



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

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Sunday, January 1st, 2023 * 9 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



1st Sunday of CHRISTMAS

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

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

As With Gladness Men of Old

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.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of life,

**C: 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.

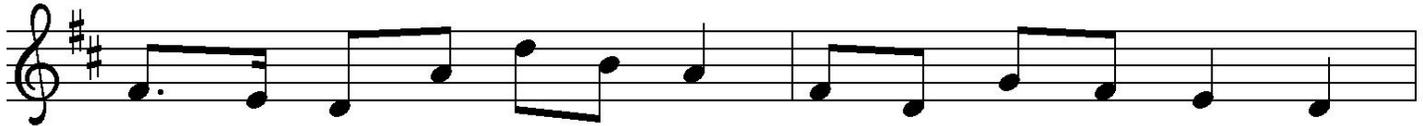
P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Cold December Flies Away

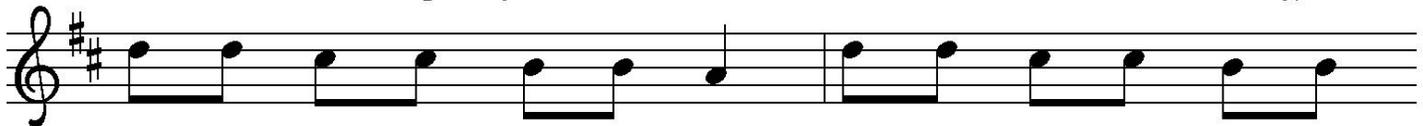
ELW 299



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
 2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
 3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
 All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
 In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
 But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
 And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
 light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
 birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
 hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
 spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalonian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
 Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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... O Lord God,

C: you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely";
and he became their savior

⁹in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

L: 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 2:13-23

In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.

¹³Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

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

As With Gladness Men of Old

ELW 302 v.1-3



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav' n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav' n - ly king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

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

I Wonder as I Wander

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

A brief silence.

P: Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,



C: hear our prayer.

P: Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty. Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastor and all who minister in your name. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

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 hymns:

**Go Tell it on the Mountain
We Three Kings**

**ELW 290
WOV 646**

Go Tell It on the Mountain ELW 290

Refrain



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



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



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



Refrain

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

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

We Three Kings of Orient Are WOV 646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

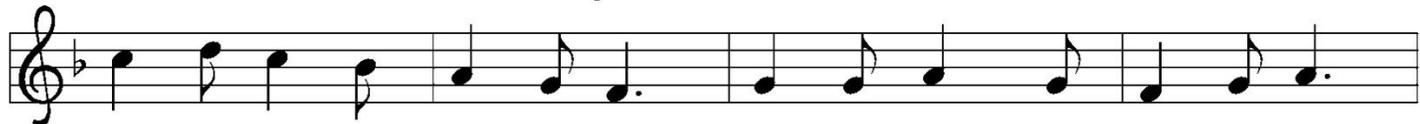
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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



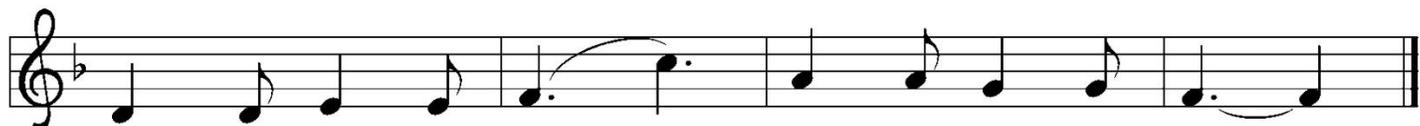
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



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



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



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

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

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

ALL: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Christ the Savior is born!
 Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

ALL: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2023

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Psalm 148

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (*Ps. 148:13*)

Hebrews 2:10-18

Christ shares flesh and blood to free humankind

1/1/23 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS Donated by Trish Painter. Blessings upon our Grace Family in 2023!

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

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Sat Jan 7th starting 9AM we need help taking down and putting away Christmas decorations from Sanctuary and Narthex.

Refreshments will be provided. Please contact George Theros if you are able to help.

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.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: A VALENTINE'S LINE DANCE FUNDRAISER

Please mark your calendars, tell others, and plan to attend this event on Sat. 2/11/23 from 5-9pm in the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church of Geneva, 211 Hamilton St., Geneva. This very worthy cause is hosted by the Pottawotomie Partnership. Tickets: \$10/person, \$20/family. Festivities include: line dance instruction and open dancing throughout the night, silent auction, and refreshments.

*Accepting donations for silent auction items up until Jan.17th.

*Requesting dancers: beginners who want to learn, experienced dancers, and those that love to watch and enjoy the show!

*Questions, contact Nancy, event lead contact: 847-212-0237

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 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!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MANY OFFERINGS AND FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

Donations collected for the week ending 12/26/22 = \$5,790. Weekly donations needed to meet 2022 expenses = \$3,750. The Building Maintenance Fund also received a \$5,000 donation – Blessings upon Grace as we embark on a new year.

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 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, Pat and Chili Lindgren, 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), Tia Thorne, Shirley Turner, Crystal Vines, Kristy Weydert, Catherine Zegial, and Barbara Zegiel (sister of Heidi Anderson). Our prayers go out to Margaret Swanson and family on the death of her brother, LeRoy Carlson.*

Please pray for the family and friends of Jeannine Luchs, a former member of Grace, who died on December 20th.

*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.*