

Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 21, 2025

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, we invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form in the bulletin or at the Welcome Desk to let us know you were worshipping with us today. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor, an usher, or placed in the offering.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Busy Bags for our very young worshippers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available at the ushers table in the entry-way, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshippers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available at either worship service, after the Gospel reading for children ages 3 through third grade During Little Lambs Children's Ministry children and their leader go to the Nursery to enjoy age appropriate Biblically-oriented activities during the Sermon, creed and prayers. They return during the offering to join us for Holy communion! This gives little ones a Bible break during the service, while allowing parents to focus on the sermon!

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) at www.thenalc.org!

PRELUDE

Linda Hoch - Organ "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" - arr. Paul Manz
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" - arr. Edwin T. Childs

Grace Ringers Bell Choir "Rejoice, Rejoice!" - arr. Cathy Moklebust

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P As we await the fullness of Christ's coming, let us acknowledge our sins and failures before God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Our impatience for your coming, and our failure to prepare your way;

C We confess to you, Lord.

P Our ignorance of your presence among us, and our failure to be alert;

C We confess to you, Lord.

P Our lack of concern for others, and our failure to welcome one another, as we have been welcomed;

C We confess to you, Lord.

P Our unwillingness to open our hearts to you, and our failure to receive you;

C We confess to you, Lord.

P All our sins and iniquities, committed by what we have done, and left undone;

C We confess to you, Lord.

P For all this, we are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

C For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us.

P In the Advent of Christ, the dawn from on high breaks upon us with light and healing. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Jesus Christ and by His authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

“Savior of the Nations, Come”



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; show the glo - ry of the Son!
2 Not of hu - man seed or worth, but from God's own mys - tic breath,
3 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the vir - gin un - de - filed!
4 God the Fa - ther is his source, back to God he runs his course;



Ev - 'ry peo - ple, stand in awe; praise the per - fect Son of God.
fruit in Mar - y's womb be - gun when God breathed the Word, his Son.
Might - y God and man in one, ea - ger now his race to run!
down to death and hell de - scends, God's high throne he re - as - cends.

5 He leaves heaven to return;
trav'ling where dull hellfires burn;
riding out, returning home
as the Savior who has come.

6 God the Father's precious Son
girds himself in flesh to run
for the trophies of our souls,
longer than this round earth rolls.

7 Shining stable in the night,
breathing vict'ry with your light;
darkness cannot hide your flame,
shining bright as Jesus' name.

The Liturgy of The Word

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P In devout and joyful expectation, let us call out to Christ, who is our salvation.

A You came to proclaim the nearness of the Kingdom;

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A You come to call us to keep awake and alert;

C **Christ, have mercy.**

A You will come as Son of God and Son of Man, to gather your elect;

C **Lord, have mercy.**

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE-LIGHTING

Leader As we light the fourth candle of our Advent wreath, we focus on love. The greatest gift of Christmas is the gift of God's Son, Jesus—given in love. Finally, Jesus gave His life on the cross, to manifest God's love for all of His children, young and old, rich and poor, every people, tribe and nation. We love, at Christmas and throughout the year, because God first loved us!

We read in John:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. (John 3:16-17 RSV)

The fourth, blue candle is lighted as we sing all four verses of the hymn.

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah.”

Verse 1: Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.

Verse 2: Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.

Verse 3: Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.

Verse 4 Light four candles watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!

PRAYER OF THE DAY



☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign one God, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah — the king of Assyria!”

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 24

Refrain 
They shall re - ceive a bless - ing from the God of their sal - va - tion.

Psalm Tone 

L ¹The earth is the Lord’s and all ¹ that is in it,
the world and all who ¹ dwell therein.

C ²**For it is he who founded it up- ¹ on the seas
and made it firm upon the rivers ¹ of the deep. Refrain**

L ³“Who can ascend the hill ¹ of the Lord
and who can stand in his ¹ holy place?”

C ⁴**“Those who have clean hands and ¹ a pure heart,
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what ¹ is a
fraud.**

L ⁵They shall receive a blessing ¹ from the Lord
and a just reward from the God of ¹ their salvation.”

C ⁶**Such is the generation of ¹ those who seek him,
of those who seek your face, O ¹ God of Jacob. Refrain**

- L ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever-¹ lasting doors;
and the King of glory¹ shall come in.
- C ⁸“**Who is this¹ King of glory?**”
“**The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, might-¹ y in battle.**”
- L ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever-¹ lasting doors;
and the King of glory¹ shall come in.
- C ¹⁰“**Who is he, this¹ King of glory?**”
“**The Lord of hosts, he is the¹ King of glory.**” Refrain

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,
²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his
Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the
Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead,
Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring
about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you
who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and
called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- L The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA VERSE (John 6: 68)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

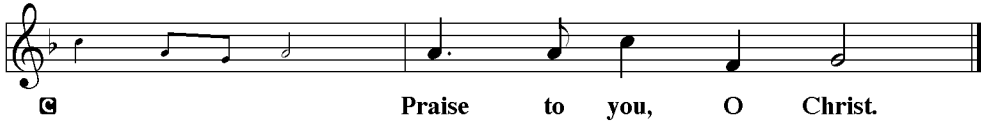
- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹⁸The birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took

place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

LITTLE LAMBS: At this time, Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available for children ages 3 through third grade at both services after the Gospel reading. The children leave the sanctuary with the teacher and enjoy an age appropriate Biblically oriented lesson and activity. They return during the offering to join us for Holy Communion.

SERMON: “Not What I Had Planned!”

The Rev. Dr. David Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 “To me be as it pleas - eth God,” she said.
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 “My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
 “Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”
 Glo - ri - a!

APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.
C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;

C Hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*Matthew 5: 22-24; John 20: 19*)

C And also with you.

You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING

Grace Ringers Bell Choir

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" - *arr. Wendell Westcott*

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

THE OFFERTORY





prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

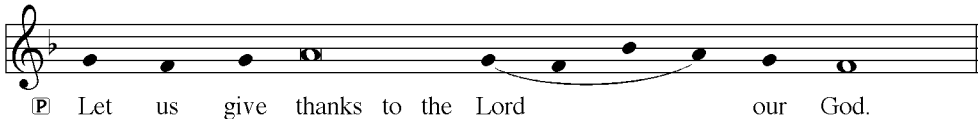
(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.



☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



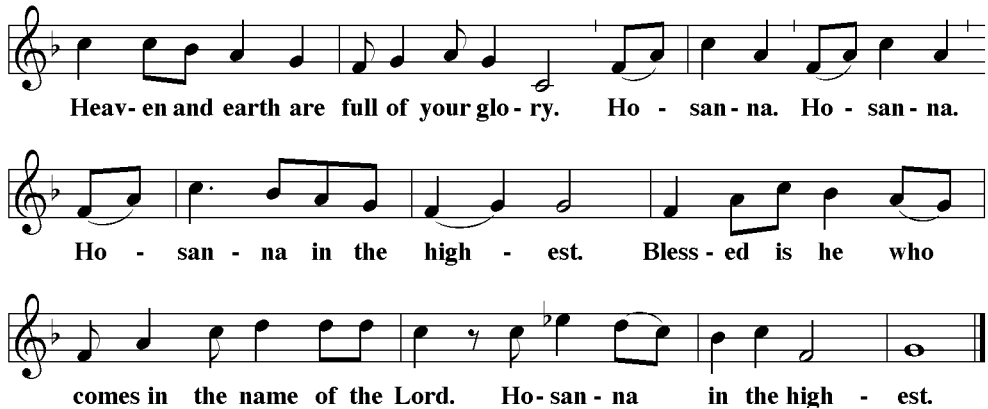
☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

- P It is our duty and delight . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS (Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9)



☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na.
 Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD INSTITUTING THE LORD'S SUPPER

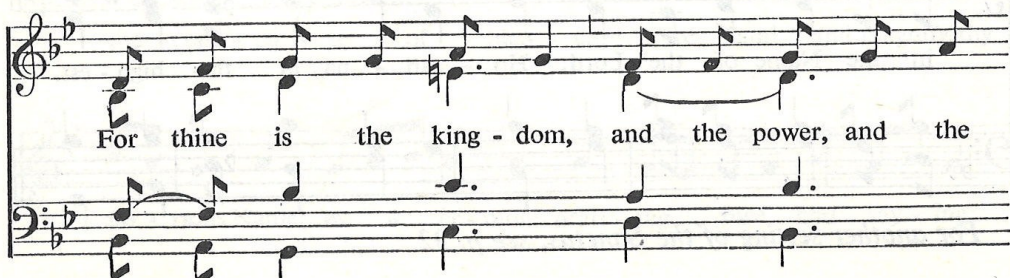
(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

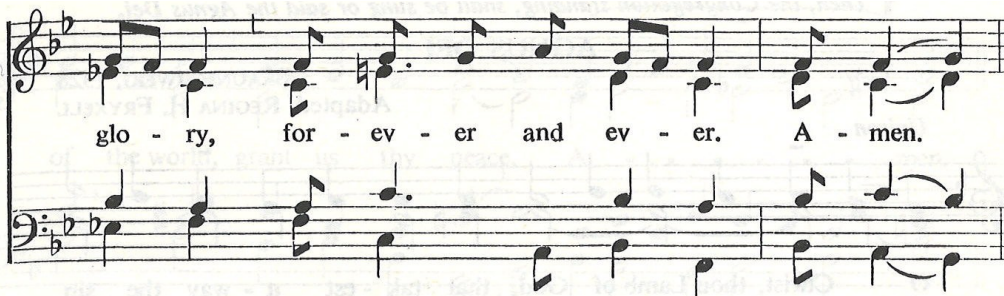
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6: 9-13)*

C **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 king-dom, and the power, and the

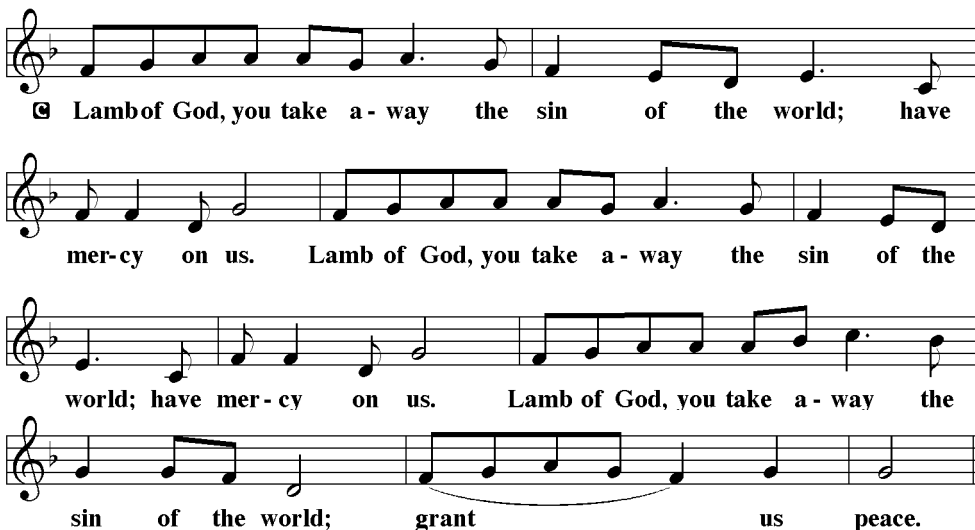


THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

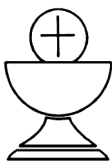
- P** Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (*John 1:29*)
C **Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!**
 (*Revelation 19:9*)

LAMB OF GOD (*John 1: 29*)



Please be seated.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children or adults who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord's sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray.

Plases place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area.
Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion: O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood. Amen.

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion: Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC “Come, thou Long Expected Jesus”



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

After all have communed, please stand.

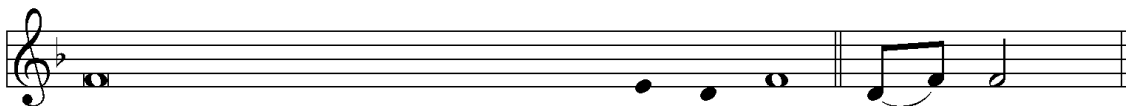
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION (*Numbers 6: 24-26*)



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.
In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit ✠

ADVENT “O ANTIPHONS”: During Advent, our closing hymn each week will be verses from “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” which focuses on the “Great O Antiphons.” The Church has been singing the “O Antiphons” since sometime between the sixth and the eighth century. They use ancient biblical imagery in the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment of prophecy, with each antiphon beginning with a title for the Messiah. They are prayers of longing as we wait and watch for Christmas. There were originally 7, but some have added antiphons making 9 or 12.

Watch for these antiphons in the closing hymn each Sunday in Advent: O Come Emmanuel; O Come thou Wisdom; O Come thou Lord of might; O come thou branch of Jesse; O come thou Key of David; O Come thou Dayspring; O Come, Desire of Nations.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel"

**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 thee, O Israel!**

O Come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O Come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE RITE OF SENDING

Children Go in peace, serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"Savior of the Nations Come" - arr. Paul Manz

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Flowers are given by...

Fred Pfanz in celebration of daughter Sarah's birthday.

Lisa Kuhar in celebration of the birthdays of son Chris and daughter-in law Jennifer.

Lee and Connie Reynolds in celebration of their wedding anniversary, December 20.

Remember in our prayers... *Alicia Crain, John Westenhaver, Sue Taylor, Misty Cochenour, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Ernestine Dietz, Steve Miller, Betty Milner, Mary Cooney, John Hicks, Amy Seifert Unkefer, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross*

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form and place it in the offering or hand it to an usher to let us know you were worshipping with us today.



Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan

to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

3rd Sunday of Advent/Youth Christmas Program, December 14:

8:15am: 41; 11:00am: 150; Total: 191

MUSIC NOTES

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" – arr. Paul Manz

This hymn has its origins as a Basque carol – "Birijina gaztettobat zegoen" – in the Euskara language. In the form we have, it tells the story that begins with the angel Gabriel's announcement in Luke 1:26, summarizes Mary's song in verses 46 through 55, and by means of the single word refrain "Gloria" at the end of each stanza gives a peek at the "Gloria in excelsis Deo" in Luke 2:14 and its later elaboration. The final stanza tells us that we're headed to Christmas morning, though the focus remains on Mary and her song.

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" – arr. Edwin T. Childs and arr. Wendell Westcott

Although this hymn usually appears in the Advent section of hymnals, Charles Wesley (1707-1788) wrote it for Christmas. Names given for Jesus in the hymn include: strength, consolation, hope, dear desire and joy. The hymn's ultimate emphasis is on the kingship of Jesus closing with a prayer that Christ will rule in our hearts alone.

"Rejoice, Rejoice!" – arr. Cathy Moglebust

This bell choir arrangement combines two well-known Advent hymns:

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" - Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722) wrote this hymn of rejoicing at the bridegroom's coming to go with Matthew 25:1-13, the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, which was the gospel for the 27th Sunday after Trinity, though it is usually included in the Advent season. The tune HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG is a Swedish folk melody that was paired with Sarah Borthwick Findlander's translation of the hymn in the Augustina Synod's *Hymnal and Order of Service for Churches and Sunday Schools* (1901).

"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" - From the seven antiphons sung in the medieval Roman Church at Vespers before and after the *Magnificat* (Mary's Song), just prior to Christmas, sometime in the 13th century five of these antiphons were selected for a hymn and the "Rejoice, rejoice" refrain added. Biblical references to the Great "O's" are: Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14), Root of Jesse (Isaiah 11:10), Dayspring (Malachi 4:2), Key of David (Isaiah 22:22), and O Lord (Adonai) (Exodus 3:15). The verses point us toward the purpose of Advent – to prepare for Christmas, just as Lent prepares for Easter.

"Savior of the Nations Come" – arr. Paul Manz

St. Ambrose, the bishop of Milan (340-397), is known as the father of Latin Hymnody. This hymn rings the keynote for Advent, with the seven stanzas providing opportunity to proclaim God's purpose in sending the Messiah and our response to the Good News.

Lift Up Your Heads!

Find the 34 **bold** words from Psalm 24:3-10 (ESV)

Y Z A E B D O O R S N N S D E
B L M N L O S Z N G O A D R S
L O L S C T C W O I I S A O O
C L E U R I T A T E T C E L U
P E I O F E E A J H A E H E L
K Y N H C T V N B E R N E I Y
R G C A A L I N T A E D U F N
E C L E A N I E E R N N M X F
W P W S I O D F C T E A M A S
Y T H G I M S S T E G T L E G
B L E S S I N G Y S D S T G L
R A E W S H A L E S E A X N O
S S E N S U O E T H G I R I R
P U R E I H E C A F G O D K Y
O L J G H Y V F P R Y C K C K

Who shall **ascend** the **hill** of the **LORD**? And who shall **stand** in his **holy place**? He who has **clean hands** and a **pure heart**, who does not lift up his **soul** to what is **false** and does not **swear deceitfully**. He will receive **blessing** from the LORD and **righteousness** from the **God** of his **salvation**. Such is the **generation** of those who **seek** him, who seek the **face** of the God of **Jacob**. **Lift up your heads, O gates!** And be lifted up, O **ancient doors**, that the **King** of **glory** may **come in**. Who is this King of glory? The LORD, **strong** and mighty, the LORD, **mighty** in **battle!** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! *Selah*

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER	Molly King
ASSISTING MINISTER	8:15 Donna Dettmann
ORGANIST	11:00 Andrea Bush
SACRISTAN	Linda Hoch
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Fred Pfanz
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
CANTOR	Maria Laderman
ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING	Heather Bush
ACOLYTE	8:15 Randy and Lisa Stoll, Will
	11:00 Jeremy and Miki Clark, Nami and Mia
LECTOR	8:15 Maggie Hoch
	11:00 Gabriel Young
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:15 Christine Kotik
USHERS	11:00 Tom Seamon
	8:15 Donna Dettmann, Lisa Kuhar
GREETERS	11:00 Nelson Grover, Tami Stone
	8:15 Paul Whitacre, Bob Ayers, Ted Ray, Jim Caldwell
LITTLE LAMBS	11:00 Mike Grubb, Beverly Grubb, Tom Seamon
	8:15 Vanessa Stewart
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	11:00 Cindy and Kenny Odum
ALTAR GUILD	8:15 Julie Young
	11:00 Amy Quinn
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Kaitlyn F., Donna P.
	Team 2: Julie Hartfelder, Karen Bale, Tami Banks, Carolyn Rearick, Sue Miller, Bonnie Sawyer, Marge Cepek, JoAnn Slemmer
	Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves

Acknowledgements

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"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord/ NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND" – arr. Paul Manz, from *Ten Chorale Improvisations: Set VII* by Paul Manz, ©1975 Concordia Publishing House



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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.