



# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

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Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 \* INPERSON and ONLINE



**Christmas Day 2022**

## Introduction

**TODAY'S THEME:** As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

**Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.**

*Announcements are televised or found on our website*

**Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.**

*Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.  
We hope all people find it easy to follow along.*

# **GOD GATHERS US**

*Announcements are found on our website*

## **PRELUDE**

*We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the Word made flesh,  
our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

P: Trusting the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of life,

**All: 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.**

P: 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.  
**All: Amen.**

Opening Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## **GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**All: And also with you.**

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **SHARING OF PEACE**

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

**All: And you also.**

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

### **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING:                    Isaiah 52:7-10**

*Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: "Your God reigns!" Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God.*

<sup>7</sup>How 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."

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The 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.

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 1:1-14**

*The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be “full of grace and truth.”*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

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

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

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

<sup>14</sup>And 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.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to You O Christ!**

## **MESSAGE FOR ALL**

Pastor David Mercurio

**SONG OF DAY**

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

**ELW 270**

## 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.

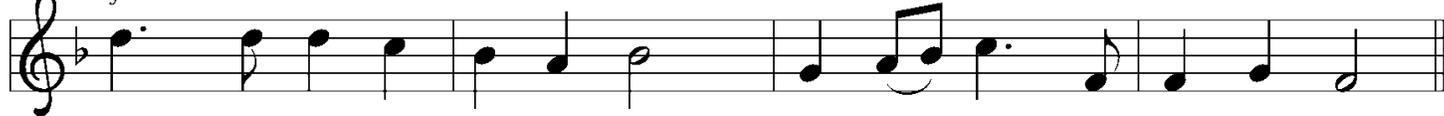


Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



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

### APOSTLES' CREED

**P:** 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 power of 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.**

#### **OFFERING IS WELCOMED**

P: 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.  
**All: Amen.**

*(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)*

#### **Offertory Music**

#### **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document  
or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.*

*Please respond accordingly*

P: The church in every land makes a joyful noise to herald your coming, O God. We give thanks for poets, musicians, and hymn writers who give voice to our praise, and for all who lead the church's worship.

God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**



P: This day dawns with new hope for all living things, and from ocean depths to mountain peaks the earth rejoices. Inspire in us an urgent zeal to protect the planet and renew its resources.

God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Bring heavenly peace to this world and an end to armed conflict. Raise up leaders in every nation who will honor human rights and establish equal justice for all people. Give courage to all who speak out against oppression and advocate for the powerless.

God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Guard the lives of any in danger, especially those who work to protect others. Lead any who are in desperate circumstances to sanctuary, help, and safety. Grant rest to the weary and soothe those who are troubled (*especially*).

God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Bless all who gather to worship on this holy day. Be present at our tables and celebrations, and watch over those who travel. Sustain charities, outreach ministries, and food pantries that give generously to people in need.

God of grace,

**C:hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: In Christ we have beheld your glory, full of grace and truth. We give thanks for those in every generation who reflect the light of Christ. May their witness shine forth in our time.

God of grace,

**C: 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.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

**P:** Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**ALL:** We lift them in the Spirit's love.

**P:** Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

**ALL:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**P:** It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

**P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**ALL: 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**

**P:** These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*Communion hymn:*

**The First Noel  
Away in A Manger**

**ELW 300  
ELW 277**

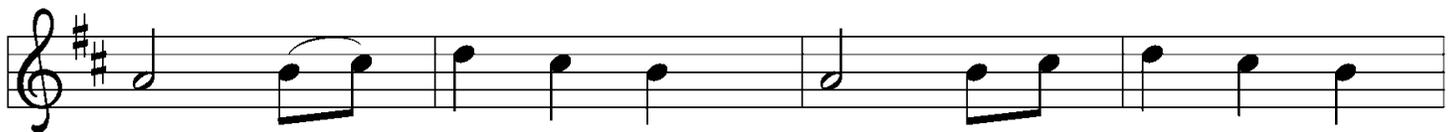
# The First Noel      ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . . and

*Refrain*



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

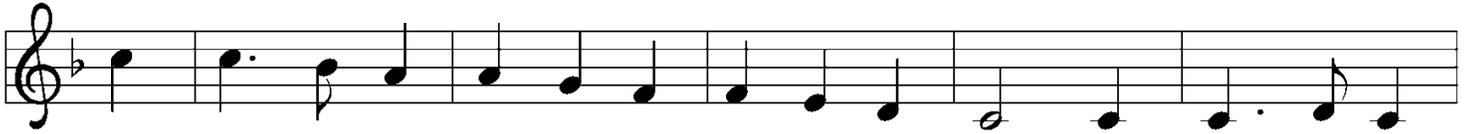


el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

# Away in a Manger ELW 277



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P:** 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.

**ALL:** Amen

**Song**

**Go Tell It on The Mountain**

**Grace Bell Choir**

**GOD SENDS US**

## **BLESSING and Dismissal**

God bless you and keep you,

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

**Amen.**

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2023

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## **ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS LESSON**

### **Psalm 98**

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. (*Ps. 98:3*)

### **Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]**

*God has spoken by a Son*

## **12/25/22 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** Donated by the Kirk and Kathy Hooey family in thanks for the many blessings of our Lord!

**THE REBECCA CIRCLE WILL AGAIN BE SPONSORING THE ELCA GOOD GIFTS AND GLOBAL BARNYARD CHALLENGE**

Watch the weekly bulletin for interesting “tidbits” regarding the ELCA hunger challenge. Information on the ELCA good gifts and barnyard is available in the Narthex.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>:** “Ending hunger isn’t just about food. It’s about access, justice and caring for creation and each other... the ways God is calling all of us, together, to be part of the solution.”

**REBECCA CIRCLE FRONTIER SOUP SALE...every week...See display in the Narthex**

**WORSHIP MASKING-Update** There has been a slight increase in the area of Covid cases and in our congregation. We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. We need to continue and continue Masking at your comfort level.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT SUNDAY** Thanks to all for turning in your Commitment Cards.

**BOWLING LEAGUE** The Lutheran Fellowship Bowling League, a joint league among area ELCA Churches, is looking for adults 18 or older to join us every other Sunday for an evening of adult Christian fellowship. Bowling skill or experience not required. Contact Nick Rex for more info: 630-742-5836 (text or voicemail) or lutheranbowling@gmail.com.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Sunday school meets the first & third Sundays of the month for 3 through 11-year-olds. \*\* Please note – in January we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

**NOISY OFFERING** We collect a Noisy Offering whenever you wish to empty your change purse or pockets! Our next endeavor is for special light bulbs & lift rental necessary for the sanctuary & parking lot. Thank you for your support!

**BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS** The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the News Letter or Cathy Whiteside.

***Thank you for your generous donations!***

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE**

.The Building Maintenance Fund balance is \$200. We have made boiler repairs, boiler/furnace maintenance, annunciator replacement and some plumbing repairs

**PLEASE READ YOUR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER** as it is chock full of information about the Advent/Christmas Season, worship, events and Vision Team/Financial information, etc. Please find it on our website, [www.graceoflilylake.com](http://www.graceoflilylake.com), under the

newsletter tab. If you would like to help with the monthly task of putting the newsletter together, please contact either Marty Bradley or Cathy Whiteside.

ZOOM FELLOWSHIP WILL CONTINUE WEEKLY **AT 10:30 AM** on Sundays following our online worship services. Join our Grace family for sharing news, prayers information and more. Don't miss out! Check your eblast for details.

<https://zoom.us/j/96765863567?pwd=SWpGM0xlclVoaFBIUXI2dEVvNTd3UT09>

VISIT OUR Website [www.graceoflilylake.com](http://www.graceoflilylake.com) FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Check out our updated website. **Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services**

And our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

630-365-6751

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- \* God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- \* As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- \* Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- \* Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

### FOR THE WORLD

- \* For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- \* For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

### FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- \* For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- \* As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

### FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- \* Adam & Julia Sajdak, grandson & granddaughter in law of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- \* Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- \* William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- \* David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

### FOR ALL

- \* The continued support of our members
- \* For all members of healthcare around the world
- \* For those serving as first responders and in the military

\* For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

### **FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT**

For those ill in body, mind or spirit..... *Andrew Kinsel and his family in Ukraine (nephew of Paul and Kay Kinsel), Fred Alstadt, Barbara Asher, (cousin of Kurt Redemann), Vicki Barclay, Aina Baumanis (Andra Nordwind's mother), Nelson Brodhead, (brother of Shirley Turner), Joanna Alverado/Klaus, Jim (brother of Rita Burnham, recovering from a stroke), the Chavez family and Joe, Juanita Curley (sister in law of Cathy Lindquist), Jane Cutler, Ken Deutschmann, Jack and Jan Docherty, Joyce Helander and Jim Serafin (sister & brother in law of Jan Docherty), Jay Ellingsen (nephew of Kathy Hooey), Howard (friend of Alexis Diehl), Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, Lisa Landes (niece of Kathy Hooey), Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Ray Larsen, Wayne Larson, Chili Lindgren, Jeannine Luchs, Sherry Manke, George and Eileen Morris, Joan Mortenson, Mike Myers, Ray Navarro, Ed Nordwind, Donald Overby, Ken Patterson, Phil and Inge Peterson, Carol Prevenas, Pastor Art, Nancy Schaeffer, John Schnaitman, Nancy Schnaitman (surgery on 29<sup>th</sup>), Tia Thorne, Shirley Turner, Crystal Vines, Kristy Weydert, Catherine Zegial, and Barbara Zegiel (sister of Heidi Anderson), Pat Lindgren (for her surgery) **Wayne Whiteside.***

*Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers.*

*Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.*

**POINSETTIAS AROUND THE ALTAR TODAY ARE DONATED BY.....**

Heidi, Mark and Nathan Anderson in memory of Grandpa Leonard Zegiel and Grandma Dolores Anderson.

Jan and Jack Docherty in memory of and in honor of Loved Ones.

Lee Gerke in memory of and in honor of Loved Ones.

Suzanne Girsch in memory of Harold and Harriet Strom.

Kathy and Kirk Hooey in memory of their parents.

Vicki and Larry Linden, Kate and Greg Johnson in memory of Hunter and Chad Johnson and Karen Rolston.

Nancy Schnaitman in memory of her husband Jim.

Twyla and Lee Strom in memory of Twy's brother Gene, and in honor of their grandchildren Rika, Teddy and Eli.

Gloria and George Theros in honor of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Shirley and Norm Turner in memory of Jean Hart, Verna Neimiller and Emma Gunderson.

Cathy Whiteside in honor of ALL blessings received.