



*Second Sunday of Christmas ~ January 2, 2022*  
**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Welcomes You to Worship**

**202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota**  
**Web Site: glcwttn.org ~ gracelc@midconetwork.com**  
**Church Office: 605-886-5737**  
**Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501**

**PRELUDE**

**Congregation responses in Bold Print**  
**Welcome and Announcements**

**GATHERING SONG:**

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!  
2 The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

**ELW 283**

- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest:  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

**CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Amen.**  
In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God, **we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ... I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray... **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

**Pew Bible 641**

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.” <sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” <sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 147:12-20**

<sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

<sup>13</sup>**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup>God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>15</sup>**God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup>God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup>**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup>**God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

**SONG OF PRAISE:                   “Angels We Have Heard on High” ELW 289**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo. | gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?  |
| 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the   | 3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. |

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14****Pew Bible 949**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Celtic Alleluia”****ELW p 174**

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: John 1:1-18****Pew Bible 862**

The Holy Gospel according to St John, the first chapter. *Response: Glory to you, O Lord.*

<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. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through

Jesus Christ.<sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### MESSAGE

#### HYMN OF THE DAY:    "*Word of God, Come Down to Earth*"      **ELW 510**

1 Word of God, come down on earth,  
living rain from heav'n descending;  
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith  
and hope and love unending. Word  
almighty, we revere you; Word made  
flesh, we long to hear you.

2 Word eternal, throned on high, Word  
that brought to life creation, Word that  
came from heav'n to die, crucified for

our salvation, saving Word, the world  
restoring, speak to us, your love  
outpouring.

3 Word that speaks God's tender love,  
one with God beyond all telling, Word  
that sends us from above God the  
Spirit, with us dwelling, Word of truth, to  
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one  
bread feed us.

#### PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new year, we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future. We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us—but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. So help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

**In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love.**

**In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need.**

**In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, help us not to lose our way but to have the courage to do what is right in Your sight, regardless of the cost.**

**And in the midst of our daily preoccupations and pursuits, open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are friendless and in need.**

Open our hearts afresh and anew. Open our minds that we may know you. Open our hands that we may care for you. Open our ears and eyes that we may hear and see you in our neighbor, in the foreigner, in the refugee, even in our enemy. And, perhaps especially, in ourselves. That we may know in the deepest part of ourselves That you call us and that we are capable Of seeing and naming, doing and being Your love, your peace, your hope and your justice in this your world.

As we look back over this past year **we thank You for Your goodness to us—far beyond what we have deserved. May we never presume on Your past goodness or forget all Your mercies to us, but may they instead lead us to repentance,**

**and to a new commitment to make You the foundation and center of our lives this year.**

And so, our Father, we thank You for the promise and hope of this new year, and we look forward to it with expectancy and faith. **Amen**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY of Grace Lutheran Church**

**SONG of OFFERING:**      *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*      **ELW 294 sts 3**

3 What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a  
lamb; if I were a wise man I would  
do my part; yet what I can I give  
him—give my heart.

## **PRAYER OF OFFERING:**

**Let us pray... Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

## **PRAAYER SONG: “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”**

ELW 752

## **PRAYER PETITIONS:**

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. We thank you for those among us who have the gift of sign languages. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Remind us to care for the wildlife and birds who may have difficulty in finding food and warmth during long cold winter nights.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. We lift up our military men and women and pray for their safety. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need especially Rhys, Roy, Esther, Jim, Rose, Shannon, Joyce, Dennis, Rich, Carla, Sharon, Marilyn, Bev, Mary, Duane, Judy, Jessica, Rick, Caden, Donnie, Carol, Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound.. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges, give us courage to participate and trust you will provide for your will to be done. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**AMEN**

**PRAYER SONG:**                  **“Hear Our Prayer”**

**ELW 178**

Let us pray as the Jesus has taught us.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: 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.**

**SENDING BENEDICTION FOR THE NEW YEAR**

Let us look for Christ wherever we go. Let us never stop seeking or believing there is a light that shines in the darkness. Which the darkness shall not overcome... and may Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you in the New Year + through the Word made flesh, each and every day. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**“Go Tell it on the Mountain”**

**ELW 290**

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills  
and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the  
mountain that Jesus Christ is born!  
  
1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night, behold,  
throughout the heavens there shone a  
holy light.

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo, above the earth rang out the  
angel chorus that hailed our Savior's  
birth.  
  
3 Down in a lonely manger the humble  
Christ was born; and God sent us  
salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God. We will.**

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (950 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** today is given in loving memory of Roy and Doris Schmeling from the Schmeling Radio Fund. The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Geri Mohr - it would be 41 wonderful years together, happy anniversary to Bounce and Geri Cash. Gifts to sponsor the radio broadcast each week are important for those who are unable to attend due to COVID-19, illness, or weather. We appreciate your gifts to proclaim the gospel message.

## **Announcements for January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### **Keep in Your Prayers those with Healthcare Issues**

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Esther Bakeberg, Jim Bakeberg, Rose Beck, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Dennis Carlson, Rich Dunn, Carla Frost, Sharon Goble, Bev Goeman, Mary Haukens, Duane Holker, Judy Lien, Jessica Pekelder, Marilyn Petersen, Rick Raml, Caden Thompson, Donnie Vrtacnik, Carol Wagner, Robert Wittrock, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, our Law Enforcement personal, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders. Remember also those working in the medical community during this time of COVID-19.

**Volunteers are needed:** To Usher and/or read at the 8:30 & 11 am service each week. Please sign up on the sheet in the back before you leave or contact the office.

**OFFERING ENVELOPS** for 2022 are in the Narthex, please pick up yours.

**Reports are due for the Annual Meeting.**

### **On the CALENDAR**

Sunday	10 am Worship Service – only one service – no communion NO Sunday School
Monday	5:30 pm – Grace Foundation meeting
Wednesday	10:30 am Service at Avantara NO Wednesday School NO – Confirmation Classes NO – Family Worship Service
Thursday	2 pm Rostered Pastors meet by ZOOM
Sunday	8:30 Worship service 9:30 am - Sunday School 9:30 Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall 10 am Raise the Roof Committee meeting 10 am Bible Study in the Library focusing on the evil that is against God and against the will of God 11:00 Worship service
January 10	Grace Lutheran Congregation serves the Banquet Volunteers are needed to help serve and to donate cookies

### **Upcoming Events:**

January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Annual meeting at 10:45 am (One worship service at 10 am)

Children will be singing at the 10 am service. Potluck will follow in Fellowship Hall.

March 2 – Ash Wednesday

**Dance Classes begin January 11:** 6-weeks of Dance Classes to learn foxtrot, jitterbug, waltz, polka, East Coast Swing, & Texas Two-Step. Classes be held each Tuesday evening 6:30 to 8 pm, January 11<sup>th</sup> thru February 15<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at Grace. Cost is just \$70 per couple or \$40 for a single. Proceeds go toward the

Raise the Roof Fund. Register at the office from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Thursday or mail a check to Grace at 202 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Watertown, SD 57201.

**Tickets are still available for the 2021 Kubota RTV-xG850 Sidekick** Support the Raise the Roof Fund Raising Project at Grace Lutheran and take a chance to win. The tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased at the office.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:**

**PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ Diaconal Intern: Brenda Handel-Johnson**

**READER: Darlene Bresson**

**Pianist: Judy Everson**

**USHERS: Geri Mohror,**

**SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstener,**

**Sound/Video Tech Team: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, Jason Mohr, Anthony DeHaan, & Dylan Jordan**

**Pastoral Calls: You can reach Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501(cell or text) or by E-mail: [cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com)**

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR COMEDY NIGHT:** Humorist Jerry Nelson will highlight Grace Lutheran's Comedy Night on Jan 28th. Nationally published author of Dear County Agent Guy, he provides slap-your-knee, laugh-out-loud musings. With "sturdy Norwegian pioneer" ancestors, Jerry will be interesting and entertaining to our community of "sturdy Norwegian pioneer" descendants. We will also have local, home-grown comedy, so if you are a comedian - or just like to make people laugh- join us in this entertainment fundraiser. Space will be limited, so get your tickets early: \$20 for reserved seating (first 3 rows). \$15 for general seating. *Makes a Great Stocking stuffer Gift!*

**Intern Brenda begins a 4 week bible study focusing on God, evil and suffering in the world**

How can we as Christians understand and speak of the evil that is against God and against the will of God—against the God we know in relationship? We will spend 4 weeks in January looking at stories from the bible, and discuss how our relationship with God provides a framework of understanding even for mind-numbing suffering. Grab your coffee or water, a treat and come join us in the Library for a 45 minute class that runs January 9-January 30 (10 am-10:45 am).

**Rehearsals for Choir and Handbell choir resume in January**

Singers are always welcome to join the Grace Choir. Rehearsals are on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 pm - Grace Choir in the Choir room, 7 pm - Handbell rehearsal in the Sanctuary

**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE**

12/24,25,26/2021  
Worship's: 200

**ROOF FUND**

Current: \$141,000  
Goal: \$171,000

**LAST WEEK'S DEPOSIT**

Deposits: \$8,503  
Weekly Budget: \$6,256