

**Welcome to
GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

205 S. Garner St.
State College, PA 6801

**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."*

**10:00 a.m.
worship service**

Today's Hymns
#ELW 300
#ELW 275
#ELW 290

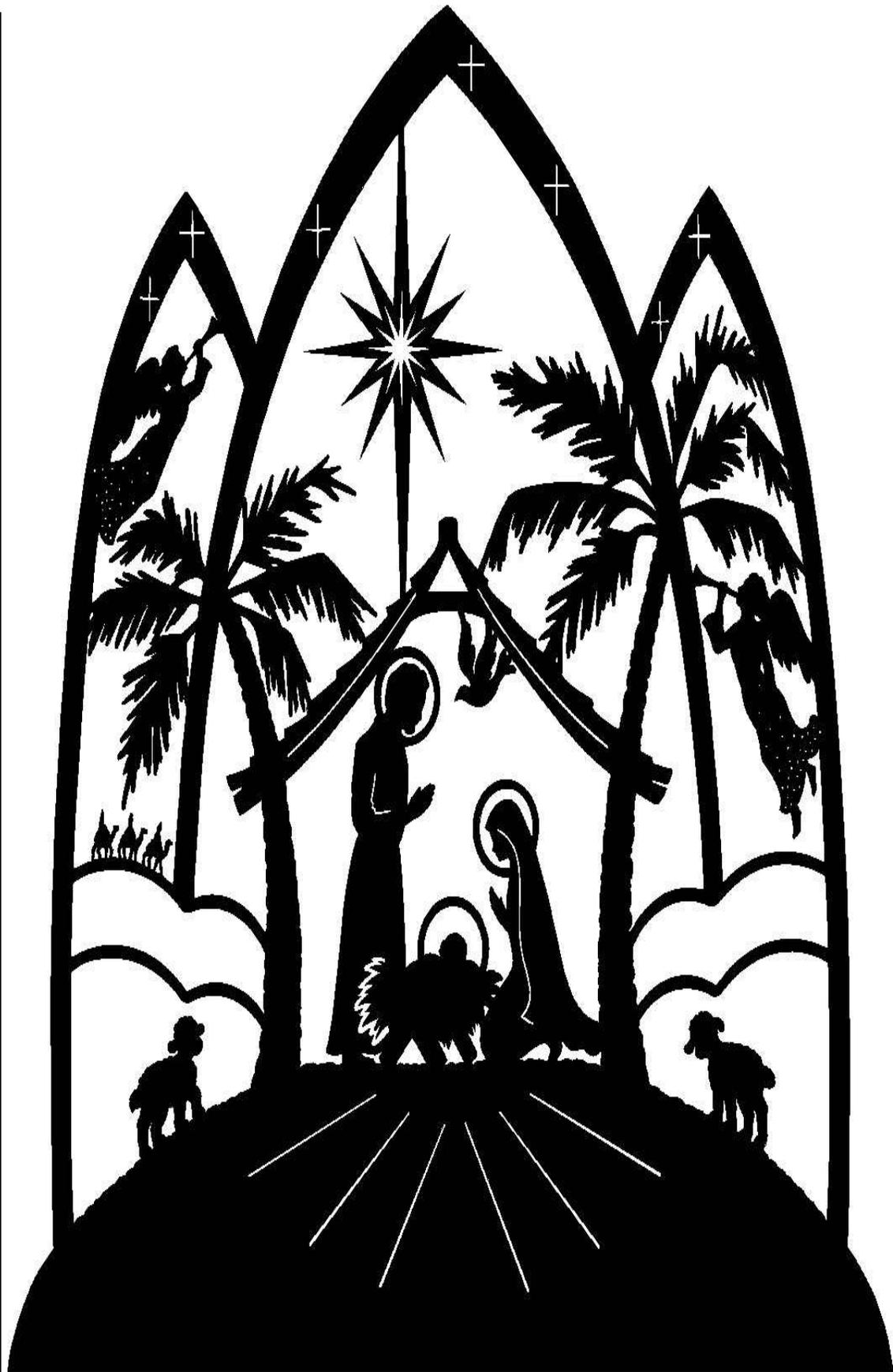
Distribution
#ELW 277
#ELW 288



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web address:
www.glcpa.org



MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2018
Christmas Day

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST...

Today, the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed humans in his own image, and everything else in creation.

Unknown years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME...As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel brings us the Prologue to the Gospel of John, which proclaims the astonishing promise that the Word became flesh in Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, divine light shines in the darkness of this world, bringing hope and healing.

A WORD ON THE READINGS...**The First Lesson:** God brings a message of comfort, redemption and hope. Despite our trials and the world's brokenness, we can rejoice. **The Second Lesson:** The Son of God is an imprint of God's being and comes to us as a loving conqueror of sin. **The Gospel Lesson:** Jesus is the Word, who was present at the creation and who has come among us to teach, to bless, and to save.

↑ = Please stand as you
are able

↓ = Please be seated

**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church - State College, Pennsylvania
Christmas Day -- December 25, 2018 - 10:00 a.m.**

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."

Gather - Feed - Send

PRELUDE *Noel Nouvelet*.....Hudson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS GREETING

↑ P: Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time began and you came into the world to save us. Blessed are you, Son of righteousness, you shine with the Father's love and illumine the whole universe. Blessed are you, Son of Mary, born a child, you shared our humanity.

Congregation: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: Blessed are you, Son of David, born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men. Blessed are you, Son of all humanity, baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves. Blessed are you, heavenly king, teaching and preaching, healing and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

C: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Savior.

C: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P: With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

C: Praise and honor and glory to you, O Lord most high.

P: To us is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Grace, mercy, and the peace of God be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GATHER

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

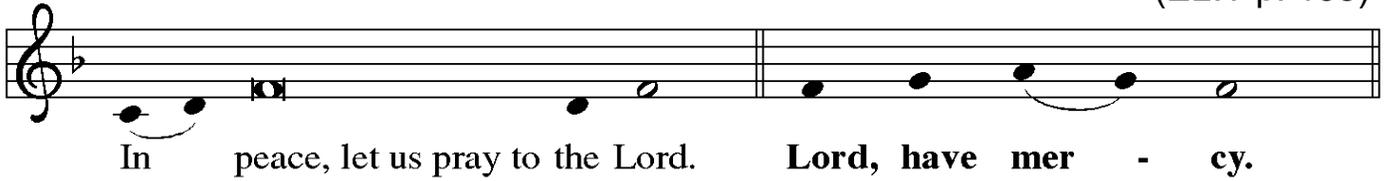
GATHERING HYMN *The First Noel*.....ELW #300

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

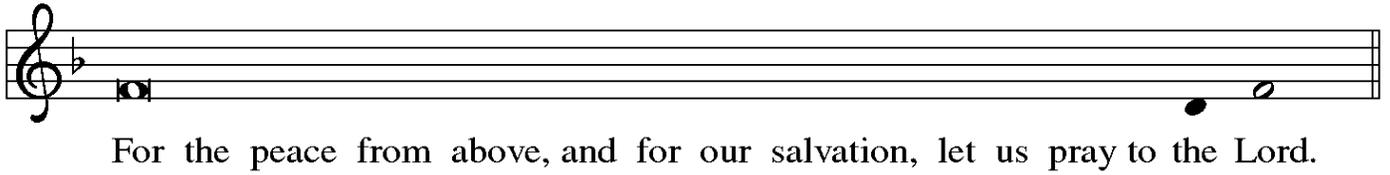
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

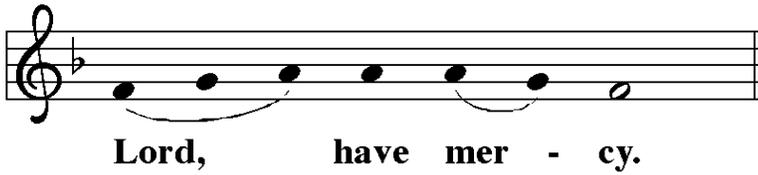
(ELW p. 138)



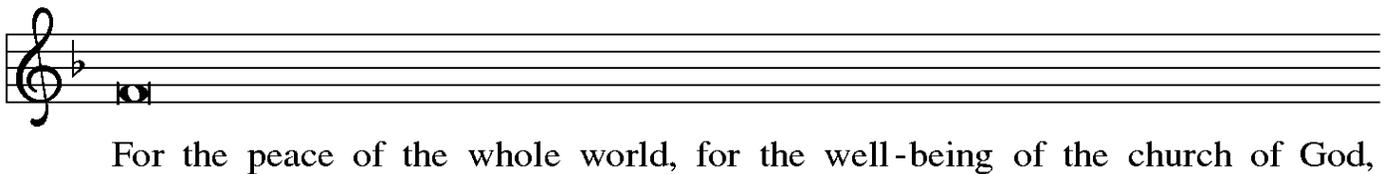
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



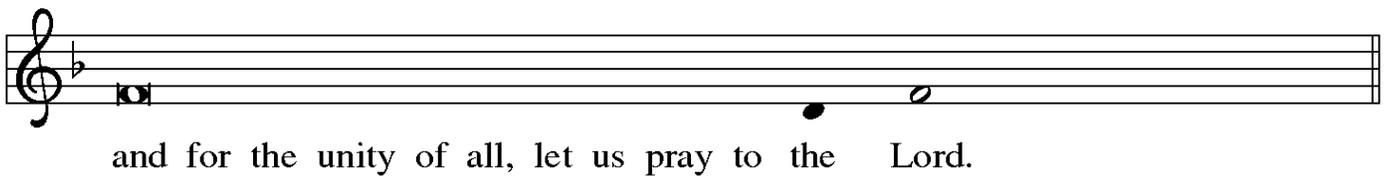
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



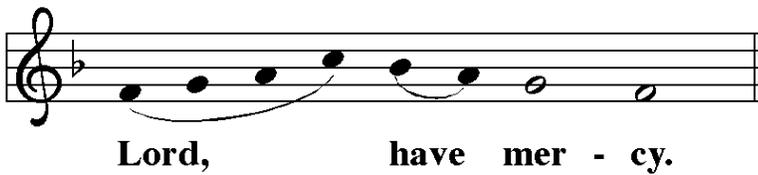
Lord, have mer - cy.



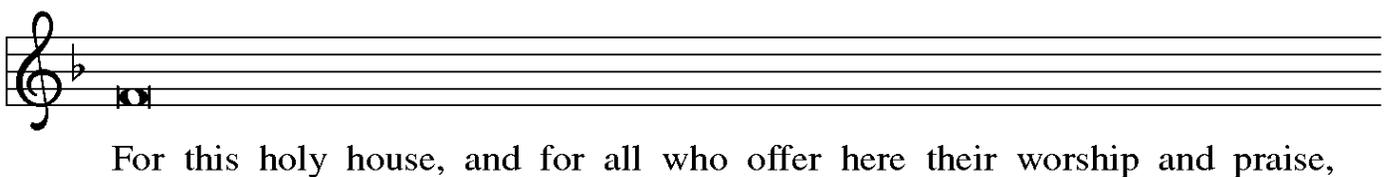
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



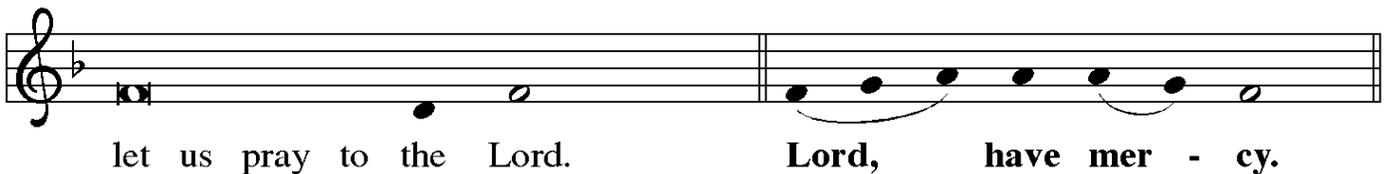
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



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

HYMN OF PRAISE*Oh Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! Refrain

P: Let us pray.

C: All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, 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 through scripture,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 52:7-10



⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

PSALM 98—*Please sing responsively from the selected verses.*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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L: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done ^l marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have ^l won the victory.

**C: O LORD, you have made ^l known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight ^l of the nations.**

L: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the ^l house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory ^l of our God.

**C: Shout with joy to the LORD, ^l all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- ^l joice, and sing.**

L: Sing to the LORD ¹ with the harp,
with the harp and the ¹ voice of song.

C: **With trumpets and the sound ¹ of the horn
shout with joy before the ¹ king, the LORD.**

L: Let the sea roar, and ¹ all that fills it,
the world and those who ¹ dwell therein.

C: **Let the rivers ¹ clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes
to ¹ judge the earth.**

SECOND LESSON.....Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW 142a)



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.....John 1:1-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

↓ SERMON.....Pastor Schul

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY *Angels From the Realms of Glory*.....ELW #275

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**

↓ OFFERTORY *Three Versets on "Away in a Manger"*M. Blatchley

↑ OFFERTORY SONG Sung to: "*O Little Town of Bethlehem*" (stanza 4)

C: **O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also 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 him 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:

Joy to the World (stanzas 2 & 4)

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

P: Holy God, the beginning and the end, You are the giver of life and hope. We bless you for the birth of creation, for all your promises to your people, and for Mary's openness to your will. We give you thanks for your Son, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: Come among us, Holy Spirit, and bless this food with your presence. Bring us the gift of peace on earth, as we look in hope for our Savior's coming again. All praise and glory are yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, 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.



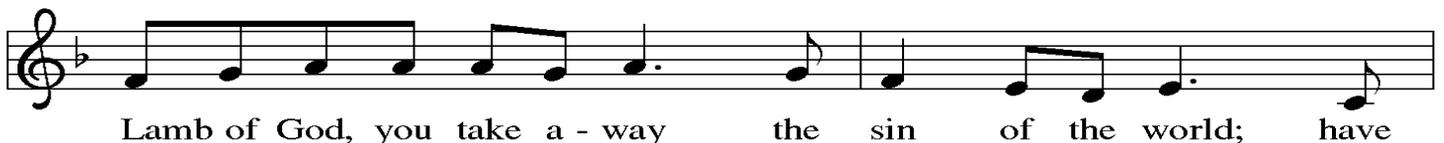
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

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.

Instructions: Upon receiving the bread, move to the chalice and dip the bread in the consecrated wine.

C:

(ELW p.146)



COMMUNION HYMNS:

ELW #277 *Away in a Manger*

ELW #288 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*



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

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Angels, from the Realms of Glory....ELW #275*
Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Great and gracious God, we thank you that in this holy meal the true Light has come to dwell in us. As we return into the world you love, may we take to all people the good news of Jesus Christ in whose name we pray.

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 *Go Tell It on the Mountain.....ELW #290*

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Regent Square.....Johnson*



The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor.....pastorschul@glcpa.org
 Cindy Fritz, & Peter Horn, Faith Formation.....faithformation@glcpa.org
 Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator.....lsanders@glcpa.org
 Jayne Glocke.....Adult Choir Director
 Erik ClaytonOrganist
 Pat Lloyd & June Miller.....Pianists
 Joan Kovalchik.....Flute
 Anna Carol Buffington.....The Bells of Grace Director
 The Rev P. Stevens Lynn.....Pastor Emeritus

Lector: George Weigand

Cantor: Anne Whitney

Altar Flowers: Sponsored by Kerry Richards in honor of parents Lynn & Pepper Hoffman

Bulletin: Sponsored in memory of Betta, John and John Kriner Jr.

Radio: Today's *radio broadcast* on WRSC - 1390 AM is sponsored in memory of Betta, John & John Kriner Jr.



Prayer is a powerful gift and tool God gives to us.

Each Sunday, there will be a "Grace Prayer Request" in Sunday's bulletin. 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.

We give thanks, gracious God, that in Jesus Christ you came to us in flesh to bless, heal, teach, and save us. Through the twelve days of this season, stir us to keep our hearts and minds firmly fixed on you and the blessing of your presence among us. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS for December 25, 2018

All Military & Nat'l Guard and those serving in war-torn Countries	Dick Houtz Darlene Jenkins Ruth Kistler Larry Kuhns Ryan Louder Tuckey Louder Phil Lucas Danielle McHenry Jo Anne Miller Maryann Newcomb Chuck Noel Robert Schlegel Craig Peery Margie Prothro sister of Ed Jenkins	Kyle Steffens college roommate of Laurel Sanders Ken Shultz William D. Snape Sr. brother of Phyllis Favorite Jack Sylves and family and grandparents Tom and Marj Eakin Michele Thal Lisa Thomas, Sally & Carl's friend Karen Tupman, Cousin of Phyllis Favorite
Susan Antle Celeste Barnes & family of Ed Jenkins Scott Cocolin Marion & Winnie Deppen Sherri Ebeling & family daughter of Elaine Ebeling Vicki Garvin Cay Griel Donna Pedersen Hershey niece of Gina Leon Sharron & Carl Hintosh		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.

This week the Prayer Letter will be sent to Barbara Soder.



Grace Lutheran

Announcements for the Week of Sunday, December 25, 2018

A FRIENDLY GREETING TO ALL...who have joined us today to worship and praise our Lord & Savior. May this time of worship bless us to be a blessing to others. If you are a guest this morning please complete the beige contact card in the pew pocket where you are seated and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

HOLIDAY COLLECTION FOR CENTRE SAFE....Now through December, Grace will collect donations for adults and children who receive services through Centre Safe (formerly Centre County Women's Resource Center). Centre Safe provides free professional counseling, advocacy, shelter and more for single adults and families who have experienced domestic violence, assault, etc. Needed items include regular size bed pillows, dish sets for 2-4 persons, sweats and tees in all sizes, cans of soup and pasta sauce, umbrellas, and \$10-\$25 gift cards to Weis, Giant, Wal-mart, Sheetz, or Target. Checks payable to Centre Safe are also accepted. Leave donations on the Commons area collection table. Contact Jennifer Pencek at 867-2174 or e-mail j06374@yahoo.com with questions and information about other needed items.

ACOLYTES NEEDED...We are looking to expand our roster of acolytes for all services. The commitment is typically one service per month and we work around your family schedule. It is also a great way to involve kids in the worship service. Please contact Stephanie Fozard at steph@fozards.com if interested.

LECTORS...The January sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Thanks to those who have served as lectors in the past.

USHERS NEEDED... We are looking for ushers for the 3rd Sunday of each the month at the 10:30 am service. If you are interested please let Sheri in the church office know by calling 814-238-2478.

The next book for the **Garden of Readin' is** *My Jesus Year: A Rabbi's Son Wanders the Bible Belt in Search of His Own Faith* by Benyamin Cohen. This is the selection of Cindy Keith and she will be facilitating the discussions on Tuesday January 15 at 10:30 am in the Stinson Library and 6:00 pm in Fireside. There is no December meeting

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO.....DeeAnn Wylie & Roy Evert for the Advent Wreath, Roy Evert, John Palmgren, Dennis Snider, & Don Coine for setting up the Christmas trees, Sally Keiser-Bankert, Carl Bankert, Brian Bills, & Mirabella Bills for decoration the Christmas trees, Deb Stewart for decoration the railings and hanging wreaths.

HELP WANTED.....Meals on Wheels is looking for a Meal Coordinator. Responsible for activities that support the successful preparation, packaging, and delivery of daily meals. Work activities include: the organization and cleanliness of kitchen and other work areas, daily meal counts, cold meals preparation, meal supplies inventory, operation of Meal Lines, dishwashing, and assistance to the Cook. Although the position is part-time, it has the potential to become full-time. We operate Monday through Friday. Please email resume to scmealsonwheels@gmail.com.

LARGE JUICE CANS NEEDED FOR ALTAR FLOWER MINISTRY....Each week, our altar flowers are taken to Grace members who are in the hospital, homebound, or in need of some tangible love from the congregation. We are in need of empty large juice cans to use as vases for the flowers. You may bring empty cans to the office. Thank you!

Congratulations to Rev. Carolyn Hetrick, who Grace called on 12/2/18 to be our Associate Pastor! She expects to begin her service to Grace in mid-January.

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE NOW VIA OUR WEBSITE – In response to member requests and societal preferences, we now have online giving options on our website. This is envisioned as a place for members, guests and visitors to make donations for bucket collections (such as for Out of the Cold, which you can do now) or extra donations to our General Fund (for programs and outreach) or our Building Fund to pay off the wonderful additions to our property and facilities. Visit www.glcpa.org and look for the GIVE button on the upper right-hand side at the top. Set up an account with Tithe.ly (our provider, serving more than 6,000 churches worldwide with secure online gift processing), enter your credit card information (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, Discover, or Diners Club), and you're ready to go!

Costumed Magi to appear in worship on Epiphany Sunday, January 6 – Since Epiphany (always on January 6) falls on a Sunday this year, we will celebrate the holiday in a special way. Three costumed Magi – all excellent male singers from Crossfire – will sing about following the light and worshipping the Christ Child at the 9 and 10:30 services. King Cake (a global tradition) will be served in Harkins Hall during coffee hour (10:00 – 10:30) and carols of the season will be played in the circular stairwell. Join the Magi as they worship God incarnate!



NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, FOR ALL AGES, THRU JANUARY 6TH

If you are new to Sunday School and would like more information, please contact Cindy Fritz or Peter Horn for more information (faithformation@glcpa.org).

Room assignments are as follows:

Ages 3 & 4: Room #201

Kindergarten: Room #200

Grades 1 & 2: Room #103

Grades 3, 4, & 5: Room #105

Middle School: Youth Room in the Miller Center

High School: Meet in the Narthex and walk to Starbucks

We are still looking for teachers to help with Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 3, 4, & 5. Please contact Cindy or Peter if you are available to help.

No Super Wednesday activities till January 9th. Please have a joyous Christmas and a safe and happy New



Sunday morning sponsorships

Thank you to all who have signed up to sponsor the altar flowers, bulletins or radio broadcast. To help you and the church office keep track of your payment for the sponsorships, please take an envelope located in the niche at the sign up sheets to remind you of the date you selected and the amount due Grace Lutheran by your sponsorship date. A new procedure was implemented effective July 1, 2018 that if payment has not been received by the church office by the sponsorship date, a friendly reminder will be sent the following week to the person(s) who signed up to be a sponsor. If you feel you have received the friendly reminder in error, please by all means contact the church office (238-2478; churchoffice@glcpa.org) so we can straighten out the matter. *Thank you*



This week at Grace

This Week at Grace

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day—*Merry Christmas!*

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

Wednesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

GLPK—No School

10:00 a.m.....Munchkin Brunchkin, Miller Center

Thursday, December 27

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

GLPK—No School

Friday, December 28

GLPK—No School

Bulletin Announcements due at 9 AM

Saturday, December 29

No scheduled church activities

GLPK—No School