



3rd Sunday
in Advent

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

December 15, 2019

**“ 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 then discovering God's love and forgiveness have already been waiting for us 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

Gloria Patri

Congregation and Choir Sing

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

The congregation stands.

Prelude: "Prelude on "Immaculate Mary""

Wilson

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

Amen.

Let us come before the living God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

we open our hearts to you, O God.

Search us and know us.

Reveal all that we keep inside.

To you, O God, we confess our sins,

known and unknown.

Forgive us, renew us,

and lead us in your ways of justice and peace.

Make us reflections of the radiant love

of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Beloved children of the Most High,
you are gathered before the righteous judge
who has mercy on all.

Splash joyfully in the waters of baptism,
where sin is washed away in the river of life.

Dwell peacefully in the loving arms
of the one who nurtures all creation.

Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven
in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,

† Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Gathering Song: "Hark, the Glad Sound!"

#239, Page 4

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

Greeting:

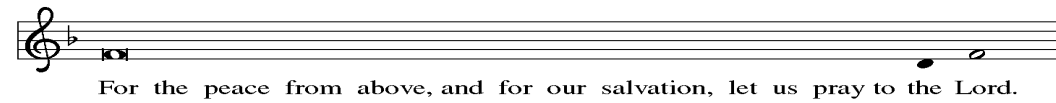
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



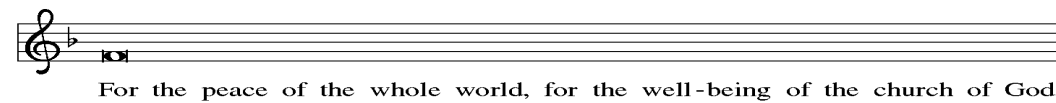
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



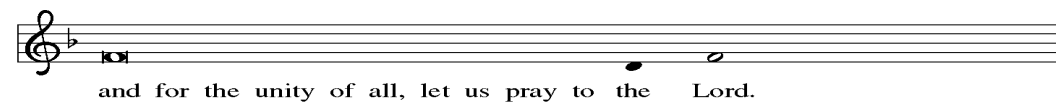
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



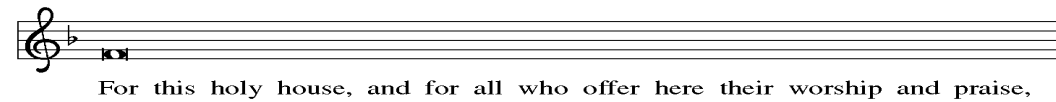
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



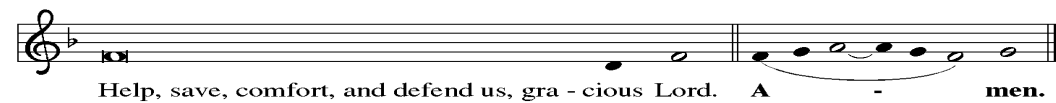
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

After the prayer the congregation responds:

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Third Week of Advent

Blessed are you, God of might and majesty, for you promise to make the desert rejoice and blossom, to watch over the strangers, and to set the prisoners free.

As we light these three candles, satisfy our hunger with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great things you have done for us, and fill us with patience until the coming of the Lord Jesus.

O ransomed people of the Lord, come,

Let us travel on God's holy way and enter into Zion with singing.

Amen

Dona nobis pacem

Choir: Refrain three (3) times

Choir: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you, turn his face unto you, and give you peace. Grant us peace.

Choir: Refrain one (1) time

Continued

Dona nobis pacem

1 *Canon*



Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Congregation and Choir: Refrain together

Choir: Dona nobis pacem
Grant us peace.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah:

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Continued

- ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
- ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
- ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 146:5-10

- ⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
- ⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**
- ⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.
- ⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**
- ⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- ¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

A reading from James:

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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: Matthew 11:2-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Paul Pingel

Following the Children's Sermon, children ages 3-9 are invited to attend Children's Church, which is held on the same floor as this worship space in the Library, and Chapel. Here the children will learn more about the same Bible readings as were heard in worship, and will be taught songs and about the way we worship. Children's Church will return to worship around the time of the Sharing of the Peace, in order to take part in Holy Communion.

NOTE: The Nursery is available for children age 5 and under as the Worship Service begins. Children under 5 not attending Children's Church will have the Nursery available throughout the Worship Service. (As always, parents may choose to have their children remain with them in worship.) Children 10 and over will join in regular Worship.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: "All Earth is Hopeful"

Hymn #266, Page 11

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.**

All Earth Is Hopeful

Toda la tierra



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra_al Sal - va - dor

1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y_el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el

Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -

la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.

God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel," *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será, *El está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,*
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá. *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
 Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé
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Prayers of Intercession

Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Meal

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**.*

Offering

(The offering is gathered by the ushers. Please place visitor cards in the offering plate)

Anthem: "Advent Processional"

Page

*The congregation **stands***

(The Ushers bring the offering to the Altar, as we sing)

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

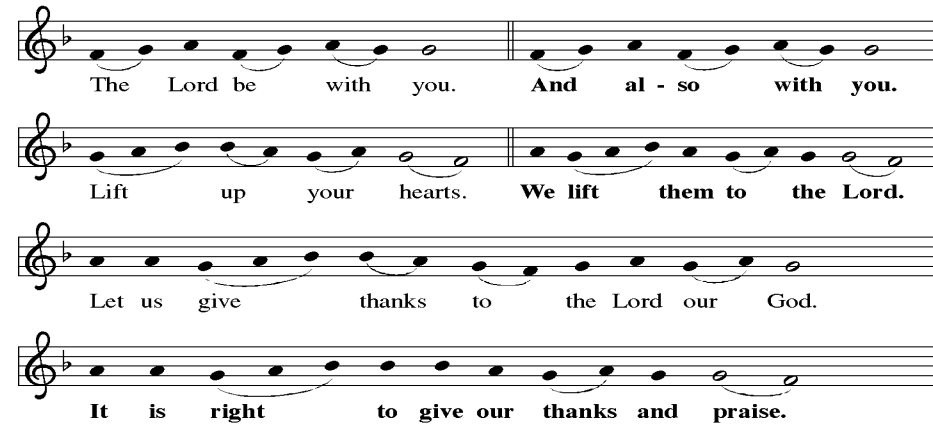
Let us pray.

**Giver of every good thing,
we set before you the gifts that you have already given
to sustain our lives and to share with others.**

**Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it,
and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast
you prepare for all who hunger.**

Amen

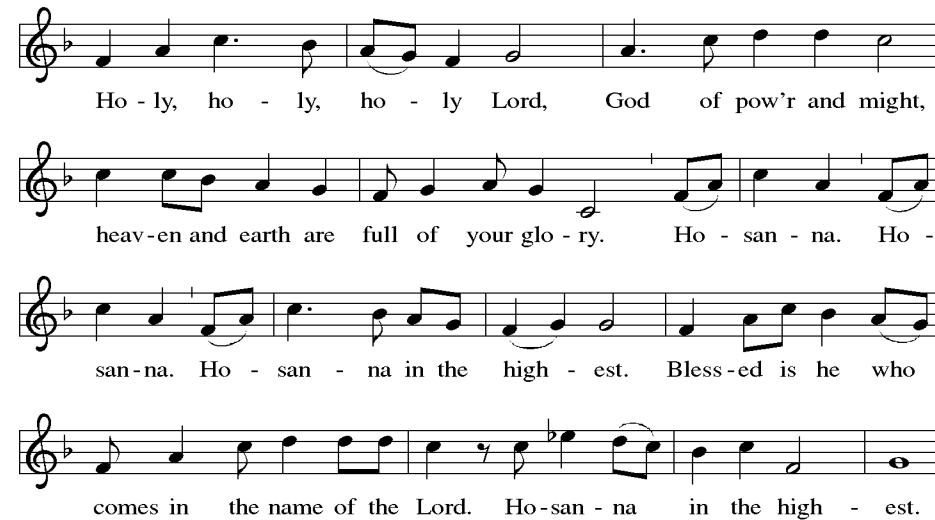
Great Thanksgiving



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.

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:



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

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life; Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 for 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 for the 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.

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 now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love.

Thanks be to God.

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

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.

As the ministers commune the congregation may sing the following:

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.

There will be a time of silence as the choir comes down for Holy Communion. Please use this time for prayer and preparation, then join in the singing of the hymns....

Communion Hymns

“Lost in the Night”

Hymn #243, Page 18

“As the Dark Awaits the Dawn”

Hymn #261, Page 19

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Hymn #490, Page 20

Lost in the Night

1 Lost in the night do the peo - ple yet lan - guish,
 2 Must we be vain - ly a - wait - ing the mor - row?
 3 Sor - row - ing wan - d'ers, in dark - ness yet dwell - ing,
 4 Light o'er the land of the need - y is beam - ing;

long - ing for morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish,
 Shall those who have light no light let us bor - row,
 dawned has the day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling,
 riv - ers of life through its des - erts are stream - ing,

plain - tive - ly sigh - ing with hearts full of an - guish.
 giv - ing no heed to our bur - den of sor - row?
 death's deep - est shad - ows for - ev - er dis - pel - ling.
 bring - ing all peo - ples a Sav - ior re - deem - ing.

Will not day come soon?	Will not day come soon?
Will you help us soon?	Will you help us soon?
Christ is com - ing soon!	Christ is com - ing soon!
Come and save us soon!	Come and save us soon!

Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859-1943, alt.
 Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune
 Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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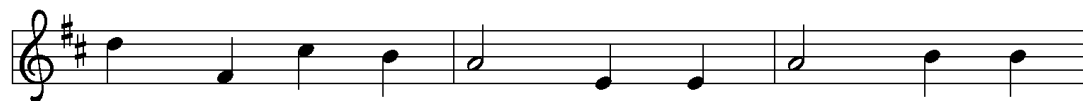
As the Dark Awaits the Dawn



1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,
 2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour
 3 As the moon re - flects the sun
 4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of
 be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to
 un - til the night's de - crease, may we your
 en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing
 see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and
 heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing
 stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.
 wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.
 peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.
 blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
 Music: LUCENT, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

*After all have returned to their places, the congregation **stands**.*

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.

God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

Amen

Sending

Blessing

May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice.

May God, who knows more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in the pathways of forgiveness and freedom.

May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in the pathways of equity and abundance.

The blessing of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: *“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”*

Hymn #249, Page 22

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

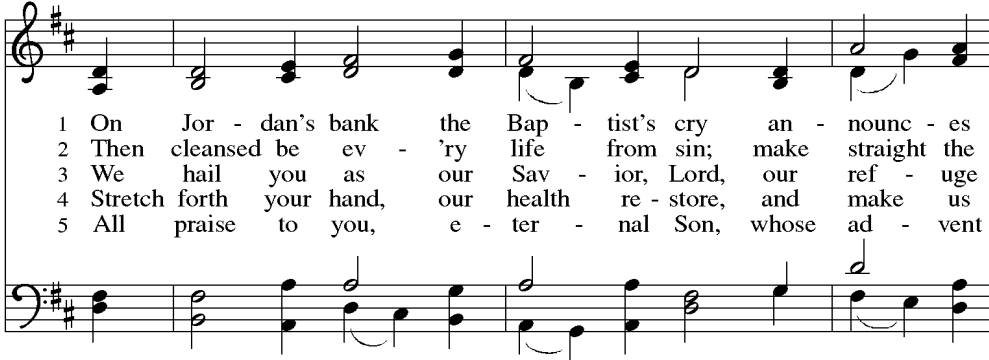
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *“Partita on “People Look East”*


Bertolozzi

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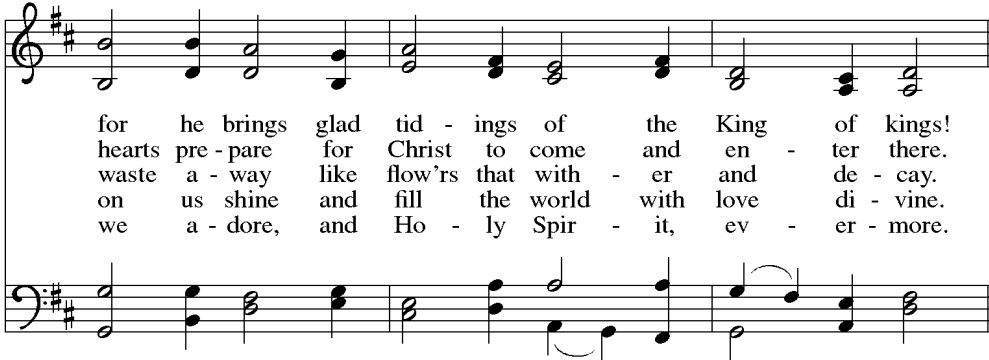
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Assisting Minister:	<i>Robin Crowder</i>
Communion Assistants:	<i>Cathy Crowder and Carrie Jones</i>
Ushers:	<i>Marge Cloutier, Linda Meyer, Jean Morgan, and Marlene Shaw</i>
Offering Stewards:	<i>Pat Brady and Eleanor Sampson</i>
Acolyte:	<i>Karley Hull</i>
Cup Gatherer:	<i>Donna Marshall</i>
Altar Guild:	<i>Gordon and Anne Putnam</i>
Nursery Caregivers:	<i>Sarah Kite and Deloris Wertman</i>
Altar Flowers:	<i>Amy Warren</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Gail Johnson</i>

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to
to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of
Major Edwin G. Nelson, USMC,
by the Warren and Jones Families*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding

Isaiah 7:10-16

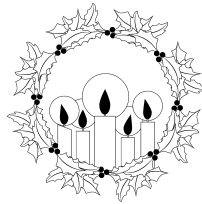
Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25



Special
worship
Schedule



Advent Worship on Wednesdays - This week we meet at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m., with Blue Christmas emphasis at: **Hold On to Hope** - *How can we hold on to hope in the midst of the world's troubles?* Pastor Paul preaches at Bethlehem this Wednesday for Pastor Karen Taylor, who is recovering from radiation treatments. Come and worship!



Decorating Party

Christmas Decorating! - Today after church, we decorate the worship space in preparation for the Christmas Season. Come and take part!



CAROLING

Christmas Caroling for All Ages! Sunday, December 22nd at 1:30 p.m., we'll bring "comfort and joy" to our homebound brothers and sisters in Christ (in various retirement and health care facilities, and individual Homes), and afterward enjoy time together for pizza and fellowship at the Pingels'. We'll start at Grace and carpool around. Come and be a part!



Christmas Eve
Worship

Christmas Eve at Grace - 5:00 p.m. - Children's Program, Choirs, Creche, Carols, Communion and Candlelight - Come and worship Christ the newborn King!

11:30 p.m. - We welcome Christmas Day and the birth of our Savior, whose life, death and resurrection makes all things new. We share the Eucharist and the joy of our new life in Christ!

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

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

Beth Ann Doerring

Donna Gum

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

Nick Gardner, Nephew of Lisa Gray

Members/Friends Celebrating (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Birth of Clair Alyce Prilenski on December 2, Granddaughter of Larry & Jackie Meeks

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

Liz Ann Binns

Fred Brower

Jean Brower

Marie Brown

Nancy Fitzgerald

Sandra R. Hoy

Sandy Johnson

Bob and Carol Knemoller

Peggy Lucas

Janet Lunger

Glenn and Flossie Myers

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

Delmar Carlson, Brother-in-Law of Chuck Goodrich

Lisa Dofflemeyer, Daughter of Linda Tomey

Barbara and Jeff Eagle, Sister and Brother-in-Law of Nancy Schwiesow

Kyle Getler, Member Relative

Bobby Haywood, Friend of Trauschts

Bruce Joleaud, Mike Trauscht's Brother-In-Law

Katherine Lambertson, Daughter of Hal Aaslestad

Maxine Pierce, Mother of Cindy Trauscht

Joshua Scott, Friend of the Jones Family

Krista Traynor and Her Children, Daughter of the Proctors

Keith Weller, Son of Wellers

Members/Friends Grieving

Family of Yesenia Cruz, Friend of Brian Lundstrom

Family of Eloise Hartzell, Aunt of Schwiesows

Family of Jennifer Higgs, Homeless Friend of WARM

Family of Ed Simpson, Brother of Wilda Keefer

Continued

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

**The Homeless in our area, and the work of
WARM, as the Cold Weather Shelter opens**

The Crisis of Addiction in our Nation

**The increase of White Supremacy
Movements in the U.S.**

Our stewardship of Creation in the midst of
Climate Crisis

New Zealand Volcanic Eruption

The Church

**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Jordan and the Holy Land**

Congregations participating in the
WARM Cold Weather Shelter this year

**Our Lutheran brothers and Sisters at
Zion, St. James, Bethlehem
and Bethany**

Announcements

Pledge Campaign Meets Expenses for Parking Lot - Grace members

have made pledges for the full \$48,000 cost of re-paving and expanding the parking lot! \$48,134 has been pledged by 59 members. We are blessed by this response to be able to be good stewards of what God has given to us for the sake of the Mission God has for us in this community. We anticipate beginning on the repaving in Spring 2020. Thank you for the offerings you'll give over the next three years to make this renovation possible!



Special Event Planned for January 19th in the New Year (2020) - Good





food, and learning about new friends - Come and enjoy fellowship, good

food, and learning about the history of the Church as Christ Tabernacle

Church of God in Christ comes back to Grace for a potluck dinner where we bring our best foods, and Christ Tabernacle brings theirs. In addition we'll share with Christ Tabernacle about our Lutheran history and heritage, and they'll share with us the history of the Church of God in Christ, a story that has some surprises in and of itself! Time to start will be finalized next week. Block out Sunday, January 19th afternoon to attend this important event!

**Faith &
Fellowship**

**Life of Grace Church
December 15—22, 2019**

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY—SUNDAY	12/15	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	 Sunday School Worship Choir Practice Third Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding Christmas Decorating
Monday	12/16	6:00 p.m.	<i>Nancy Dowdy Vacation—Carolyn Hite in Church Office</i> <i>Kiwanis (Conference Room)</i>
Tuesday	12/17	7:00 p.m.	 NO Quilting Group Congregational Council (Conference Room)
Wednesday	12/18	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Backpacks (Team A) Advent Vespers at Bethlehem Lutheran Church  Handbell Choir Practice Worship Choir Practice
Thursday	12/19	8:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	<i>Nancy Dowdy Vacation—Carolyn Hite in Church Office</i> No School <i>Newcomers (Fellowship Hall)</i> Grace Walkers Bridge (Fellowship Hall)
Friday	12/20		<i>Nancy Dowdy Vacation—Carolyn Hite in Church Office</i> No School
Sunday	12/22	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Children's Practice for Christmas Program— Worship Space  Worship Choir Practice Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Pastor Paul Pingel, Preaching and Presiding Children/Youth Christmas Caroling

Daily Lectionary

Monday

Psalm 6
2 Kings 5:15-19a
Acts 19:21-27

Tuesday

Psalm 6
2 Kings 5:19b-27
Acts 19:28-41

Wednesday

Psalm 6
2 Kings 6:1-7
Luke 10:13-16

Thursday

Psalm 82
Amos 1:1—2:3
James 2:14-26

Friday

Psalm 82
Amos 2:4-11
Acts 7:9-16

Saturday

Psalm 82
Amos 7:9-16
John 3:16-21



Members of Grace, Ministers

Linda Meyer, President
Gordon Putnam, Vice President
Zach Bandy, Holly Carper, Pete Giesen,
Kim Hull, Gail Johnson, Kathryn Johnson,
Carrie Jones, Jerry Kite, and
Rudolph Yobs
Deloris Wertman, 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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