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	12/15	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Childcare in Fellowship Hall
		7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	12/16	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Childcare in Fellowship Hall
		7:00 p.m.	Advent Worship Service via YouTube Pastor Wes Smith
		7:30 p.m.	White Fragility Book Study via Zoom
Thursday	12/17	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Childcare in Fellowship Hall
		5:30 p.m.	Discussion with Christ Tabernacle via Zoom
Friday	12/18	7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Childcare in Fellowship Hall
Sunday	12/20	10:00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday in Advent Service of the Word via YouTube Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching Congregational Meeting—Budget
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship via Zoom

Members of Grace Congregational Council

Linda Meyer, President; Jerry Kite, Vice-President
 Bob Barrette, Kathy Bump, Holly Carper, Robin Crowder, Kim Hull, Gail Johnson, Kathryn Johnson, Anne Putnam
 Hannah Pingel, Youth Representative; David Proctor, Secretary
 Ron Almarode, Treasurer; Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer; Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music
 Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary

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

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