

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



By Grace you have been saved!

Everyone is Welcome!

*Taste and See that the Lord is Good,
Let us rejoice together!*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20, 2020

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude & Announcements

Opening Hymn/Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

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

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Kyrie: **C: response... “Lord, have mercy.**

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

See Insert

Psalmody Luke 1:46b-55, 8-13

See Insert

Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

See Insert

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

See Insert

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P:The Gospel of the Lord"

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "What Child Is This"

Nicene Creed

**C: 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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Offering

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather the 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. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful Father,

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

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 and salutary..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on
us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy
on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us
peace.**

Distribution

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

C: Amen

**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has
done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts
of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Prayer – P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

Benediction

Closing Hymn

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Dismissal

We pray always for . . .

*Robert Armknecht, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Eldon Dieckgrafe,
Mary Goudie, Casey Holsing, Erin Ebeler Rolf, Bruce Gerking,
Larry Naber, Axl Walters,*

our military men and women, their families and their leaders.

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Grace, Oscar & Sabra, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.

Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box
in the south office. You may email the church office
grace68329@gmail.com NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613(cell)

Today 12/20/20

Worship with communion – 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday 12/22/20

Annual Reports and Tower Echoes Deadline

Thursday 12/24/20

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE – 7:00 p.m.

Friday 12/25/2020



NEXT SUNDAY 12/27/20

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Weekly Budget	\$2,038.00
Received Last Week	\$ 950.00

We have included a blue piece of paper in your bulletin to place
on the pew when you leave.

This way we know which specific pew to clean/disinfect since
we have untapped the pews for seating. So please leave the
blue page on the pew where you sat.



Today's Readings

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

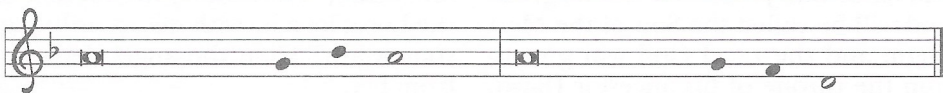
Now when [David] the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of

cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Psalmody

Luke 1:46b-55; tone 9



My soul proclaims the greatness
of the Lord,

⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in ¹ God
my Savior,

⁴⁸for you, Lord, have looked with
favor on your ¹ lowly servant.

From this day all generations will
¹ call me blessed;

⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great
¹ things for me,
and holy ¹ is your name.

continued

⁵⁰**You have mercy on
those who fear you,
from generation to generation.**

⁵¹You have shown strength
with your arm;
and scattered the proud in
their conceit,

⁵²**casting down the mighty
from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**

⁵³You have filled the hungry
with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴**You have come to the aid of your
servant Israel,
to remember the promise
of mercy,**

⁵⁵the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his
children forever.

or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 [not printed]

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the pro-

phetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God."³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God."³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

TODAY'S READINGS December 20, 2020

Volume 52, Number 1

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40.

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Christmas Eve Candlelight

Worship at Grace Lutheran with Communion
is scheduled for Thursday **December 24th**

7:00 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church

Christmas Offering has been designated to go to Lutheran family Services

There will not be a Christmas Eve Worship Service at Hope this year due to the increase of COVID-19 infections. There will be a 2020 service steaming at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve on the Hope Lutheran and Grace Lutheran Facebook page.

*Please be sure to **send in any updates** (new addresses, phone numbers, email address, etc.) for all family members on the Church membership list, and for the ELCW Yearbook. Also **please** let us know if you are not receiving the Tower Echoes – we would like you to be on the list, either mail or by email.*

If you would like to bring a **Poinsettia** to share with the church, you can bring them at any time. If the poinsettia is in memory or honor of someone, please add that information to the list on the counter in the SE Church Office where you can leave your Poinsettia. Be sure to label your poinsettia with your name for when you come to pick it up.

The following poinsettias have been donated

<i>The Brinkman's</i>	<i>In Memory of Verna Brinkman</i>
<i>Kathy Varnado</i>	<i>In Memory of Verna Brinkman</i>
<i>Dean & Jody Wellensiek</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents</i>
<i>Gene & Diane Ekhoﬀ</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents & sister Barb</i>
<i>Eleta Eisenhower</i>	<i>In Memory of David & Jill Eisenhower</i>
<i>Russell & Kate Dietz</i>	<i>In Memory of our Grandparents and Russell's Dad</i>
<i>Bill & Alta Bohling</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents & Siblings</i>
<i>Gayleen Eden</i>	<i>In Memory of Mike and our Parents</i>
<i>Arlene Panko</i>	<i>In Memory of Family no longer with us</i>
<i>Rich & Joyce Roesener</i>	<i>In Memory of Russell & Bonnie</i>

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We are trying Sunday School – Grab N Go style. There is a basket at the back of the church with individual packets of Sunday School materials for you to take home.