



140 Years of
Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

First Sunday of Christmas ~ January 1, 2023
Grace Lutheran Church Welcomes You to Worship
"Name of Jesus"

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life, **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.**

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. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: "Let All Together Praise Our God" ELW 287

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|---|--|
| 1 Let all together praise our God
before the highest throne;
today God opens heav'n again
and sends the only Son,
and sends the only Son. | and lies in poverty, his bed
a manger in a stall,
a manger in a stall. |
| 2 From God's right hand the Son
descends,
is born an infant small, | 3 O tender Child, you veil in flesh
the splendor of your might;
a servant's garb now wraps the one
who clothed the sky with light,
who clothed the sky with light. |

4 Your mother feeds you tenderly,
sings you a lullaby,
while angels, hailing David's heir,
your glory magnify,
your glory magnify.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:
you take our flesh and blood,

and in return give us to share
the shining realm of God,
the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today
that leads to paradise;
the angel bars the way no more.
To God let praises rise,
to God let praises rise

GREETING:

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

And also with you.

KYRIE *ELW p 147 – 148*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *“Glory to God in the Highest”* *ELW p 148 & 149*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray... **Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 6:22-27 Pew Bible 109

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

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

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;

with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

⁷all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11 Pew Bible p 954

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

ELW 620 vs 1

1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away all fear.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-21

Pew Bible p 833

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the second chapter.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551

1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve; and set the burdened free;
we go in Jesus' name where hope is dim, to share a dream
to bring glad tidings to the poor, and help the blind to see.
God's favor to proclaim.

2 We go to comfort those who mourn
3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed

and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.

the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.

4 Then let us go to serve in peace,

APOSTLE'S CREED....

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 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.**

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

1 In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty,
Jesus Christ.

2 Heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign;

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.

OFFERING PRAYER:

Let us pray... **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. Amen

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:

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

PRAYER SONG: "Hear Our Prayer"

ELW 178

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

PRAYER PETITIONS:

Holy God, you have given the church the holy name of Jesus, and in him we are your beloved children. Unite us in mission through the power of his Spirit. Make us worthy of the name we bear, the name in which we pray. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Renewing God, restore your glory to the earth. Awaken humanity to our kinship with all living things that depend on your provision. Protect wildlife during extreme weather and give refuge to all living things in need of food and shelter. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Peacemaking God, reconcile the nations. Lead those in conflict into negotiation, especially in areas of religious or ethnic strife. End acts of aggression and violence carried out in your name. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Delivering God, rescue our siblings in any danger, especially in communities where disaster and disease threaten. Move those in authority to respond with speed and compassion. We pray for the safety of all who work outside in the elements, for first responders, health care workers, and all who protect us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Healing God, raise up any who are bowed down with illness or sorrow. Deepen our care and concern for one another. We lift to you all who are undergoing transition in relationships, occupation, living situation, or health condition especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Dennis, Jerry, Dick, Judy, Darla, Sharlee, Sylvia, Janelle, Lavern, Elvira, Becky, Ronald, Rick, Carolyn, Roger, Tracy, Raaf, Caden, Todd, and Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Saving God, redeem us and grant us eternal peace. We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in your undying love, made known to us in Jesus our Emmanuel. God of grace,
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.

PRAYER SONG: “Hear Our Prayer” ELW 178

*Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people,
hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.*

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.

BENEDICTION:

May the Lord bless you and keep you,
May He make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the broad expanse of God's love and the abundance of His riches in glory,
shape your perspective on your own life and needs.

May the eyes of your heart be open to all the blessings which surround you;
With an awareness to produce a harvest of generosity in your spirit.

May thankfulness rise up within you, day after day, from the early morning until the night.

May your prayers reflect gratitude, while acknowledging the needs of others.

May thoughts of Jesus fill your mind, and hunger for God drive your soul, and love for the Lord guide your speech and your actions.

And finally, may the grace, peace, and love of the triune God, protect, defend, and empower you to run with perseverance the race marked out for you.

Amen.

SENDING SONG:***“Savior; Again to Your Dear Name”******ELW 534***

- 1 Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.
- 2 Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.
- 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;
for us transform its darkness into light.
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn;
your evening presence promise to your own.
- 4 Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God. We Will!

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for January 1st***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 January 1st – 8th

Today	10 am Worship Service 1 pm Service at Edgewood
Monday	1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm Banquet Meal
Wednesday	10:30 am Service at Avantara 6 pm Wednesday school 6 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm Family Worship Service 7:30 pm Youth Group
Friday	7 pm to midnight PCC Youth Mini-Gathering 8 pm Beth Koch St Martin will speak
Sunday	8:30 am Traditional Worship service w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary Worship Service w/ Holy Communion & Baptism of Lainie May Finck

Upcoming Events:

January 9 - Grace Lutheran Congregation serves the Banquet. Volunteers are needed to help serve and to donate cookies.

January 29 – Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting at 11 am. We need you there!

One Worship Service at 10 am followed by a potluck meal.

February 3 – 6 pm to 9 pm Elementary Lock-in for 3rd to 6th grade.

Volunteers needed for the Banquet on Monday, January 9th.

We are in need of volunteers from Grace Lutheran to help serve the Banquet meal on Monday night, January 9th as Grace will be the serving group. Serving starts at 5:30 so volunteers are asked to be in the Kitchen by 5 pm.

Cookies are also needed to serve for dessert. Please sign up in the office for both.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER:

USHERS:

GREETER:

PIANIST: Isaak Montemayor

SONG LEADER: Becky Sprouse

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht

Gary Rukstad and Dylan Jordan.

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

PRAIRIE COTEAU YOUTH MINI-GATHERING FRIDAY NIGHT

The Prairie Coteau Youth Mini-Gathering for grades 7 thru 12 will be held on Friday evening, 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 with St Martin speaking at 8 pm in the sanctuary. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend the speaker presentation but not required to register.

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

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