



The Nativity of Our Lord

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 25, 2022*

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other, the community, and the world.”

HOLY COMMUNION

*Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Three
(Available via You Tube and Zoom Remotely)*

Congregational responses are in bold print

*We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. **We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card. We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available please inform Communion Assistant of your need.***

We have 4 assisted listening units that are simple to operate. They consist of a small unit with an earpiece and volume control, each unit is replaced after each use. See the ushers to use one today.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

*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

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. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

We stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✝, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen**

Blessed be the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, ✝ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.



Gathering Hymn: "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

#275, Page 4, Verses 1, 4

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn and a refrain. The refrain is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Apostolic 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

Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from Isaiah:

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news,
who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Hymn: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

#270, Page 7, Verses 1, 3

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

A reading from Hebrews:

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand

Gospel Acclamation

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

#290, Page 8, Verse 1



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Gospel: John 1:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children's Message

Pastor Paul Pingel

Christmas Message

Pastor Paul Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.



We stand

Hymn of the Day: "Of the Father's Love Begotten

#295, Page 10, Verses 1, 3, 5

Of the Father's Love Begotten



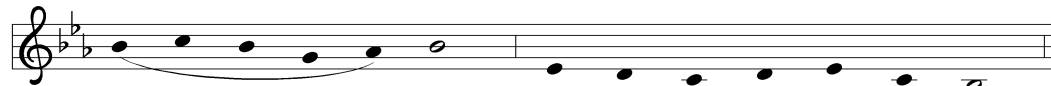
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be -
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**Ninamwamini Mungu, Baba Mwenyezi,
Muumba wa mbingu na dunia;**

**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.**

**Na Yesu Kristo, Mwana wake wa pekee,
Bwana wetu, aliyetwaa mwili kwa tendo
la Roho Mutakatifu, akazaliwa na Bikira
Maria. Akateswa zamani za Pontio
Pilato, akasulibiwa, akafa, akazikwa,
akashuka kuzimuni mwa wafu,
akafufuka katika wafu siku ya tatu,
akapanda mbinguni, anakaa kwa
mukono wa kuume wa Mungu,
Baba Mwenyezi, ndipo atakuja tena
kuhukumu wazima na wafu.**

**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.**

**Ninamwamini Roho Mutakatifu, Kanisa
kikristo takatifu, ushirika wa watakatifu,
ondoleo la zambi, ufufuko wa mwili, na
uzima wa milele. Amina**

The
Apostles'
+ Creed +

Prayers of Intercession

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these words

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

Meal

Peace

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

Please greet those around you, offer a sign of peace to one another.

We sit.

Offering

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.

(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate)

We stand

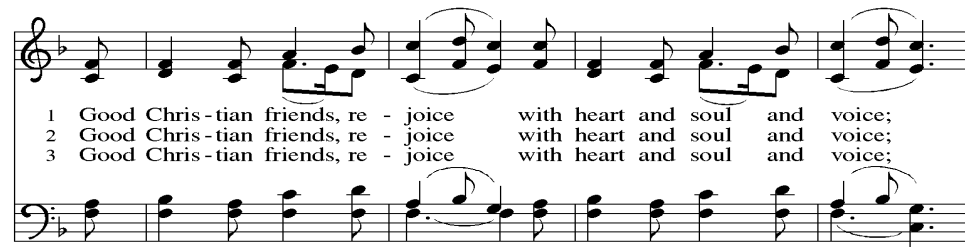
PEACE
BE WITH
you

Offertory Response

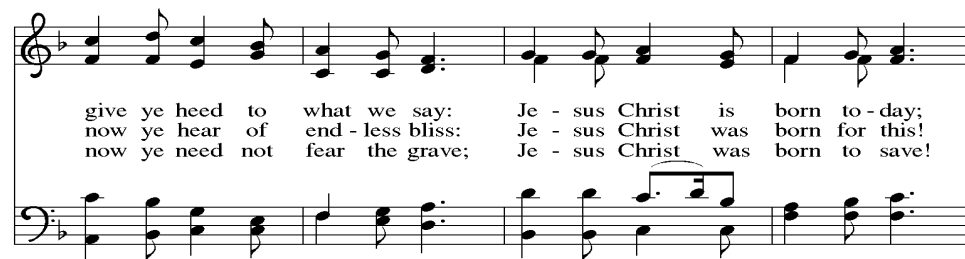
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice?"

#288, Verse 1

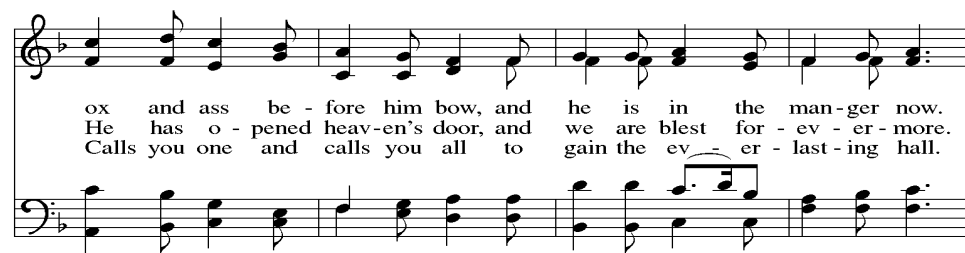
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.



Great Thanksgiving

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melodic line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of the angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

#289, Verse 1

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

TEXT: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
MUSIC: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

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 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

Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.
Thanks be to God.

We sit

The Holy Communion

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)

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

Baba Yetu

**Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako
litukuzwe;
ufalme wako ufike,
utakalo lifanyike
duniani kama mbinguni.
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,
utusamehe makosa yetu,
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.
Usitutie katika kishawishi,
lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.**



That Boy-Child of Mary


Refrain




That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



Refrain

What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000
Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin
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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 our redeemer,
**you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**



Sending

Benediction

God bless you and keep you,
✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.
Amen.



Sending Song: *"The Bells of Christmas"*

#298, Page 20, Verses 1, 4

The Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.



Postlude

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The Bells of Christmas

Det kimer nu til julefest

Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer
 1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our

for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve
 guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a
 babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who
 Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from

hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.
 dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.
 glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.
 lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

- 5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
 O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
 O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
 great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,
 and keep your Christmas in our breast;
 then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,
 shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt.
 Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855



Altar Flowers

*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the Glory of God and in
memory of Jack E. Johnson
by his children*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

January 1, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

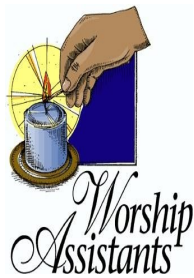
Presiding and Preaching

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:15-21



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers: Gail Johnson

Altar Guild: Jean Morgan

Assisting Minister: Susan Myers

Communion Assistants: Donna Gum

Stephen Van Stee

Council Person of the Week: Stephen Van Stee

Offering Stewards: Jean Morgan

David Proctor

Ushers: Rick Bump

Jean Morgan



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*)

Phyllis Kite
Vernette Nichols

Jan McCombs
Lorre White

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

Beth Hausrath Crickenberger, Friend to Many at Grace
Pat Foster, Friend of Lee and Sharon Lynch
Rev. Dr. Rolf Hedberg, Friend of David and Vivian Proctor
Lauren Kinese, Friend of Lee and Sharon Lynch
K. J. Vigue, Friend of Gail Johnson and Donna Gum

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

Birth of Miles Marcus Lawson, Grandson of Robin and Cathy Crowder
Katie Crowder receiving Salem's Teacher of the Year Recognition,
Daughter-in-Law of Robin and Cathy Crowder

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

Emily Almarode
Fred Brower
Glenn Myers
Ingrid Sevigny

Liz Ann Binns
Sandra Hoy
Jimmy Owens

Beth Brady
Kathryn Johnson
Janet Parmer

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

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace
Nina Crow, Mother of Cathy Crowder
Natalie and Nicole Dodge, Friends of Ron and Sylvia Almarode
Kyle Getler, Member Relative
Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf
Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump
Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Rosalind Holt, Friend of Gail Johnson
Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace

Continued

Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier
Ken & Letty Rosen, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Kirsten Schwiesow, Daughter of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Judy Simpson, Sister of Sharon Lynch
Larry Spoon, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many
Kay Truslow, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Douglas Williams, Friend of Sylvia Almarode, deployed to Kuwait for one year
Toretta Wyatt, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)
Family of Marie Brown, Member of Grace, Mother of Jane McGehee and Janet Parmer
Family of Pat Jennings, Sister of Jim Nelson
Family of Kevin Machon, Nephew of Linda Tomey
Family of Marty Johnson
Family of Flossie Myers, Member of Grace
Family of Margaret Neely, Mother of Jill Pingel

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year Celebrating Birthdays

Jenna Smith (12/31)
 Beth Ann Brady (1/1)

Charles Smith (12/31)
 Carol Wolf (1/1)

The Needs of the World

**First responders: Fire, EMT, Medical Personnel,
 Police and Military at risk in their service to
 others**

The Homeless in our Community (35 are served by WARM, but it is estimated that there are an additional 45-60 not served by the Shelter)

**This Fall's flu and virus proliferation, and
 continuing Covid dangers**

Winter Storms and Tornadoes' impact across our nation in mid-December

**For peace on earth: The Ukraine, Republic of
 Congo, Syria, Ethiopia, Yemen**

Earthquakes in California

For those traveling this holiday season

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

Our friends in Christ at St. John Episcopal

Our Neighbors

Our neighbors in the Wenonah area



Eucharistic Ministry at Grace - Each month our Eucharistic Ministers bring Holy Communion to homebound Grace members. It is a blessed way to offer Jesus and his love, mercy and forgiveness to others. If you feel called to this ministry, please let Pastor Paul know, as we have received additional requests for this ministry.



Conference Room Renovation! - Check out the Conference Room next to the Fellowship Hall!, The Property Team of Fred Biggers, Ron Myers, and Rew Walck, repaired walls and corners, sanded and painted the space. Many thanks for their work!



Thanks to WARM Volunteers - - Many thanks to many, many volunteers - providing meals, checking in WARM guests, shower monitoring, overnight monitors, clean-up duty and more...who enabled Grace to "...Bring the homeless poor into your house...(Isaiah 58:7)". We are blessed to be a blessing!



College Graduation and Virginia Synod article! We offer congratulations to Lily Pingel as she graduates from Roanoke College in December. Lily has also had an article published in the Virginia Synod on her research of the ELCA. The article is web-based and you can find it at: www.vasynod.org/race-the-elca-and-the-virginia-synod/ God's peace and blessing on her graduation!



Texts from "Pastor" Over the Holidays - Over the past few days, Grace members have received text messages from "Rev. Paul H. Pingel" asking people to reply to the message. The text messages have come from a "501" area code (Arkansas). These are "phishing" texts and are **NOT** FROM PASTOR PAUL. Please delete them immediately from your phone. And please notify the church office if you receive suspicious emails or texts from Pastor Paul.



First Sunday Fellowship Begins in January - Beginning in January 2023, our Fellowship Team - as well as other Grace ministries and groups - will be hosting a First Sunday Fellowship each month. It is simply an opportunity for us to have a little extra time after worship to enjoy some light refreshments, and the Community and Fellowship we have in Christ here at Grace! We look forward to seeing you then!



Donations

Cold Weather Donations Request — We are collecting donations of socks, hats, scarves, and gloves for distribution at the Disciple's Kitchen breakfasts during the upcoming cold months. We would like to collect items for women, men, and children. New or clean, gently used items will be greatly appreciated! We have a box outside the office door for drop off. Any questions, please call Cindy Trauscht at 434-227-6100. Thank you!



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 pantries. We have made **thirty-one** deliveries thus far, fifteen to Main Street United Methodist, and sixteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3248 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off



Second Yoga Class Offered at Grace - Shelton Sprouse, who had the "Blue Moon Yoga" studio on Main Street until the pandemic, has been offering a Yoga class Saturday mornings at Grace. It is designed for beginners and senior adults, for "physical activity and mindfulness." The class is offered from 11:00 a.m.—12:15 a.m. Saturday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that the Yoga class will be in the **Seminar Room** on the following dates: January 7 and January 28. A donation may be given, but is not required.

He will be offering a second class on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 – 7:15 p.m. in the Seminar Room. A donation may be given, but is not required.



Covid Policy at Grace

- Masking is optional during worship.
- We will continue to post the CDC "risk" color (green [low], yellow [medium] or orange [high risk] in the narthex
- There is a "social distance" section available in the front right of the worship space
- Holy Communion will continue to be offered by coming up front and receiving bread and individual cups of wine; pastor and assistants will mask when the CDC "risk" color is orange (high)
- Masks and hand sanitizer continue to be available in the narthex.

We continue to encourage:

- Vaccination and keeping up-to-date with current shots
- Staying home when not feeling well, especially with flu and other infections on the rise this time of year
- Masking if you have not been vaccinated for Covid or Flu
- Masking for Covid, flu or other infections.

Monday

2 Chronicles 24:17-2
Acts 6:1-7
Acts 7:59—8:8
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 67



Tuesday

Proverbs 8:22-30
1 John 5:1-12
John 13:20-25
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 94

Wednesday

Isaiah 49:13-23
Isaiah 54:1-13
Matthew 18:1-14
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 17

Thursday

Isaiah 12:1-6
Revelation 1:1-8
John 7:37-52
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 62

Friday

Isaiah 25:1-9
Revelation 1:9-20
John 7:53-8:11
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 16

Saturday

Isaiah 26:1-6
2 Chronicles 5:16—6:2
John 8:12-19
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 72



*Life of Grace Church
December 25—January 1, 2023*

Day	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sunday	12/25	10:00 a.m.	 <p>Christmas Morning Worship Christmas <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel <i>Presiding and Preaching</i></p>
Monday	12/26		 <p>Church Office Closed</p>
Tuesday	12/27		 <p>Church Office Closed</p>
Wednesday	12/28	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<p>Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room)</p>
Thursday	12/29	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	<p>Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p>
Friday	12/30		 <p>Church Office Closed</p>
Saturday	12/31	11:00 a.m.	 <p>New Year's Eve Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p>
Sunday	01/01	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m.	 <p>New Year's Day Matthew—Adult Bible Class First Sunday After Christmas <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel <i>Presiding and Preaching</i> Coffee Fellowship Zoom</p>

Members of Grace Congregational Council

Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)
Nancy Schwiesow, Vice-President (301-943-0888)
Bob Barrette (434-760-4419), Fred Biggers (434-981-1954),
Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176), Jean Morgan (540-649-4422),
Susan Myers (434-760-1660), Andrew Sell (612-695-8361),
Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772), Karen Walck (765-480-9920)
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Vivian Proctor, Secretary
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary



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

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

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

Office Hours: 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m.,
Monday-Thursday Closed Friday

www.gracewaynesboro.org facebook.com/gelc.elca
youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro
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