



First Sunday of Lent

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
November 27, 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: "Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending"

#435, Page 4

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;

thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.

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

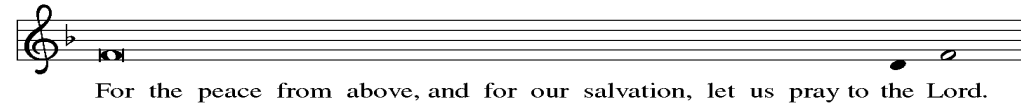
lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799

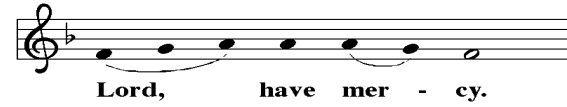
Kyrie



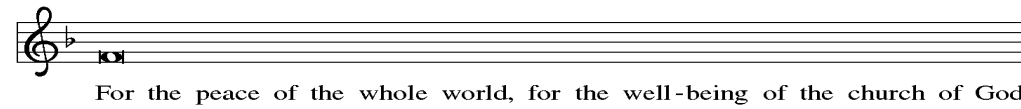
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



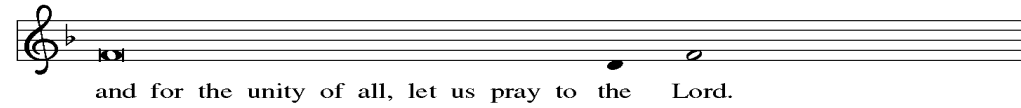
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



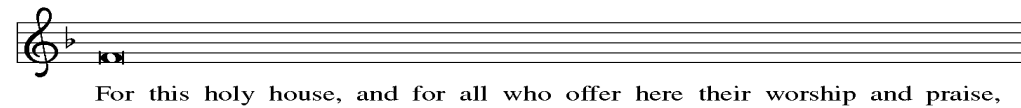
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



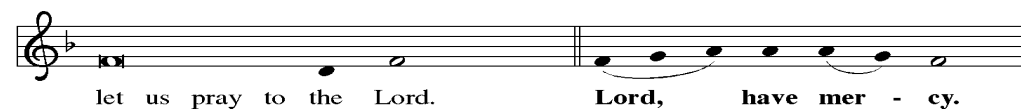
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



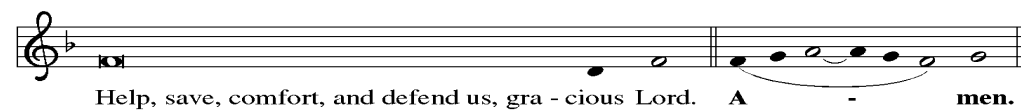
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.**

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.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

First Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen

Candle Lighting

The first candle is lit as we sing:

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

#240, Page 8 Verse 1

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.

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Word

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from Isaiah:

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

**²Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem — built as a city
that is bound firmly together.

**⁴To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

⁵For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.

**⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers."

**⁸For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."**

⁹For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Romans:

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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.

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voice - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might

Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the will ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
 Music: WÄCHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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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.

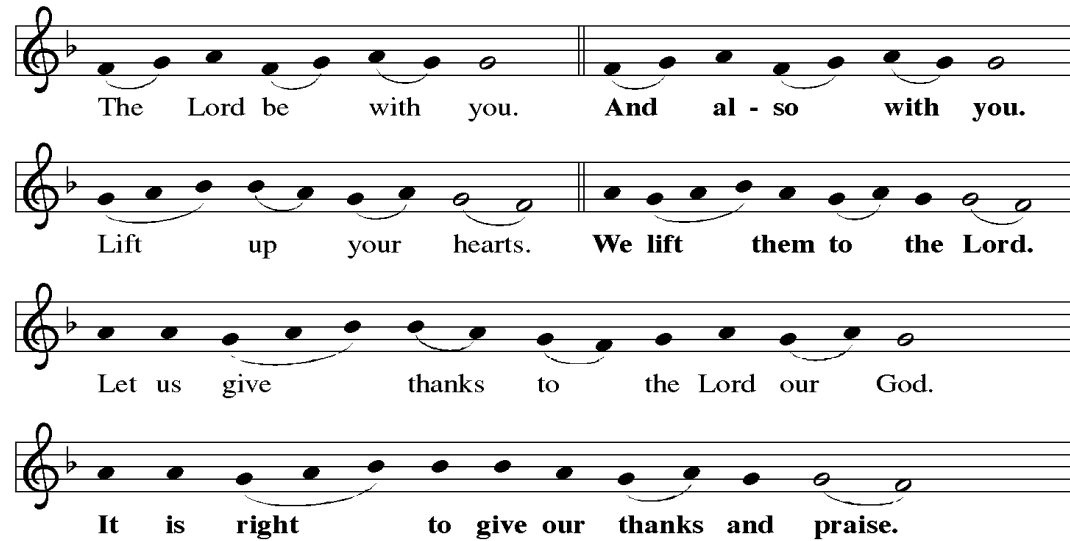
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Offering Prayer

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.**

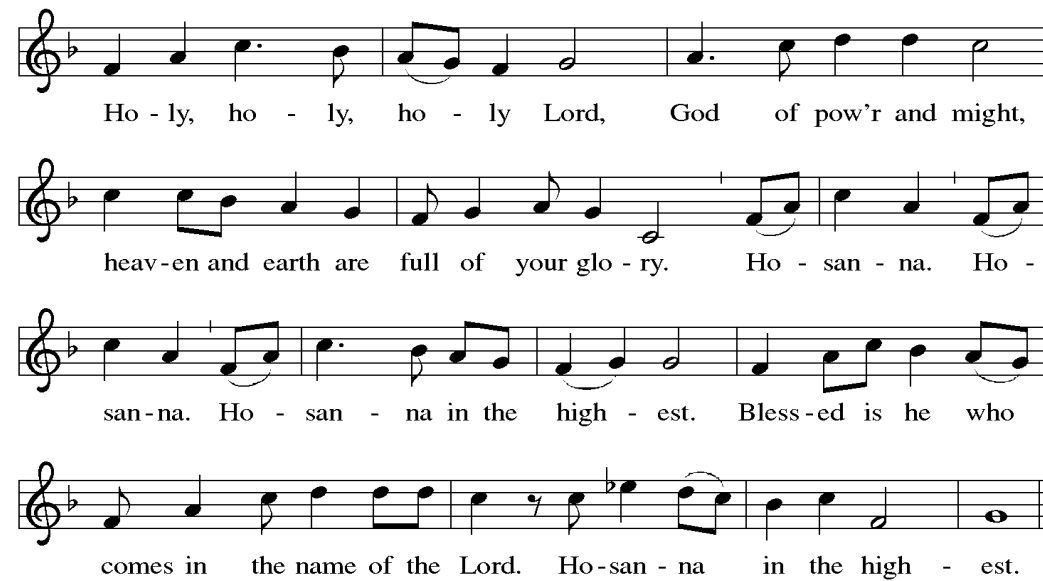
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Benediction+

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.

Sending Song: *“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”*

#246, Page 20

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex- pect- ed, come with par- don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo- ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son

"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889



Altar Flowers

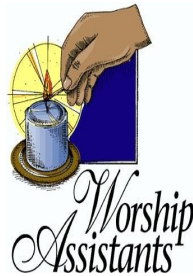
*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the Glory of God
in thanksgiving for all God's blessings
and in memory of my parents
Agnes and Robert Meyer*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

*December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.*

*Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching*

*Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12*



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

<i>Altar Flowers:</i>	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	<i>Susan Myers</i>
	<i>Gloria Nelson</i>
<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	<i>Ron Almarode</i>
<i>Communion Assistants:</i>	<i>Gloria Nelson</i>
	<i>Jim Nelson</i>
<i>Council Person of the Week:</i>	<i>Nancy Schwiesow</i>
<i>Offering Stewards:</i>	<i>Pat Brady</i>
	<i>Jean Morgan</i>
<i>Ushers:</i>	<i>Jack Eckstrom</i>
	<i>Jim Nelson</i>



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

Carolyn Barrette

Malachi Dolan

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

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

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

Glenn and Flossie Myers

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**

**Jean Morgan
Lily Skelton**

**Hannah Pingel
Ashley Stollings**

<u>The Needs of the World</u>	<u>The Church</u>
<p>Our nation, and our trust in our Lord Jesus whatever the election results.</p> <p>God's Creation, the Climate Summit in Egypt and the world leaders in attendance</p> <p>Teachers in our schools, and our children's learning this school year</p> <p>This Fall's flu and virus proliferation, and continuing Covid dangers (avg. deaths per day still exceed 200/day)</p> <p>The strength of the church's witness in a world in need of Good News</p> <p>Three Shootings: UVA (three killed, two wounded), Idaho (four killed), and Colorado (five killed, others injured), and a way forward in the stubbornness of human hearts.</p> <p>LGBTQ citizens of our nation, and the increase of rhetoric that puts them more at risk in daily life.</p>	<p>Grace's Strategic Planning</p> <p>Our friends in Christ at Westminster Presbyterian</p> <p>Prayer for neighboring Lutheran congregations: St. James, Bethlehem, Zion and Bethany</p> <p><u>Our Neighbors</u></p> <p>Our neighbors in the Wayne Hills Area.</p>

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 the 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 - begins today. In addition, we will mark Advent with a series of four Advent Wednesday Services at 7:00 p.m.:



- Wednesday, **November 30th** - St. James Lutheran Church - 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper, followed by 7:00 p.m. Advent Vespers
- 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)



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 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



We would like to send **care packages** to each of our five (5) college students as they prepare for exams. We will assemble and pack today, November 27, after church in the History Room. If you have any questions, you may contact Carolyn Biggers or Linda Meyer.



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 Fellowship Hall beginning the Wednesday after Thanksgiving. 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 9:00 a.m. Come join us!



Please pray for Sylvia Almarode, who has fallen and had a severe break in her back. She has had major surgery at UVA and is now home with Healthcare coming in to help. She would really appreciate your prayers. She is not up to phone calls and visits as of yet. 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 **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
November 27—December 4, 2022

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sunday	11/27	10:00 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship Zoom
		11:00 a.m.	Pack College Care Packs (History Room)
Tuesday	11/29	9:30 a.m.	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
		7:00 p.m.	Round Tables (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	11/30	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel)
		6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
		7:00 p.m.	Advent Vespers
Thursday	12/01	8:30 a.m.	Grace Walkers
		12:30 p.m.	Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)
		6:00 p.m.	CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting
Saturday	12/03	10:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.	7th Day of Planning (Fellowship Hall)
		11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	12/04	10:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship Zoom
		11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Class

Monday

Isaiah 1:10-20
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Luke 20:1-8
Morning Psalm 122, Evening 40

Tuesday

Isaiah 1:21-31
1 Thessalonians 2:1-12
Luke 20:9-18
Morning Psalm 33, Evening 85

Wednesday

Isaiah 2:1-4
1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Luke 20:19-26
Morning Psalm 50, Evening 53



Thursday

Isaiah 2:5-22
1 Thessalonians 3:1-13
Luke 20:27-40
Morning Psalm 18:1-20, Evening 126

Friday

Isaiah 3:1—4:1
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
Luke 20:41—21:4
Morning Psalm 102, Evening 130

Saturday

Isaiah 4:2-6
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Luke 21:5-19
Morning Psalm 90, Evening 80



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

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youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

Internet: www.gracewaynesboro.org

Telephone: 540.949.6171

