



*Hanging of the Greens ~ First Sunday of Advent*  
*November 28, 2021 ~ 8:30 am & 11 am*  
*Grace Lutheran Church*  
***Welcomes You to Worship***

*202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota*  
**Web Site: [glcwn.org](http://glcwn.org) ~ [gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gracelc@midconetwork.com)**  
*Church Office: 605-886-5737*  
*Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501*

**PRELUDE**

**Congregation responses in Bold Print**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**ADVENT WREATH AND LIGHTING**

Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time. **How long, O Lord, how long?** For those waiting for answers prayer: **Grant your steadfast patience.** For those waiting in the face of uncertainty: **Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.** For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign: **Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.** For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come: **Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

***Candle Lighting***

This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" (Psalm 27: 14)

**ADVENT HYMN**

***"Christ, Be Our Light"***

***ELW 715 vs 1***

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make  
us your own, your holy people, light for  
the world to see. Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in  
your church gathered today.

**PREPARATION FOR ADVENT**

(Significance - Pastor)

**HYMN**

***"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"***

***ELW 244***

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your  
lights appear; the evening is advancing,

and darker night is near. The  
bridegroom is arising and soon is

- drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.
- 2 The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.
- 3 The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore, shall live and

- reign forever when sorrow is no more. Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold; in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
- 4 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

## LITANY OF THE GREENS

How can we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the King?" **With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the eternal Christ? **With garlands of wreaths of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, our Savior? **With arrangements of holly and ivy, symbolizing His passion, death and resurrection.** How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God? **By hearing again the words of the prophets who foretold the saving work of God.** For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **Let these symbols be to the Glory of God in the highest!**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray...**God of manager and star, let us enter your story once again and find ourselves kneeling with the shepherds, singing with the angels and worshipping with the Magi. Touch our hearts with the wonder of birth, and the depths of your love. Speak to us in word and song and lift us to the realms of glory as we rejoice in your love. Amen.**

### NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 Pew Bible p 960

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God**

### HANGING OF GARLAND:

(Significance - Pastor)

**HYMN****“Lo, How a Rose Is Growing”****ELW 272 vrs 1, 2, & 4**

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from  
tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's  
lineage coming as seers of old have  
sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, amid  
the cold of winter, when half-spent was  
the night.

2 Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in  
mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin

mother kind. To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior, when half-  
spent was the night.

4 O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our  
human woe; O Savior, king of glory,  
who dost our weakness know: bring us  
at length, we pray, to the bright courts  
of heaven and into endless day.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16 Pew Bible p 645**

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.” Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God.**

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE:** (Significance of the Christmas tree – Pastor)

**SONG:****“Oh Christmas Tree”**

1 O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How green thy branches ever! Thou still  
art green when summer wanes And  
wintry winds sweep o'er the plains. O  
Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, How  
green thy branches ever!

2 O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Thy verdant branches please me. The  
sight of thee at Christmas time Doth  
make me sing a joyful rhyme. O  
Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, Thy  
verdant branches please me.

3 O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Thy dress so green would teach me:  
Fair hope, in trouble and distress, Is felt

to be a sweet caress. O Christmas tree,  
O Christmas tree, Thy dress so green  
would teach me.

4 O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
What golden lights adorn thee! Like  
stars they shine in beauty bright, To fill  
each heart with pure delight. O  
Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, What  
golden lights adorn thee!

5 O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How loving hands have decked thee!  
Thus God's own love will make of me  
For Paradise a shining tree. O  
Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, How  
loving hands have decked thee!

**Hanging Chrismons or Other Symbols of Christ and Faith**

(Significance of Chrismons &amp; Presentation)

Here in this place we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Here we will remember his Advent, his birth in Bethlehem, weak and helpless as an infant. And here we rekindle our prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus" as we await his coming as the bright and morning star. **Hang symbols and signs of Christ — ruler,**

prophet, priest. Hang stars, crosses, triangles, the "alpha" and the "omega" to remind us of his identity, his story, and of the holy Trinity.

**HYMN:**                    *“Away in a Manger”*                    **ELW 277**

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**HYMN:**                    *“Away in a Manger”*                    **ELW 277 (continued)**

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

**GOSPEL: LUKE 21:25-36**                    **Pew Bible p 856**

Our gospel today comes from the gospel of St Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter... **Glory to you oh Lord** [Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, oh Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** **“Oh, Come, Oh Come Emmanuel”** **ELW 257 vs 1-4**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to  
your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient  
times you gave the law in cloud, and  
majesty, and awe.

### **NATIVITY**

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your  
own from Satan's tyranny; from depths  
of hell your people save, and give them  
vict'ry o'er the grave.

(Significance - Pastor)

**SHARING OF THE PEACE:** The Peace of Christ, be with you all...**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING/OFFERTORY: "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.

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

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

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: **Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH...** (Inspired by Jeremiah 33:14-16)

O God, the days are surely coming when all your promises will be fulfilled to your faithful children. We pray for the church, especially Grace Lutheran, that we might fulfill our promises to you to be a place where grace is experienced daily and we pray we will be forgiven for all our failures. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.** In your time, O Lord, a righteous branch sprang up and you brought justice and righteousness in every land. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. We pray for our service men and women and their families to put their trust in you. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.** In your Kingdom, O Lord, you bring your people safety and comfort. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind especially Rhys, Roy, Esther, Jim, Rose, Shannon, Joyce, Dennis, Carla, Sharon, Mary, Don, Duane, Judy, Tyler, Jessica, Rick, Caden, Donnie, Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound. Heal all injuries, comfort all grief, give strength to those dealing with end-of-life situations, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.** Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages. We pray for those who rejoice this week as families gather together. We thank you for the return of joy and gladness to the lives of so many. Increase the love we have for one another and

strengthen our hearts in devotion for you. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer**. In the fullness 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. Let their precious memory prepare our hearts for your coming. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer**. Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes riding on a cloud and with great power and might, we might come to adore him. **Amen.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**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.**

### **THE COMMUNION:**

**COMMUNION SONG: "What Feast of Love" ELW 487**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given! | sun come down from heaven. Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!  |
| 2 What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven? What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given? This, this is Christ the king, the  | 3 What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given! |

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May this body and blood of our Savior Jesus, strengthen and preserve you unto life eternal. Amen.

### **LIGHTING**

(Significance - Pastor)

### **DEDICATION**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. From the very beginning of creation, you have made visible your love. When our need for a Savior was great, you sent your son to be born of the Virgin Mary. **In every good and perfect gift, you have blessed our lives and enriched us with hope in a new tomorrow. You command us to teach our children your ways and to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy. Accept these decorations which we offer in thanksgiving; may they serve to increase our vision of your glory, to remind us of your goodness, and to radiate the hope of Jesus to all who are willing to receive it.** May this also be a reminder of our mission and ministry to serve you in spirit and truth and welcome all who enter this house of worship with the caring love we share with our church family here and in our community. Bring us all at length to your perfect kingdom, where you live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Special Music**                      **“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”**                      **Choir**

**COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Go now and let the Lord steer you in the way of truth. Be on your guard so that you will not be caught up in the trivialities and anxieties of the world. Be alert at all times and pray for strength to escape the traps that would keep you from God. May God be your hope, to increase your love for one another; May Christ Jesus teach you how to live in the joy of His light; and may the Holy Spirit strengthen your hearts in holiness, granting you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**“Keep your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”**

**ACS 949**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>for this work's almost done. Children,<br>don't grow weary; children, don't grow<br>weary; children, don't grow weary, for<br>this work's almost done. | lies before us, for this work's almost<br>done.  |
| 2 Darker midnight lies before us, darker<br>midnight lies before us, darker midnight   | 3 Lo, the morning soon is breaking, lo,<br>the morning soon is breaking, lo, the<br>morning soon is breaking, for this<br>work's almost done.          |
|  | 4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>keep your lamps trimmed and burning,<br>for this work's almost done. |

**DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace and Prepare the Way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. We will.**

**Announcements for November 28<sup>th</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, Carla Frost, Sharon Goble, Mary Haukens, Don Harrington, Duane Holker, Judy Lien, Tyler Mutziger, Jessica Pekelder, Rick Raml, Caden Thompson, Donnie Vrtacnik, and Robert Wittrock, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Remember also those who have served or are serving in our military as well as all those working in the medical community during this time of COVID-19, our Law Enforcement personal, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:** Roberta Bartel has been doing our Sunday worship PowerPoints for several years as a volunteer. Life changes and she no longer be able to continue giving this gift to Grace Lutheran. We are now in need of someone to take on this gift of their time to create the PowerPoint for the services each year. Our custodian, Rich Dunn will have back surgery and off for a few months beginning right after Christmas. We are looking for someone to fill that part-time position, approximately 20 hours per week, for 3 to 6 months. If you service Grace for a short time, contact the office.

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** today is lovingly given in memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling” from the Schmeling Radio Fund. The altar flowers are given by Cal and Nyra Brown. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to *Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201*

**On the CALENDAR**

TODAY – ***Hanging of the Greens – Choir will be singing***

- 8:30 am Traditional Worship service
- NO Sunday school
- 9:30 Coffee Fellowship
- 11 am Contemporary Worship service
- Wednesday 10:30 am Service at Avantara
- 6 pm – Wednesday school classes
- 6 pm – Confirmation classes in the basement
- 7 pm – Family Advent Worship
- 7:30 pm – Youth Group meets in Youth Room
- Thursday 2 pm – Rostered Pastors meeting via ZOOM
- Friday Augustana University Board meeting (Pastor attending)
- Sunday 8:30 am Traditional Worship service
- 9:30am – Sunday School
- 9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship

11 am - Contemporary Worship service

1 pm – Service at Edgewood

### **Upcoming Events:**

December 7<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm Craft Class

December 11<sup>th</sup> – 9 am – 11 am Christmas Program Practice.

December 12<sup>th</sup> – 2 pm Children’s program

December 22<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm Blue Christmas

Christmas Eve – 4 and 7 m Services w/COMMUNION

Christmas Day – 10 am Service w/COMMUNION – Brenda is off

December 26<sup>th</sup> – ONE service - 10 am NO COMMUNION – Brenda will preside –  
Pastor is off - NO Sunday School

January 2 ONE service at 10 am will live stream to radio. - NO Sunday School

### **Craft Class in December**

Sign up today for the craft class set for December 7. Participants will paint a snowman as shown in the narthex. The cost is \$10. Class starts at 6 pm. Sign up in the office.

### **Children’s Christmas Program and Practice schedule**

The Sunday and Wednesday school children will have their Christmas program on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Practice for the Christmas program will be held on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 11 am. This is a very important practice for the children to attend as they won’t have time during Sunday and Wednesday school to practice.

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

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

**READER:** Edwin Williams                      **Pianist/Organist:** Brenda Handel-Johnson

**USHERS:** Geri Mohror, Abigail Reeves      **COMMUNION SERVERS:** Geri Mohror,

Liz Dunn

**CHOIR:** Becky Sprouse, Leigh Carstenen, Judy Everson, Liz Dunn, Kayla Mohling  
Riley Sprouse, Jackie Abel, Darla K. Lien, Marian Raml, Laura Moller, Krisma  
DeWitt

**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)**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** – A special Blue Christmas service will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you are grieving someone you shared past Christmases with cause intense feelings of loss, loneliness and sadness. It can be a very painful time of year 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. It is even more traumatic as COVID-19 seems to rear it's ugly head once more. 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.

### **MISSION OF THE MONTH – Grace Lutheran Christmas Dinner**

This month's Mission of the Month is the annual Grace Lutheran Christmas Dinner. Last year there were approximately 500 meals serve through delivers and carry out over the noon hour on Christmas Day. The meals start with planning the food and volunteer sign-up. Volunteers are needed for cooking: to prepare dished prior to the day and cook the day of Christmas. About 10 people are needed for cooking that day. There were 8 roasters of turkey and ham (4 of each) 15 gallons of salad; numerous pies made prior to the day, buns, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy and corn. Volunteer Delivery drivers are needed to take the meals out to the people the day of Christmas. The more drivers there are the less time and trips it takes for the delivery. So we need a LOT of drivers. Volunteers to dish up the food into take-out containers. Each take-out consist of meat, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy and corn plus a container of salad, a bun, and a container with pie. All are put into a bag and delivered to the people whether it is drive up or delivered. 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 always donate to the Christmas dinner as supplies are needed, to-go containers and food. This is a wonderful Christmas tradition put on by Grace Lutheran each year and a special service project for those who are alone at Christmas, have no family, or no longer cook a traditional meal. It truly shows how grace is experience here through the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. Worship service is at 10 am and serving begins at 11 am. Please consider giving to this gift.

**LAST WEEK'S  
ATTENDANCE**

11/17/21 & 11/21/21  
Worship's: 206

**ROOF FUND**

Current: \$131,050  
Goal: \$171,000

**LAST WEEK'S  
DEPOSIT**

Deposits: \$2,582  
Weekly Budget: \$6,256

**Check us out on our website at [glcwtm.org](http://glcwtm.org)  
And Grace Lutheran Watertown FaceBook.**