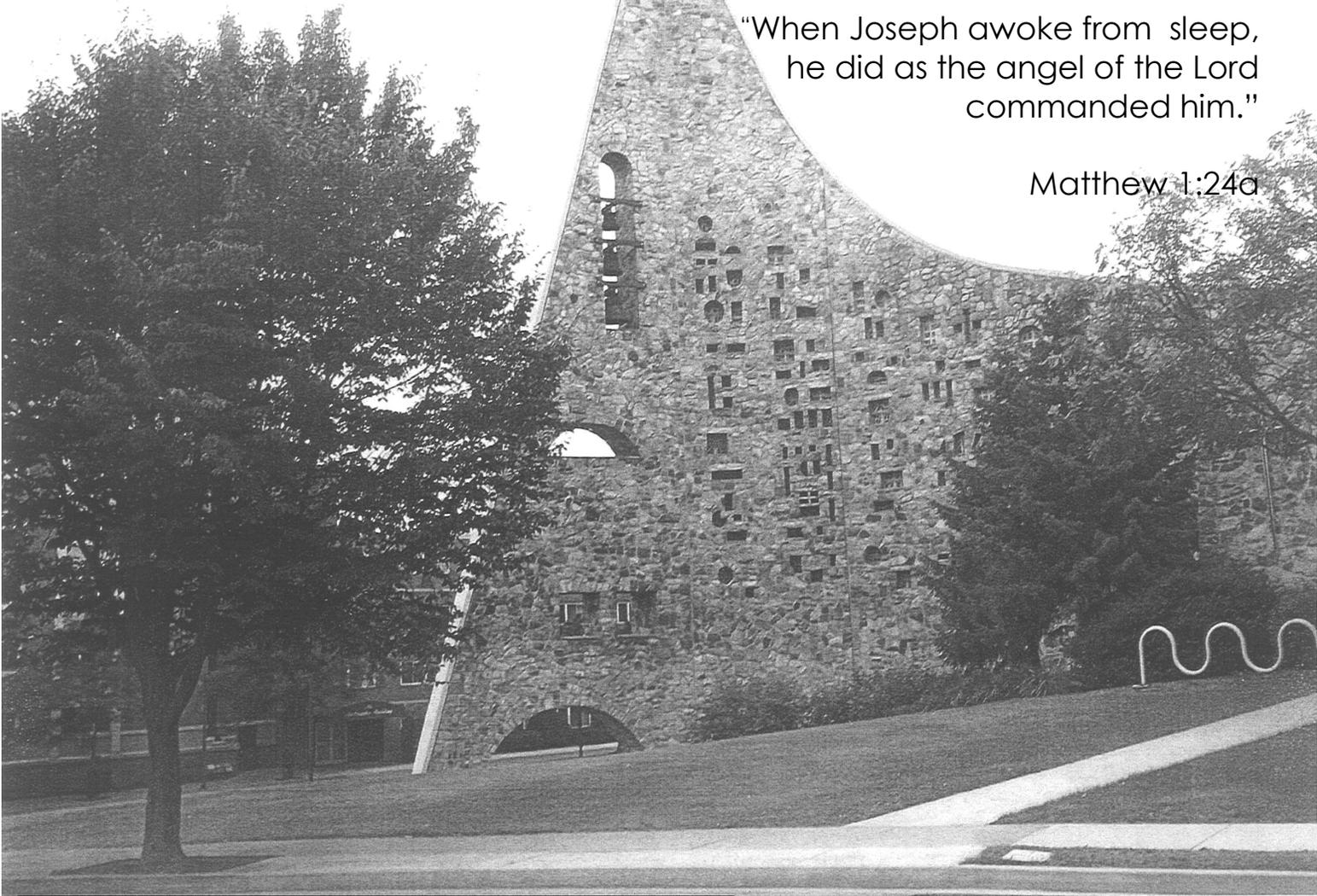


Welcome to **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"When Joseph awoke from sleep,
he did as the angel of the Lord
commanded him."

Matthew 1:24a



SUNDAY, December 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent

205 S. Garner St., State College, PA 16801

phone: 814-238-2478

email: churchoffice@glcpa.org

web address: www.glcpa.org

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. worship service

Today's Hymns

#ELW 263

#ELW 265

#ELW 260

Distribution

#ELW 251

#ELW 272



Our Mission Statement: *"Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to **gather, feed, and send** people in the name of Jesus Christ."*

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME... Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

ABOUT THE LESSONS.... **The First Lesson:** An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us! **The Second Lesson:** Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience. **The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

WAYS TO GIVE AT GRACE

1. Offering plate at worship
2. "Direct Debit" transfers from your bank account to Grace (see Laurel Sanders for sign-up information)
3. Make an online gift at our website, www.glcpa.org

Thank you for supporting the ministries of
Grace Lutheran!

↑ = Please stand as you
are able

↓ = Please be seated

Follow Grace on Social Media

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/glcstatecollege

Twitter: @GraceLCPA

All are welcome to our weekly
"coffee hour" in Harkins Hall
following the 9 AM service!

MILESTONE MINISTRY AT GRACE

At Grace we celebrate milestones. Milestones are designed to connect significant occasions in people's lives with their ongoing journey of faith. A Milestone Moment brings family, friends, and congregations together to mark a special time in their lives and acknowledge and affirm God's presence in their midst. It is a tool to connect home and church in the child and family's faith life. In addition to naming (the occasion), blessing (the person) and gifting (the gift), we send along an "At Home" sheet to reinforce the milestone with caring conversation. Today we celebrate the start of a new school year and the love and acceptance we find in God and in this community. We also celebrate new drivers. God is a constant presence whether the journey is short or long.

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church - State College, Pennsylvania

PRELUDE *Advent Christmas Suite*.....arr. A. Fedak

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES



Pastor: Blessed are you, God of Jacob, for you promise to transform weapons of war into implements of planting and harvest and to teach us your way of peace; you promise that our night of sin is far gone and that your day of salvation is dawning. As we light four candles on this wreath, wake us from our sleep, wrap us in your light, empower us to live honorably, and guide us along your path of peace.

Congregation: Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The Son of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing.

Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins. Forgive us for those sins known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: In the advent of Christ, the light from on high breaks in upon us with direction and healing. Through the life of the one born of Mary, God looks with favor upon us and calls us to discipleship. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



INTROIT *Come Now, O Prince of Peace...*Geonyong Lee arr. Michael Burkhardt

Angela Hardyk & Anne Whitney sopranos;

Sarah Rodgers, hand bells; Susan Buda, cello

GATHER

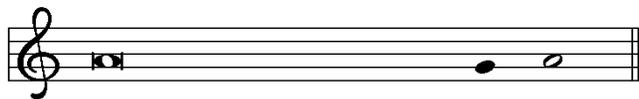
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



GATHERING HYMN *Savior of the Nations, Come.....*ELW # 263

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.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



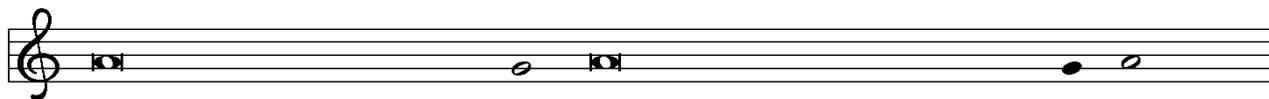
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



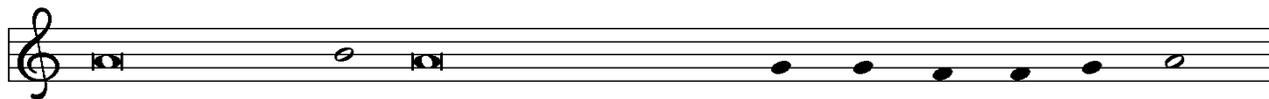
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

ADVENT PRAISE.....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 appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**Oh, come, oh 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.**

**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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.**

**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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and
might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may re-
ceive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FEED

*God speaks to us in scripture reading,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*



(9:00) CHILDREN'S MESSAGEMegan Stoltzfus
(10:30).....Anne Whitney
*We welcome everyone to worship and encourage children of all ages to participate fully in our
service. Qualified nursery care is available as needed. The nursery is located in room 202.*

FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 7:10-16 (pew Bible p. 554)

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask 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. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little
for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself
will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and
shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how
to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse
the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will
be deserted."

PSALM 80 - *Please sing responsively from the selected verses.*



P: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

**C: Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.**

P: Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.

**C: And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.**

SECOND LESSON.....Romans 1:1-7 (pew Bible p. 913)

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL.....Matthew 1:18-25 (pew Bible p. 783)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*spoken*)

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*spoken*)

↓ SERMON.....Pastor Schul

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*.....ELW # 265

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Response after each petition:

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

↓ OFFERTORY

(9:00) *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*.....arr. P. Manz
Pat Lloyd, organ

(10:30) *In The Bleak Midwinter*.....Gustav Holst arr. Audrey Snyder
Pat Lloyd , piano; Laurel Sanders, flute

↑ OFFERTORY SONG.....(ELW #182)

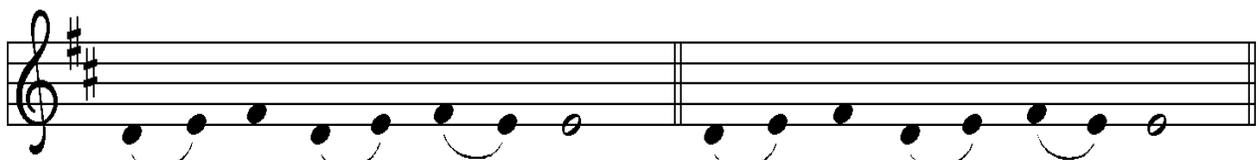
C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing, Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

P: Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.

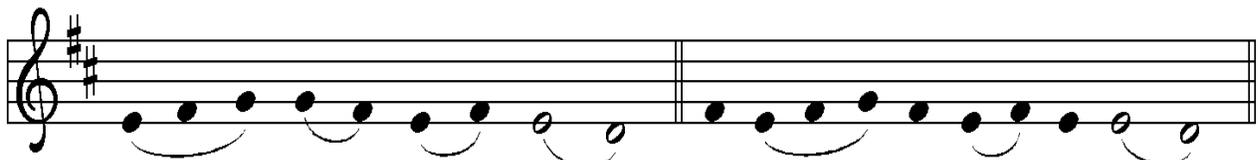
C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(ELW p. 107)



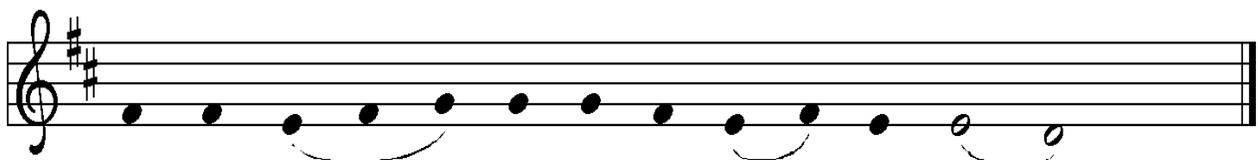
P: The Lord be with you. **C:** And al - so with you.



P: Lift up your hearts. **C:** We lift them to the Lord.



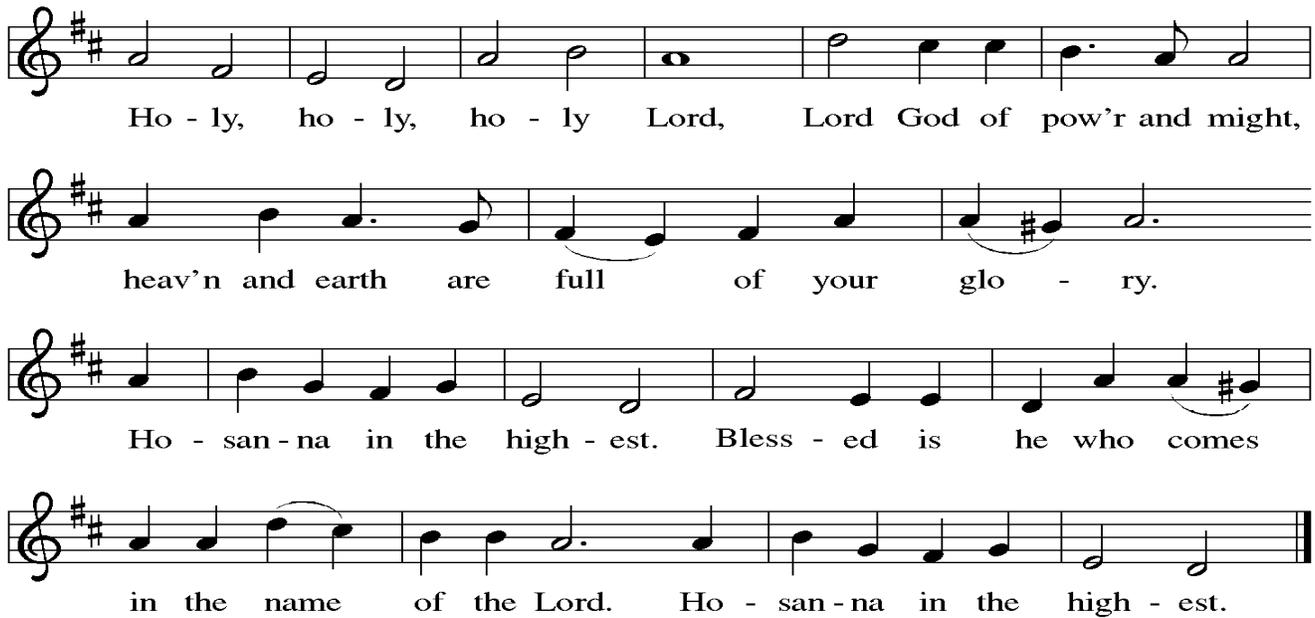
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and the suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: God of salvation and resurrection, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and grace. And to you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be praise and honor, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, the meal is ready.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

↓ All are invited to join the congregation in receiving the Savior's Body and Blood. Children not yet receiving Communion are invited forward for a blessing. Rice wafers and grape juice are available for those who have sensitivities to wheat or alcohol. An acolyte has a special tray with these alternative communion elements.

C: (ELW p.154)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW # 251-- *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*

ELW # 272-- *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

↑ **P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

C:

ELW # 207

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
 ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
 Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

P: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SEND

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give + you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN *The King Shall Come*.....ELW # 260

A: Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman*.....arr. A. Fedak



- The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor..... pastorschul@glcpa.org
- The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor..... pastorhetrick@glcpa.org
- Cindy Fritz, Peter Horn, Faith Formation..... faithformation@glcpa.org
- Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator..... lsanders@glcpa.org
- Nathan Glocke..... Adult Choir Director
- Ryan Ditmer, Pat Lloyd, June Miller,
Adam Smith & Chris Wilhelm..... Pianists/Organists
- Joan Kovalchik..... Flute
- Anna Carol Buffington..... The Bells of Grace Director
- The Rev. P. Stevens Lynn..... Pastor Emeritus

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Grace Lutheran

Announcements for the Week of Sunday, December 22, 2019

THE RED ROSES ON THE ALTAR...are in celebration of the births of a baby boy, Jackson Michael Dove, born on December 13, 2019 to Ricky and Kayla Dove and a baby boy, Brett Patrick Coine, born on December 13, 2019 to Dawn & Donald Coine III and grandparents Deana & Donald Coine Jr.

USHERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE...We are in need of ushers for our 7:00 PM, 9:00 PM & 11:00 PM services. If interested please contact Sally Keiser-Bankert at sallyb@verizon.net or 814-571-3672.

LECTORS...The January sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Thanks to those who have served as lectors in the past. Veterans and new readers of all ages are also encouraged to sign up!

SOUND SYSTEM ASSISTANT...Grace is looking to add additional people to our team of sound technicians. Running the sound board during worship is an important and interesting way to use your gifts to support Grace's ministries. No experience needed; training available. If Interested, contact Pastor Schul or Pastor Hetrick.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED....to help with "coffee hour" at 10:00am in Harkins Hall. If you would like to learn more about this or to sign up please contact Joyce Arbutina at joycearb@comcast.net.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER POSITIONS FOR 2019-2020...Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten (GLPK) is searching for substitute teacher's aides and teachers for the 2019-2020 school year. No experience is necessary for the substitute teacher's aides positions. Substitute teachers with a bachelor's degree in elementary education or early childhood education is beneficial, but not required. Send cover letter and resume to Cathy Smarkusky, GLPK Director, at csmarkusky@glcpa.org or call her at 238-8110 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE...We are looking for help with the Sexton duties for our 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM services. If interested please call the church office and ask for Roy.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO.....DeeAnn Wylie & Roy Evert for the Advent Wreath; Dennis Snider for delivering the Christmas trees and helping to set them up with Roy Evert, John Palmgren, & Bob Byers; Carl Bankert, Brian Bills, Mirabella Bills & Sally Keiser-Bankert for putting the lights on the trees; Deb Stewart for decorating the railings and hanging wreaths, & Sally Keiser-Bankert for placing the beautiful Chrismons on the Christmas tree that Elana Blezina made.

WANTED: BOARD MEMBERS FOR 55+ERS... The 55+ers are looking for volunteers to serve on their steering committee, which plans group events. Board meetings are the second Monday of each month at 9:15 in the Stinson Library at Grace. Board members do not need to be members of Grace Lutheran Church. Interested? Contact Paul or Kathryn Mackes at 238-0440 or call George or Kay Weigand at 237-0099.

PHOTOS FOR CHRISTMAS... Anyone who had their picture taken for the directory and were hoping to have a copy by Christmas please email Bill Ammerman at wra813@comcast.net.

Worship Assistants for Sunday, December 22, 2019

	8:00 A.M.	9:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
Lectors	Dotty Delafield	Lisa Wiedemer	Ellen Campbell
Greeters	Nancy Reinert	Mark & Karen Mrsa Susan Bardo	Leslie Wagner Brenda & John Palmgren
Acolytes		Ben Seaton Regan Houseknecht	Lincoln Hockenberry Emilio Schul
Deacons	Cindy Nicosia	Carl Bankert Sally Keiser-Bankert	Lois & Bob Voigt
Worship Assistant	George Weigand		
Cantor		Angela Hardyk	Emily Kiver
Ushers		Ken Fogelman Don & Bonnie Burris Ron Smith	Harold Cassady Kurt Gibble Dave Heatwole Beth & Ken Shafranko
Radio Ministry; Sound			Karl Hosterman
Coffee Hour Hosts 10:00-10:30 a.m.			The Hockenberry Family
Welcoming Center Hosts		Ann Rohrbach	Sue Forster



The *altar flowers* are sponsored by the Rachel & Lester Griel
dedicated in honor of Jessica's birthday

This morning's *bulletin* is sponsored by Mary Lou Swan
dedicated in honor of her granddaughter

Today's *radio broadcast* on WRSC - 1390 AM & 93.3 FM
is sponsored Greg & Kathy Weimer
dedicated in honor of their children & grandchildren

PRAYER CONCERNS for December 22, 2019

<p>All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries Susan Antle Juliet Arnold and family upon Dean's death Kip Barnett, friend of Ted & Jennifer Oylar Barbara Braun Debbie Bolthouse Nancy Chapa Scott Cocolin Catherine Cutter William Davies Damaris Dougherty, daughter of Bob Hampton Mark Doyle, friend of Paul & Sandy Larson Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer Patrick Dugan, grandson of Paul & Kathryn Mackes Steve Ellis Craig Evanego The family of Norm Fisher upon his death Norma Flanagan, mother of Jim Flanagan Vicki Garvin The Graves family upon</p>	<p>Herb's death Bob Harris, cousin of Leslie Wagner Tom Horn Dick Houtz Chris Kohlhepp, friend of Sally & Carl Donna Kondash, friend of Deana & Don Coine The family of Larry Kuhns upon his death Paul Larson Phil Lucas Aaron Lyon, nephew of Sue & Pete Forster Mardi McDonough Danielle McHenry Bob Miller, father of Julie Miller Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins Chris & Dottie Roberts Dennis Robertson, cousin of Karen Mrsa Margaret Schrock, mother of Kathy Weimer Nancy Schuchert, mother of Joe Schuchert Annika Schul</p>	<p>Ken Shultz William D. Snape Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite Emily & Charlotte Spearly Paul Spearly, uncle of Sheri Rider Jack Sylves and family and grandparents Tom and Marj Eakin Marcile Tressler Tom & Claudette, friends of Helen and Dick Brenneman Karen Tupman, cousin of Phyllis Favorite Fonda, mother of Phyllis Verderame Leslie Wagner Brenda Walsh Ken Walsh The family of Billie Willits upon her death Marie & Ross Weimer, parents of Greg Weimer Ash Woskob</p>
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Members in the hospital



Weekly Prayer Letter of Encouragement

Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A person is powerful on their knees." ~ Corrie ten Boom

We at Grace strive to be a people of prayer. Each week in our bulletin we list Grace members or people connected to our Grace family who are in need of our prayers. Each week, one person is selected to receive a special letter of encouragement. Please sign the letter in the Upper Commons or Narthex and pray for that person this week: **Juliet Arnold**.



Prayer is a powerful gift and tool God gives to us. Please pray for the request each day of the week during your daily prayer time. Just think how powerful it would be if all our members prayed for the same thing each day.

Please pray this week that the hearts of all may be touched and transformed by the Christmas message of Christ's love for all creation.

Super Wednesday Activities resume on January 8th, 2020

*Thank
You*



We at Grace would like to wish
all our Super Wednesday crew,
Green Team, all our choirs
and directors, Faith Formation
and helpers, and every one who
helps make Super Wednesday so
wonderful

a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year

Sunday School from 9-10 am

Classroom Assignments



- Ages 3 & 4 and Kindergarten—Room 200
- Grades 1 & 2 —Room 103
- Grades 3, 4 & 5 —Room 105
- Middle School Youth will meet in the Miller Center Youth Room
- High School Youth will meet in the Narthex and then will walk to Starbucks for java, juice and Jesus discussions.

Teachers are needed for every age group. There are always two adults per classroom, one lead teacher and one helper. For more information please contact Cindy Fritz or Peter Horn at faithformation@glcpa.org.

Offering Envelopes Now Available in the Narthex



If you don't see your envelopes or have questions about your envelopes please contact Sheri in the church office. Thank you.

Adult Forum resumes January 12.

Come and learn with all kinds of Grace people in a Christ-centered discussion format. We meet at 9am Sundays in the Fireside Room.

Series January 12- February 23: **Dialogues on: Race**

Race can be hard to talk about. Join us for a structured series of conversations in which we learn to talk together about complex and challenging issues.

Using Scripture to center and guide us, we'll talk around today's issues, such as race and the bible, the Black vs White Christianity, the Native American experience, and the problem with racial reconciliation.

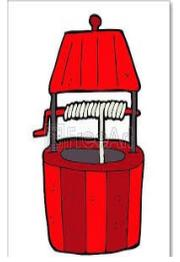
Copies of the book are available in the church office if you wish to read ahead, but homework is NOT required for participation. Just come join in when you can; sessions can stand alone!

HOLIDAY COLLECTION FOR CENTRE SAFE

Through December, we will collect donations for Centre Safe (formerly Centre County Women's Resource Center), which provides counseling, advocacy, and shelter for adults and children who have experienced dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Much-needed items include gas and gift cards (\$10-\$50 value); adult PJs and slippers; diapers (any size); baby bottles, bibs, onesies; baby monitors; coffee canisters; floor or desk lamps; pots and pans; towels (bath and hand). [For a list of other items, visit: http://ccwrc.org/getinvolved/needed-items/](http://ccwrc.org/getinvolved/needed-items/)

IHS Wishing Well Campaign

Interfaith Human Services has lost major funding for the Fuel Bank Program and is in desperate need to fill that gap. If you are not able to make it out to donate at one of the IHS Wishing Well locations this holiday season, there is a Wishing-Well located on the table at the Welcome Center for your convenience. Thank you in advance for your generosity. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Lybarger at jlpayne19@comcast.net or Roxane Vermillion at roxverm1@gmail.com.



Christmas Eve Services December 24th

4:30 pm- This service is designed particularly as a children's service.

The Christmas story will be told with a nativity of live animals and a visit from Santa as he comes to worship the Christ child.

7:00 pm- Candlelight worship is organ-led with Holy Communion, carols, and adult choir; piano prelude music.

9:00 pm- Candlelight worship is piano-led with Holy Communion, brass, and choral/instrumental carols and prelude music.

11:00pm- Candlelight worship is organ-led with Holy Communion, carols, adult choir ; piano prelude music.



Christmas Day Service December 25th

10:00am- Christmas Day Worship is organ-led with Holy Communion and carols.



*This Week
At Grace*

Sunday, Dec. 22

8:00 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary
 9:00 a.m.....**NO** Sunday School All Ages, Christmas Break
 9:00 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary
 10:30 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary
 4:00 p.m.....Psalm 151 Setup & rehearsal, Sanctuary
 6:00 p.m.....Casual Worship w/Holy Communion, Sanctuary

Monday, Dec. 23

1:00 p.m.....Staff Meeting, Fireside

**Tuesday, Dec. 24
Christmas Eve**

4:30 p.m.....Christmas Eve Service with Live Nativity, Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m.....Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary
 9:00 p.m.....Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary
 11:00 p.m.....Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary

**Wednesday, Dec. 25
Christmas Day**

10:00 a.m.....Christmas Day Service, Sanctuary

**Thursday, Dec. 26
Church Office Closed**

**Friday, Dec. 27
No scheduled church activities**

**Saturday, Dec. 28
No scheduled church activities**