



SECOND SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

December 4, 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 Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,

and confess them to the One who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare to do battle instead of seeking your way of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.



Gathering Hymn: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

#249, Page 5

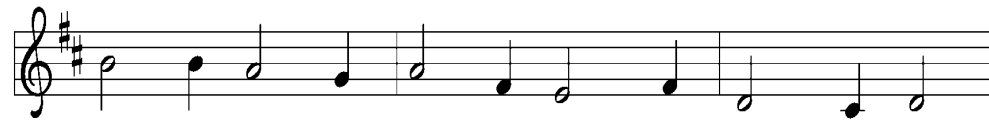
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



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

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.

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.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Second Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

Amen

Candle Lighting

Two candles are lit as we sing:

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

#240, Page 8 Verse 2

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from Isaiah:

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

We read responsively

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

²**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**

³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

¹⁸**Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.**

¹⁹Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

S 142a

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 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children's Message

Pastor Paul Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Paul Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**

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

**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.**

**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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these words

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

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

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. 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: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

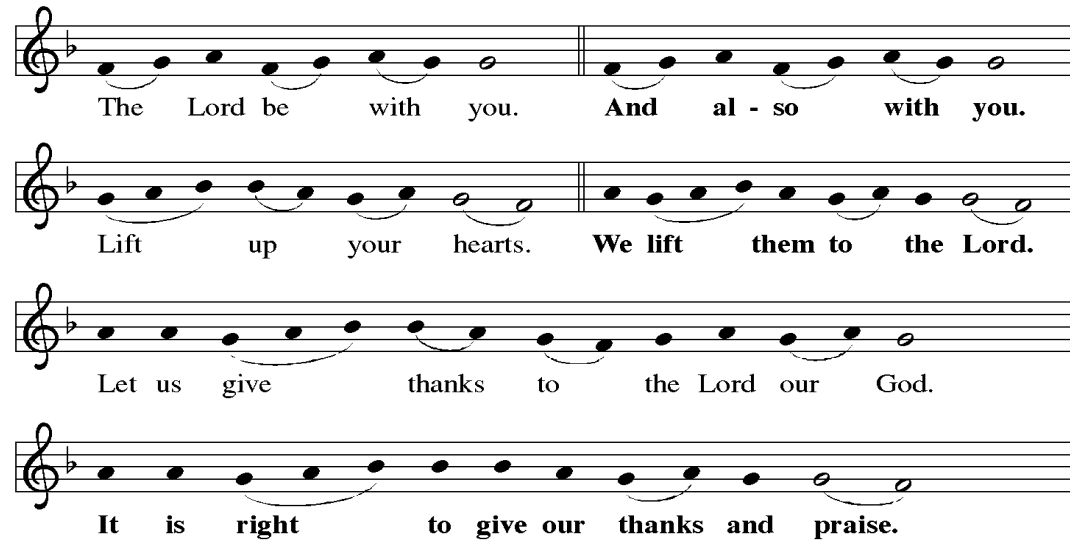
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
**you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

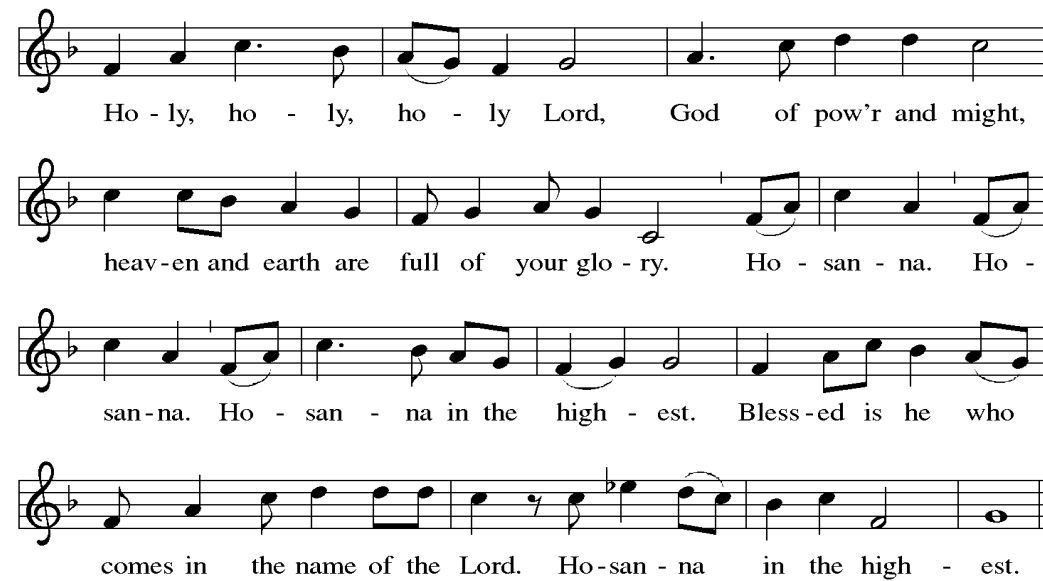
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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.
Bless 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 your Son Jesus, the World 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 of 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 has 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

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.
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.**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The Communion Blessing

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

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Faithful God,
**in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.
Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**



Sending

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent.

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and Sacrament to our sisters and brothers. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Benediction

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction+

Sending Song: *“All Earth is Hopeful”*

#266, Page 22

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Portions of this liturgy are from Sundays and Seasons. com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20403. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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, Él 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
 Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
 Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



Altar Flowers

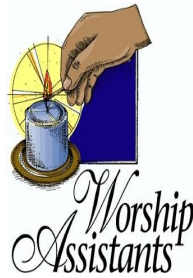
*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the Glory of God*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

*December 11 2022
Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.*

*Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching*

*Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11*



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:

Altar Guild:

Assisting Minister:

Communion Assistants:

Council Person of the Week:

Offering Stewards:

Ushers:

Cathy Firkin

Jane Stein

Kathy Bump

Linda Meyer

Lew Jobs

Susan Myers

Robin Crowder

Jean Morgan

Jerry Kite

Linda Meyer



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*)

Sylvia Almarode

Glenn and Flossie Myers

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

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

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

Emily Almarode

Liz Ann Binns

Beth Brady

Fred Brower

Marie Brown

Sandra Hoy

Kathryn Johnson

Phyllis Kite

Jimmy Owens

Janet Parmer

Ingrid Sevigny

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

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

Janice Collins, Friend of Grace

Kyle Getler, Member Relative

Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf

Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace

Members/Friends Grieving

Family of James Hepner, Father of Gloria Nelson

Family of Bruce Whitfield, Father of Zanny Bandy

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

Natalie and Nicole Dodge, Friend of Ron and Sylvia Almarode
Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump
James Hepner, Father of Gloria Nelson
Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Rosalind Holt, Friend of Gail Johnson
Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Helen McClung, Cousin of Nancy Schwiesow
Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier
Margarett Neely, Mother of Jill Pingel
Ken & Letty Rosen, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow
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

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

Tripp Franklin

Robert Moyer

<u>The Needs of the World</u>	<u>The Church</u>
First responders: Fire, EMT, Medical Personnel, Police and Military at risk in their service to others	Grace's Strategic Planning
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)	Our friends in Christ at St. John Episcopal
This Fall's flu and virus proliferation, and continuing Covid dangers (avg. deaths per day still exceed 200/day)	<u>Our Neighbors</u>
The strength of the church's witness in a world in need of Good News	Our neighbors in the Wenonah area
Four Shootings: UVA (three killed, two wounded), Idaho (four killed), Colorado (five killed, others injured), and Chesapeake, VA (six killed, others injured)	
LGBTQ citizens of our nation, and the increase of rhetoric that puts them more at risk in daily life	

Sunday Worship in the Season of Advent - We return to a new, familiar worship setting for Advent and Christmas, Setting III of the ELW. We also return to the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) after 2 1/2 years using the Narrative Lectionary. A lectionary contains the readings we use each Sunday for worship. The RCL is the standard set of texts used by a majority of church denominations around the world. It is powerful to think of almost a billion Christians hearing the same words from the Word of God on a given Sunday!

Advent Wednesdays Shared by Four Lutheran Congregations The Season of Advent - the start to a new Church Year - began November 27th. In addition, we will mark Advent with a series of four Advent Wednesday Services at 7:00 p.m.:



- Wednesday, **December 7th** - Zion Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. Advent Vespers - "Four Gospels and Four Beginnings"
- Wednesday, **December 14th** - Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. Outdoor Worship - Singing Around the Advent Wreath
- Wednesday, **December 21st** - Bethlehem Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas worship service.

"Prepare the Way of the Lord!" says John the Baptist during this Season. Make Wednesday Advent worship a part of your holiday traditions this Season - "Ah dearest Jesus, Holy Child, make thee a bed, soft, undefiled, within my heart that it may be a quiet chamber kept for Thee." (Martin Luther)



IMPORTANT! December 11th meeting—There will be a called congregation meeting next Sunday, December 11th after worship, for the purpose of voting on the 2023 Spending Plan for Grace. You should have received by email or U.S. mail a copy of the Spending Plan with a letter from Grace Council President, Robin Crowder. Please plan on attending this important meeting in the life of Grace!



The **Giving Tree** has been put up in the Nave. If you would like to participate, please come by the church to pick up one or more tags, sign your name and the gift tag(s) taken in the book, purchase appropriate gift(s), and bring unwrapped gift(s) with the original tag attached back to the Nave by **TODAY, Sunday, December 4**. If you have questions, please contact Jane Stein, 540-649-0979.



GRACE - WARM Cold Weather Shelter

Collecting Toiletries (travel/hotel-sized: shampoo/conditioner, soap, toothpaste, lotion)

Collecting Breakfast and Snack Food Items (cereal, fruit cups, nutra-grain bars, fruit juice boxes, nabs, individual portion bags of chips, cookies)

Box located on back table in the Nave

Volunteer Opportunities December 5-12 and January 23-30

Sign-up Sheets are located in the back of the Nave before and after services

- **Set-up teams:** December 4 and/or 5 and January 22 and/or 23 to organize and set-up check-in, Fellowship Hall tables, cots, chairs, dividers.
- **Check-In teams:** 3-4 volunteers/night; assist Staff Host and welcome guests - make them feel welcome, let them know we care, participate in time of fellowship – let them know that God's love is present in their lives! Make coffee!
- **Shower Host:** 1 volunteer/night; ensure guests have needed toiletries, towel; monitor shower schedule and collect towels
- **Meal Teams:** Join a team to provide dinner for about 50 people; volunteer to prepare food, serve and/or clean-up. Assist preparing sack lunches, if time/able. December 5 - 11 - we have 4 Teams scheduled for Monday - Thursday; **we need teams for December: Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th!** January 23 - 29 - we have 7 Teams scheduled; more volunteers are welcome to fill out teams. Welcoming individual volunteers as well as whole teams! If you're interested in leading a team, let me know!
- **Overnight Hosts:** 2 volunteers/night; assist the Staff Host overnight (in-person OR by telephone); in morning, make coffee and put out breakfast items and sack lunches, Clean up after.
- **Clean-up Team:** light cleaning duties. WARM will have guests complete basic chores (sweeping, mopping if needed, removing garbage). We will come in during the day (after the guests are gone,) to check the area, follow-up as needed - Lysol bathrooms, showers; wash/dry/fold towels.

Questions? Suggestions?

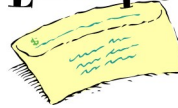
Please contact Susan Myers 434-760-1660
or sparkelmyers@gmail.com



Donations

Cold Weather Donations Request — We are collecting donations of socks, hats, scarves, gloves, toothbrushes and toothpaste 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!

Offering Envelopes



With many of you now giving via bill-payer, electronic giving, etc., and in order to reduce cost for the church, we have reduced the number of **giving envelopes** we order yearly. If you prefer to have envelopes, please let Nancy know by Tuesday, **December 6**. If we don't hear from you, we will assign envelopes based on your method of giving as best we can determine. Thank you!



The **VMA Holiday Recital** will be at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18. They would love for you to attend, see student progress made over the past year and listen to some holiday music.



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 date: December 3, December 10, 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.



Adult Sunday School! Pastor Karen Van Stee leads an engaging study of Matthew's gospel at **8:30** a.m. *Please note the new, earlier starting time.* Come join us!



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 **twenty-nine** deliveries thus far, fourteen to Main Street United Methodist, and fifteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3075 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



February Mission Trip to Nicaragua—Grace members are welcome to be part of the team that will go to learn and serve. The mission team will lodge and work in partnership with the Nicaraguan Christian Children's Center (CICRIN – see www.cicrinus.org), a school and refuge for children and youth on Ometepe Island. Team leaders are Mark and Tami Radecke; this will be their 21st mission trip to Nicaragua.

Dates: February 10-18, 2023

Cost: \$1,995 per person



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 for Covid, flu or other infections.

ADVENT

A Season of Preparation

*Life of Grace Church
December 4—December 11 2022*

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sunday	12/4	8:30 a.m.	Matthew—Adult Bible Class
		10:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship Zoom
		11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Class
Monday	12/5	5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday	12/6	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
		5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee
Wednesday	12/7	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel)
		5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
		7:00 p.m.	Advent Vespers Zion Lutheran Church

ADVENT

A Season of Preparation

Life of Grace Church
December 4—December 11 2022

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Thursday	12/8	8:30 a.m.	Grace Walkers
		12:30 p.m.	Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)
		5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.	CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting
Saturday	12/10	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
		5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	12/11	8:30 a.m.	Matthew—Adult Bible Class
		10:00 a.m.	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship Zoom
		11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Class
		2:00 p.m.	Youth Sunday Servant Event
		5:00 p.m.	Warm Shelter (Fellowship Hall)

Monday
Isaiah 5:8-17
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Luke 21:20-28
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 67



Tuesday
Isaiah 5:18-25
1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
Luke 21:29-38
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 94

Wednesday
Isaiah 6:1-13
2 Thessalonians 1:1-12
John 7:53-8:11
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 17

Thursday
Isaiah 7:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12
Luke 22:1-13
Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 62

Friday
Isaiah 7:10-25
2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5
Luke 22:14-30
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 16

Saturday
Isaiah 8:1-15
2 Thessalonians 3:6-18
Luke 22:31-38
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 72

**Church
COUNCIL**

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

**Church
COUNCIL**

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
facebook.com/gelc.elca twitter.com/gelc_elca
youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro
Internet: www.gracewaynesboro.org

Telephone: 540.949.6171