



Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

2nd Sunday of Advent~ December 4, 2022
Grace Lutheran Church Welcomes You to Worship

Contemporary Service ~ 11 am
202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota
Web Site: glcwn.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

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to prepare the way;

The way for Christ –

the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ –

to enter our world, to enter our hearts.

We cry out together in the wilderness:

The kingdom of heaven has come near.

We come to be part of the light–

the light that shines in the darkness.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.

You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.

Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.

We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

Amen.

HYMN: ***“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”ELW 240 vs 2***

Advent Prayer

Let us Pray... **Heavenly Father, you sent your messengers to tell of the birth of your Son, that people might wake up and believe in him. Open our ears to hear your call, to repent of our sins, and to seek our heavenly inheritance. May we profess Christ until we stand by his grace before the glory of your majesty; Grant this for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ***“Go Tell it On the Mountain”*** ***ELW 290***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place.

Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things. (Psalm 72: 8)

The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ,

"not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

"Those who believe in him are not condemned." (John 3:17,18)

Thanks be to God! Amen.

KYRIE

"Glory to God"

WOV 640

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; 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 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:

"We Three Kings"

ELW 646 vs 1

OFFERING PRAYER:

Let us pray... **Almighty God, who made us who we are, we offer all of ourselves to You. Take our talents, our energy and our joy, and use us to share Your love to bring Your healing to the world. Take what we have gathered here, and magnify the gifts we offer before You today, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10 Pew Bible p 558

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

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

¹Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

PRAISE SONG:

“Advent Hymn”

Choir

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13 **Pew Bible p 924**

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

CHILDREN’S TIME

GOSPEL LEAD-IN: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

ELW 270 vs 1

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Pew Bible p 784

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew, the third chapter.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY:

“What Child is This”

ELW 296

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus has taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's Kingdom.

We believe that God is at work in our world

turning hopeless and evil situations into good.

We believe that goodness and justice and love will triumph in the end,

and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever.

One day 'all tears will be wiped away' and 'the lamb will lie down with the lion.'

True peace and true reconciliation are not only desirable, they are assured and guaranteed. This is our faith, and our hope.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE FOR ADVENT

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

PRAYER SONG: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

ELW 752

PRAYER PETITIONS:

O God, in days to come, the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, especially Grace Lutheran, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.

Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs, and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind.

Especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Dennis, Jerry, Dick, Judy, Darla, Sharlee, Sylvia, Janelle, Lavern, Elvira, Ronald, Rick, Carolyn, Roger, Tracy, Raaf, Caden, Todd, and Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, O Lord, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for a vision of creation in harmony, where we as stewards of the earth will restore a balance for all creatures so all might obtain joy and gladness in its glory, and sorrow and sighing over destruction might pass away. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary.

And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer until we are united with them in joy and your eternal presence. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among us with great might, and in manger mild, we might recognize his face and his voice, and come to adore him. **Amen.**

PRAYER SONG: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

ELW 752

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.

CLOSING BENEDICTION:

As we leave this place, and scatter back out into the world, may the God of hope— who loves you and gave himself for you— fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, today and throughout the coming week, so that in believing, you may abound in hope, through the love of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

SENDING: Go in peace... Baptized in the Spirit.

Thanks be to God. We Will!

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for December 4th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Dennis Carlson, Jerry Dipprey, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Darla Gilman, Sharlee Kjellsen. Sylvia Larson, Janelle Marx, Lavern McPeek, Elvira Moen, Ronald Newell, Rick Raml, Carolyn Ronke, Roger Rust, Tracy Schaefer, Raaf Stolp, Caden Thompson, Todd Wilson, and 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.

On the CALENDAR - For the week of December 4th – 11th

Today	8:30 am Traditional Worship service 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 Sunday school 11 am Contemporary Worship service 1 pm – Service at Edgewood
Monday	1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm Foundation Meeting 5:30 pm Banquet Meal 6 pm Choir Practice – all are welcome
Wednesday	10:30 am Service at Avantara 6 pm Wednesday school 6 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm Family Worship Service
Thursday	7:30 pm Youth Group meets 10:30 Service at Stoneybrook

Saturday 6 pm Grace Council meets
 9 – 10 am – Children’s Christmas Program Practice
 Sunday 8:30 am Traditional Worship service w/ Holy Communion
 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 Sunday school
 11 am Contemporary Worship service w/ Holy Communion
 2 pm Children’s Christmas Program

Upcoming Events:

December 18th – Las Posadas Celebration- at 2 pm
 December 21st – Blue Christmas Service – at 6 pm
 December 24th – Christmas Eve Service – at 4 and 6 pm
 December 25th – Christmas Day Service – at 10 am.
 January 6th – Prairie Coteau Youth Gathering – 7 pm to Midnight
 January 29 – Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** is given by in loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling” from the Schmeling Radio Fund. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran inside and out of our walls. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, a sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to sponsor the radio broadcast or altar flowers, stop at the office, call the office, or send your donation to:
Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201

CHOIR PRACTICE

All are invited and encourage to join the choir. They will be practicing on Monday evenings at 6 pm for the Christmas Eve services. If you are a singer, please consider helping with your talents for these special services.

DECEMBER CRAFT CLASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED

A Christmas centerpiece craft for the December 6th craft class has been cancelled.

“God’s Gift to Us” IS THEME OF CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children from Wednesday and Sunday school will hold their Christmas program on Sunday, December 11th at 2 pm in the afternoon. Children will practice on Saturday, December 10th at 9 am for one hour to prepared for the program. All are welcome to attend this special worship service as the children tell the story of “God’s Gift to Us.”

MISSION OF THE MONTH ~ Grace Lutheran Christmas Dinner

This year meals will be served inside over the noon hour on Christmas Day as well as delivers for those who are unable to attend. Volunteers are needed for cooking, drivers to give rides and deliver, to serve the food, and clean up afterwards. Those who start cooking early in the morning appreciate fresh help to clean up after the hours of getting the meals out. If you are unable to help with these activities, you can donate to the Christmas dinner as supplies are needed. A separate list is inserted. This is a wonderful Christmas tradition put on by Grace Lutheran each year and a special service to those who are alone at Christmas, have no family, or can no longer cook a traditional meal. It truly shows how grace is experienced here daily through the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. Worship service is at 10 am and deliveries begins at 11 am. Sit down begins at 12. Please consider giving this gift of your time to this very important work. The phone number for to order a meal for delivery is: 605-303-4103. You can also text the number or leave a voicemail BUT be sure your full name, phone number, number of meals and complete address with the color of your house to easily find it is given.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE DECEMBER 21ST

A special “Longest Day” or what is called Blue Christmas service will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday, December 21st. If you are grieving someone you shared past Christmases with which causes intense feelings of loss, loneliness and sadness, you are encouraged to come. This time of year can be very painful for those who suffer due to death, divorce, health issues, unemployment, business loss, broken relationship, life altering operations, family trauma or any type of loss, even more traumatic as COVID-19, RSV, and influenzas complicates our lives.

A Blue Christmas service creates a safe place for those who struggle with loss or mourn a loved one. It is a time to join together with others burdened by grief for emotional encouragement and receive spiritual support.

Any who have suffered this past year or continue to suffer from years gone by are welcome to come to this nondenominational service and hear God’s word of hope and healing shine through the darkness calling you forward to the bright shining light of spring when new life returns.

COME ON A CHRISTMAS JOURNEY WITH OUR LATIN AMERICA FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AS WE CELEBRATE WITH LAS POSADAS

A special Christmas celebration will be held Sunday, December 18 with a Las Posadas, the Christmas journey at Grace Lutheran beginning at 2 pm. Clarrisa and Kimberly Raidoza, two of our confirmation students, will lead this Central American tradition of singing and walking from house to house to re-enact the journey of Mary

and Joseph. This is a family event during which all will be singing, walking from place to place throughout the church to knock on doors following our own Mary and Joseph. The event will finish with a piñata, traditional foods, hot chocolate, games, and treats. We are thankful to bring this tradition to share at Grace as we learn to be an agile church of the future. We hope you will invite your friends and family to come to Grace to experience a beautiful tradition and welcome our neighbors from Latin America.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER:

KEYBOARD: Isaak Montemayor

GREETERS: Steve Schlenner

USHERS: Allison Henrich & Melody Schulz

PRIASE TEAM: Becky Sprouse, Riley Sprouse, Leigh Carstensen, Judy Everson, Krisma DeWitt, Kayla Mohling, Marian Raml

CHOIR MEMBERS: Becky Sprouse, Leigh Carstensen, Judy Everson, Kayla Mohling, Riley Sprouse, Marian Raml, Krisma DeWitt, Karen Kasperson

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, & Dylan Jordan

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

PRAIRIE COTEAU YOUTH MINI-GATHERING HERE AT GRACE

Youth in grades 7 thru 12 and Youth Directors throughout the Prairie Coteau have been invited to a Prairie Coteau Youth Mini-Gathering on January 6th, 2023 here at Grace Lutheran.

Beth Koch St Martin of Milbank, SD will be the speaker. Her talk is called Ryan's Story and tells the story of a family dealing with the addiction of a child and the pain and grief in the loss of a loved one. The goal of Ryan's Story is trying to erase some of the stigma around drug addiction and to get people to understand it can happen to anyone. St Martin tells the story from the non-addict view and then talks about grief, coping with grief, and what she does to cope with grief.

Youth registration begins at 7 pm and due by December 16th, to plan food and supplies ready for activities. You may email bsprouse@iw.net with a number attending and any questions you may have.

St Martin will speak at 8 pm in the sanctuary. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend the speaker presentation but not required to register.

**Check us out on our website at glcwn.org
And Grace Lutheran Watertown FaceBook.**