



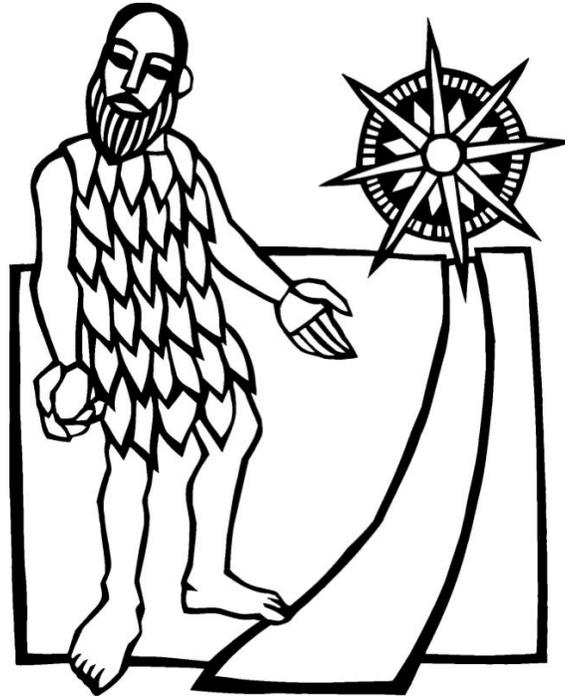
WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

OFFICE: 630-365-6751 * E-MAIL: general@graceoflilylake.com

WEB ADDRESS: www.graceoflilylake.com

Sunday, December 11th, 2022 * 9 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



3rd Sunday of ADVENT

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

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

What Child is This?

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Light of Joy

CHOIR

Third Sunday of Advent – Light of Joy

Responsive Litany

Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of living.

Lord of light, we thank you for the gift of life.

Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of relationships.

Lord of light, we thank you for our friends and family.

Advent is a time to celebrate the earth we all share.

Lord of light, we thank you for providing for our needs.

Advent is a time to celebrate eternal life.

Lord of light, we thank you for sending a Savior.

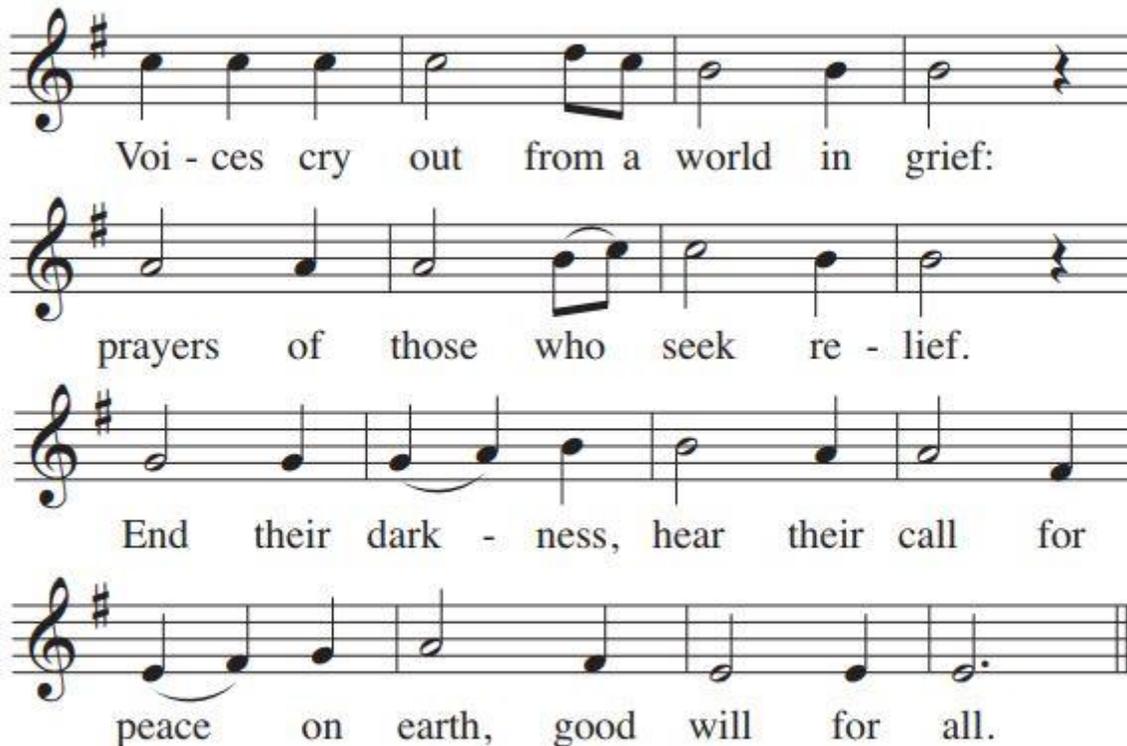
Candle Lighting

Today we light three candles – the candle of hope, of peace, and the candle of joy. This third candle reminds us that because of our Lord, we have reasons to be truly joyful. The world around us is filled with surprise and beauty. Our cups overflow with goodness and grace, and we rejoice in the promise of eternal life.

Light of Light

Congregational Part

JOEL RANEY



The musical score is written on four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Voi - ces cry out from a world in grief: prayers of those who seek re - lief. End their dark - ness, hear their call for peace on earth, good will for all." The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing.

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

All: Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

P: 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.

P: God of new beginnings,

**All: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead 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.**

P: 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.
All: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Fling Wide the Door

ELW 259

Fling Wide the Door



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943

Music: MÄCHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704

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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: Let us pray... Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God,

All: and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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: Psalm 146:5-10

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

P: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.



Children's Message

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

All: Glory to you O Lord

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

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

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

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

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

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to You O Christ!

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

In the Bleak Midwinter



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
 Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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: 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.
All: Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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

A brief silence.



P: Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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.

C: 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: What Feast of Love
 Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn

ELW 487
ELW 242

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

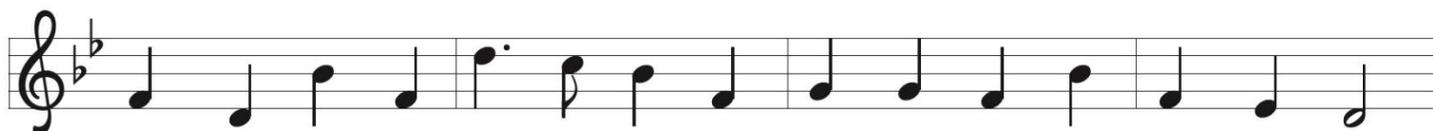
P: Faithful God,
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.
Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ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

ALL: Amen

CLOSING SONG

Angels from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275



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



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

Refrain



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

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

CLOSING PRAYER

3rd Sunday of Advent

God of light, we thank you for the many gifts you have given us, and we pray today that you will teach us to be truly joyful. Help us remember that you supply our needs and fill our lives with meaning. Fill our days with keen awareness of your presence, and fill our hearts with praise as we celebrate this joyful Advent season. Amen

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

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.

ALL: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

ALL: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Fantasia on a French Carol

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2023

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert blooms as God's people return from exile

Luke 1:46b-55 (alternate)

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Lk. 1:47)

James 5:7-10

Patience until the coming of the Lord

12/11/22 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS Altar flowers today have been donated by Lee Gerke in thanks for the love of family and friends.

THE REBECCA CICLE 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 11th: “A community vegetable garden can feed multiple families. While extra produce can be sold for income”

WORSHIP MASKING Masking is currently optional. The ropes have been removed from the back rows.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT SUNDAY Was November 20th 9am service; however, you still have time to turn in your commitment cards until December 15th.

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 2nd and 4th 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!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE & BAZAAR on December 17th from 9am – 1pm. Please sign up to bake cookies/baked goods and to volunteer at the bazaar. Cookies/baked goods may be dropped off at church on Fri., Dec 16th from 9am to noon or 5pm to 8pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES at Grace at 3pm and 7pm and **CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP** at Grace at 9am

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

Donations collected for the week ending 12/5/22 = \$5,716. Weekly donations needed to meet 2022 expenses = \$3,750. FYI: Our Building Maintenance Fund is now nearly empty due to boiler repairs, fall 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, 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=SWpGM0xlcVoaFBIUXI2dEVvNTd3UT09>

VISIT OUR Website 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), Howard (friend of Alexis Diehl), Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, 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 29th), Linda Smykowski (post surgery), Kim Theros, **Tia Thorne**, Shirley Turner, Crystal Vines, Kristy Weydert, Catherine Zegial, and Barbara Zegiel (sister of Heidi Anderson).*

Our prayers go out to Doris Rex and family on the death of her husband and Grace's former pastor of 27 years. Pastor Rex's visitation is on Dec 15th at First Lutheran Church 324 North 3rd St. Dekalb from 9:30 - 11:00 AM with the Memorial service to follow.

*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.*