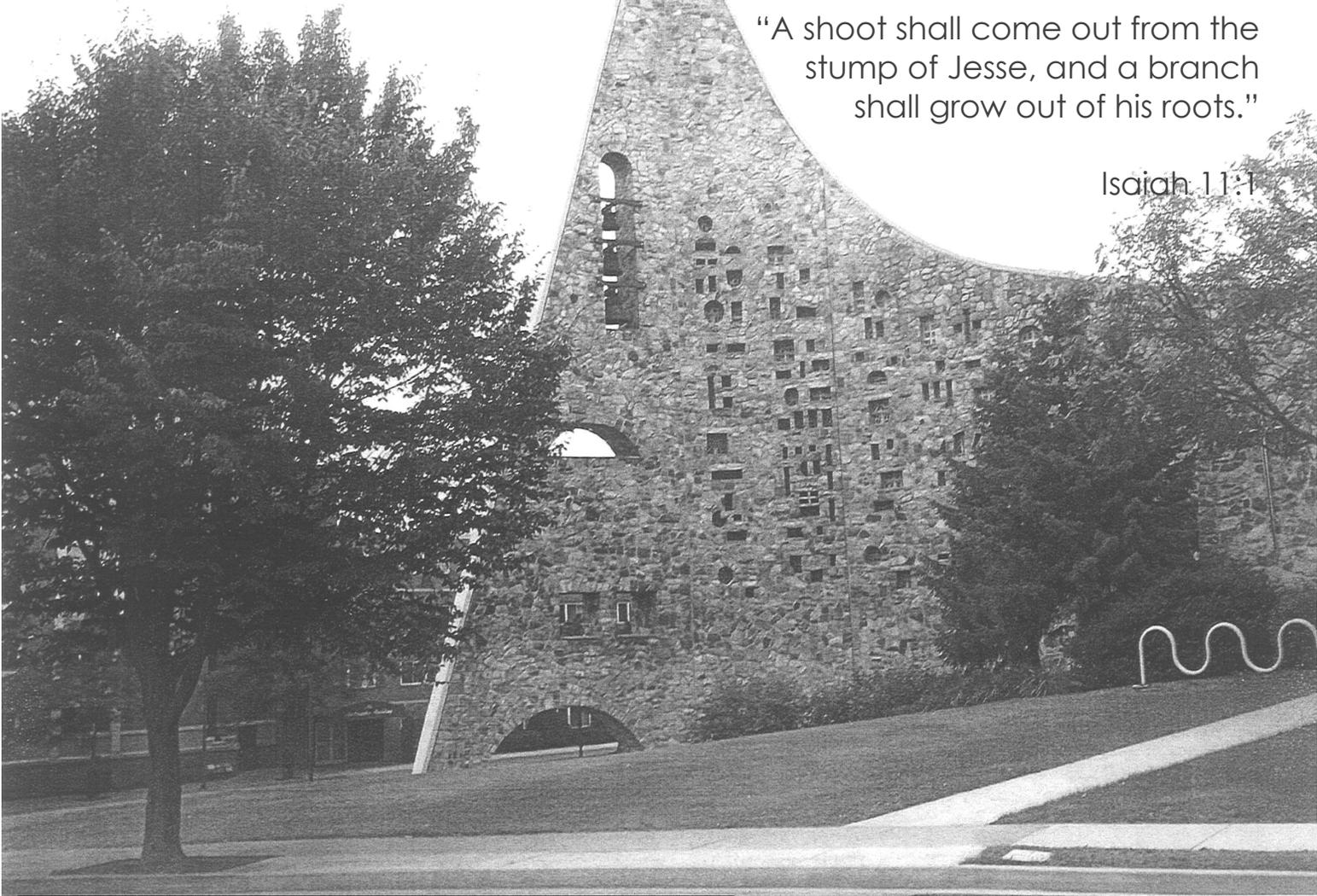


# Welcome to **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

"A shoot shall come out from the  
stump of Jesse, and a branch  
shall grow out of his roots."

Isaiah 11:1



**SUNDAY, December 8, 2019**  
Second Sunday of Advent

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

**phone:** 814-238-2478

**email:** [churchoffice@glcpa.org](mailto:churchoffice@glcpa.org)

**web address:** [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org)

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

**Today's Hymns**

**#ELW 249**

**#ELW 256**

**#ELW 246**

**Distribution**

**#ELW 264**

**#ELW 490**



**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...**At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

**ABOUT THE LESSONS....** **The First Lesson:** Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence. **The Second Lesson:** God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family. **The Gospel Lesson:** Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

#### 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.glcpc.org](http://www.glcpc.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](http://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 *Prepare the Royal Highway*.....James Manfield

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 the first candle 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.**

CONFESSON 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.**

↓ (9:00) INTROIT *There Shall a Star from Jacob Shine*.....Michael Burkhardt  
Andrew Rosenzwie, bass; Charlie Vasey, bass; Laurel Sanders, chimes

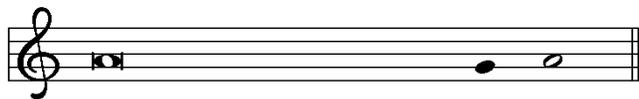
### **GATHER**

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

↑ GATHERING HYMN *On Jordan's Bank the Baptisit's Cry*.....ELW # 249

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.



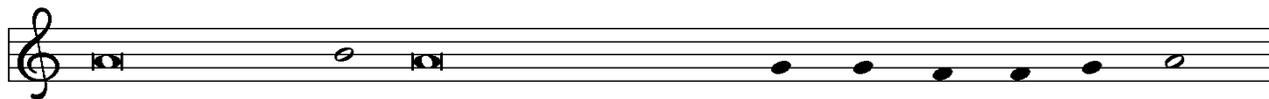
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming, nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FEED**

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

↓ (10:30) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE .....Jonna Belanger  
*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 11:1-10 (pew Bible p. 558)

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

PSALM 72 - *Please sing responsively from the selected verses.*



P: Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

**C: that he may rule your | people righteously  
and the | poor with justice;**

P: Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,  
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.

**C: Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,  
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**

SECOND LESSON.....Romans 15:5-9, 13 (pew Bible p. 924)

<sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



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 3:1-12 (pew Bible p. 784)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

↓ SERMON.....Pastor Schul

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*.....ELW # 256

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 King Shall Come*.....arr. Nancy A. Norman  
The Bells of Grace

(10:30) *The Carol of Advent*.....arr. Philip Diettrich  
Adult Choir

↑ OFFERTORY SONG.....(ELW #182)

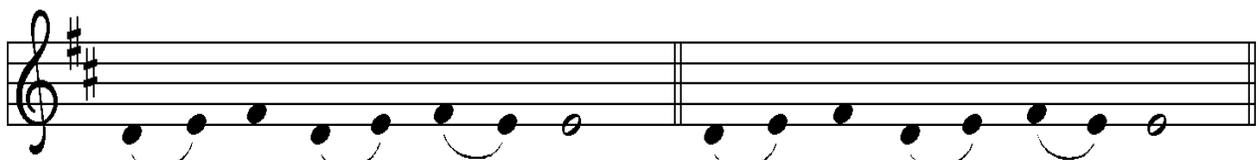
**C:** Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing, Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us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

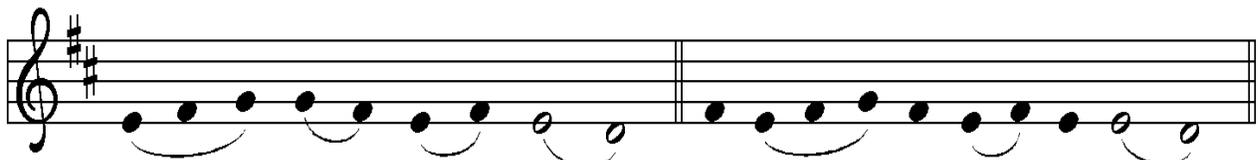
**C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(ELW p. 107)



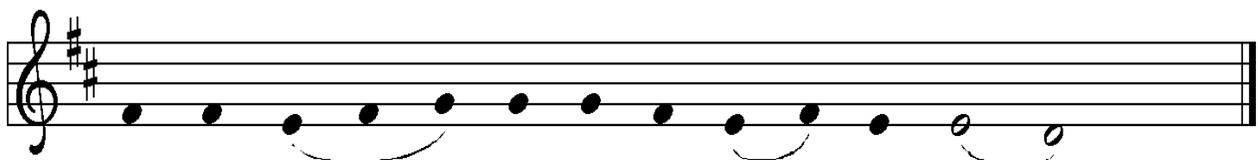
**P:** The Lord be with you. **C:** And al - so with you.



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



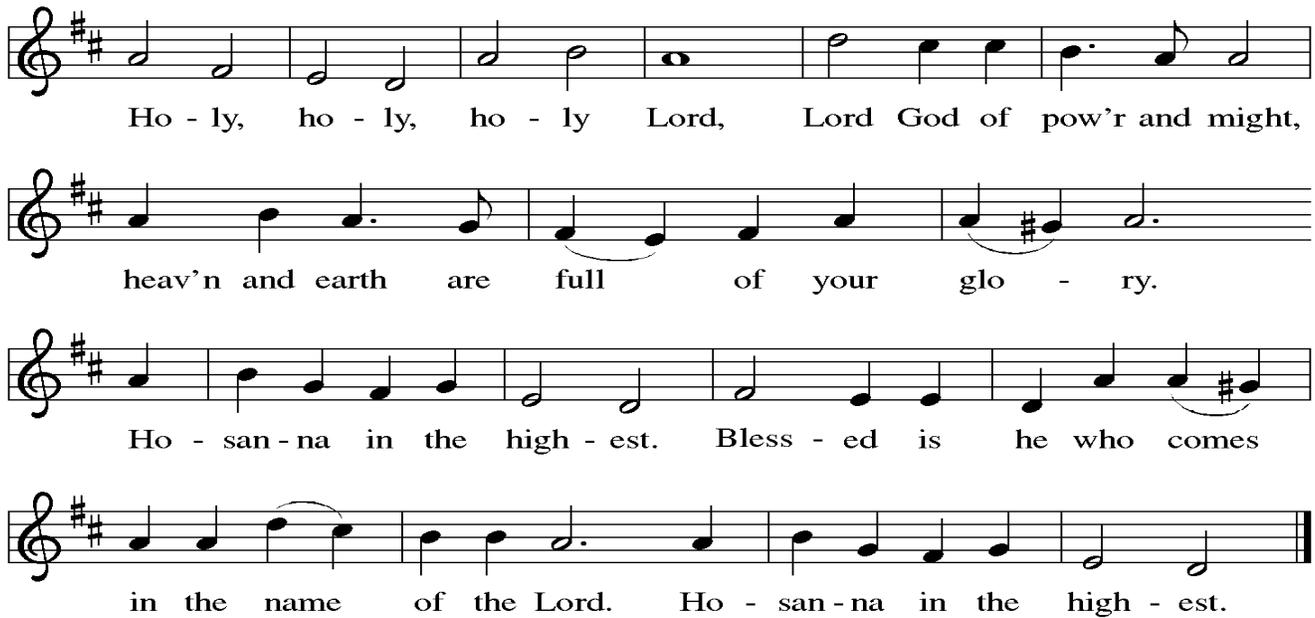
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**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 who are baptized 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 *The Huron Carol*.....arr. Jason Krug  
The Bells of Grace

### COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW # 264-- *Prepare the Royal Highway*

ELW # 490-- *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

↑ **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 voice-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 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*.....ELW # 246

A: Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Fanfare* .....Jacques Lemmens



- The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor..... [pastorschul@glcpa.org](mailto:pastorschul@glcpa.org)
- The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor..... [pastorhetrick@glcpa.org](mailto:pastorhetrick@glcpa.org)
- Cindy Fritz, Peter Horn, Faith Formation..... [faithformation@glcpa.org](mailto:faithformation@glcpa.org)
- Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator..... [lsanders@glcpa.org](mailto: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 8, 2019**

**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!

**MEN'S BOOK CLUB...**selection is "The Last Rescue" by Howard Wasdin with Joel Kilpatrick. We will meet Dec. 12 7:00 PM in the library.

**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](mailto:joycearb@comcast.net).

**WANTED – PART-TIME SEXTON –** Grace Lutheran Church is seeking a sexton/cleaning specialist for up to 20 hours per week (afternoons; flexible schedule) to help clean our church and pre-school, with options to work on some Sunday mornings. Send cover letter and resume to Laurel Sanders, Business Manager, at [lsanders@glcpa.org](mailto:lsanders@glcpa.org) or call Roy Evert, head sexton, at 238-2478 to discuss the position.

**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](mailto:csmarkusky@glcpa.org) or call her at 238-8110 for more information.

**USHERS NEEDED...**for the 9 and 10:30 services. If you can help with either service please contact Sally Keiser-Bankert at [sallyb@verizon.net](mailto:sallyb@verizon.net)

**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.

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE...**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](mailto:sallyb@verizon.net) or 814-571-3672. We also need someone to help with the Sexton duties for the 4:30 PM and the 7:00PM services. If you are able to help please call the Church office and ask for Roy.

**THE MITTEN TREE...** in the Narthex is collecting gloves/mittens and hats for the Children and Youth Service Bureau thru Dec. 11th. If you would like to help Just place your donations on the tree.

## Worship Assistants for Sunday, December 8, 2019

	8:00 A.M.	9:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
<b>Lectors</b>	June Walter	Sarah Rodgers	Terry Roof
<b>Greeters</b>	Martha Musser	Louise Tarman Marilyn Peterson Mike Conron	Marilyn Peterson Emeline & Jeya Chandra
<b>Acolytes</b>	Ryan Pencek Nathan Pencek	Emilio Schul Jacob Fritz	Netta Horn Renee Buda
<b>Deacons</b>	Nancy Reinert	Mardi McDonough Nick Downs	Beth Shafranko Brian Bills
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Carla Rossi		
<b>Cantor</b>		Andrew Rosenzwie	Ethan Fasnacht
<b>Ushers</b>		Carl Bankert Sally Keiser-Bankert Ken Fogleman Don Coine Greg Kewitt	Michael Hetrick Brandon Hosterman Bruce Hockenberry Melissa Hockenberry Bill Ammerman Vikki Ammerman Chris Hollobaugh
<b>Radio Ministry; Sound</b>			Lester Griel Jr.
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts 10:00-10:30 a.m.</b>			Grant & Tammy Davis
<b>Welcoming Center Hosts</b>		Joann McCormick	Sharyn Everhart



The *altar flowers* are sponsored by the Sandy & Harold Cassady and family  
dedicated in memory of Donald Krebs, Sandy's father

This morning's *bulletin* is sponsored by Ellen & Jim Campbell  
dedicated in honor of their 48th wedding anniversary

Today's *radio broadcast* on WRSC - 1390 AM is sponsored Gloria Nieweg family  
dedicated in memory of Bill Featherman

## PRAYER CONCERNS for December 8, 2019

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



*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 for our Out of the Cold volunteers and guests.**

# Super Wednesday Meal on December 11

## *Ham & Bean Soup, Macaroni & Cheese, Relish Tray & Dessert*

### Super Wednesday Schedule:

- 11:00 am—**Adult Bible Study**, The Book of Tobit, led by Pastor Schul
- 5:00-5:30 pm—**Angel Choir** (ages 3-5), Room 203
- 5:00-5:45 pm—**Sing 'n Ring Choir** (K-grade 5)  
Choir room next to Harkins Hall; Kindergartners can  
choose either choir
- 5:30-6:15 pm—**Super Wednesday Supper**, Harkins Hall
- 6:30-7:30 pm—**Cross Gen Mid Week Advent Worship**
- 7:30-9:00 pm —**Adult Choir Rehearsal**, Sanctuary



## 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](mailto:faithformation@glcpa.org).



## Christmas Caroling to Homebound Members December 15th

Please join us in Harkins Hall for a light lunch at 11:45 am and then at 12:30 pm we will board a bus and go caroling to some of our homebound members.



## Blue Christmas Service, Thursday December 19 at 6:30 pm.

For many, holidays like Christmas are times of joy and family togetherness. But for those who have experienced loss through death, divorce, depression and other life challenges, these times often bring deep pain and sadness. If this describes your feelings, we invite you to our Service of Hope: Blue Christmas worship. Before worship, there will be a grief support session on "Surviving the Holidays" with Brenda Oyler Kim, MSW, LCSW and co-facilitator Jackie Naginey Hook, MA in the Fireside room beginning at 5:00 pm. A small meal will be provided. Having support helps you on your healing journey to realize you are not alone and to learn how others make it through the Holidays. After the Worship, at an informal gathering, Pastors and Stephen Ministers will be available to talk. All are welcome.

### Adult Forum

Adult Forum meets in Fireside Room each Sunday at 9 AM

Adult Forum returns to Behind the Lectionary. Each Sunday we hear a set of texts read from the lectern, but what is in those texts that we may not hear in a sermon? How might those texts guide us on our walk each week?

December 15 -- Behind the Lectionary:

December 22, 29 and Jan 5 -- Adult Forum will not be meeting

Please join us for learning, reflection and conversation.

### We are Extending our ELCA Good Gifts donations till Dec. 15.

Please find additional donation forms on the Welcome Center as well as a catalog or two with ideas of how the moneys will be used.

### 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/)



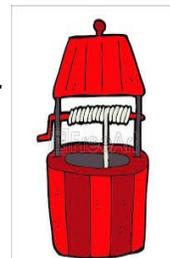
## In Preschool and Kindergarten news:

### Toys for Tots

Grace Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten is a collection site for the Toys for Tots program again this year. This impressive program provides toys for needy children in our area. If you would like to donate a toy, please place your unwrapped gift in its original packaging in one of the collection boxes located at the entrance to the school and in the Narthex now through December 16<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to make a cash donation, or would like to volunteer, go to <http://marines.centreconnect.org> for details. Thanks for your support!

### IHS Wishing Well Campaign

*Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer to ring the bells at Meyer Dairy and Walmart for the 2019 Wishing Well Campaign. If you are unable to make it out to one of these locations but still wish to donate to Interfaith Human Services, there is a Mini Well located on the Welcome Center. IHS has lost major funding for the Fuel Bank Program and is in desperate need to fill that gap. Thank you in advance for your generosity. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Lybarger at [jlpayne19@comcast.net](mailto:jlpayne19@comcast.net) or Roxane Vermillion at [roxverm1@gmail.com](mailto: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. 8  
Out of the Cold**

8:00 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary  
 9:00 a.m..... Sunday School All Ages, Various rooms  
 9:00 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary  
 10:00 a.m.....Crossfire Youth Choir Rehearsal, Rm 203  
 10:30 a.m.....Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary  
 11:45 a.m.....Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 11:45 a.m.....College Student Lunch, Fireside  
 12:00 p.m.....Confirmation & Youth Group Mission Event, Miller Center  
 4:00 p.m.....Psalm 151 Setup & rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 6:00 p.m.....Casual Worship w/Holy Communion, Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m.....QNA (Questions –Not Answers Group), Fireside

**Monday, Dec. 9  
Out of the Cold**

9:15 a.m.....55+er’s Steering Committee, Library

**Tuesday, Dec. 10  
Out of the Cold**

9:00 a.m.....Women of Grace– Comfort Makers, Library  
 9:30 a.m.....Staff Meeting, Fireside  
 6:00 p.m.....GLPK Christmas Concert, Sanctuary & Harkins Hall  
 7:00 p.m.....Church Council Meeting, Fireside

**Wednesday, Dec. 11  
Out of the Cold**

**Bulletin Announcements due 3:00 p.m.**

11:00 a.m.....Super Wednesday Bible Study, Fireside  
 5:00 p.m.....Kids Choirs, choir room or room 203  
 5:30 p.m.....Super Wednesday Meal, Harkins Hall  
 6:30 p.m.....Advent Mid Week Worship, Sanctuary  
 7:30 p.m.....Adult Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Thursday, Dec. 12  
Out of the Cold**

7:00 a.m.....Women’s Breakfast Prayer Group, Waffle Shop North  
 10:00 a.m.....KNIT WITS, Library

**Friday, Dec. 13  
Out of the Cold**

2:00 p.m.....Willits Visitation, Sanctuary  
 3:00 p.m.....Willits Funeral, Sanctuary  
 6:00 p.m.....Orpheus Singers Concert, Sanctuary

**Saturday, Dec. 14  
Out of the Cold  
No scheduled church activities**