

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



*Everyone is Welcome!
Let us rejoice together!*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 28, 2021

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**"Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to you, O Israel"

Opening Hymn "People, Look East" WOV Hymn #626

**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.

P: In the beginning was the Word,

C: and the word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: In the Word was life,

C: And the life was the light of all people.

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

Scripture Song

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. For you alone are the Holy One. All nations will draw near and worship before you, for your just and holy works have been revealed. Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

See Insert

Psalm 25:1-10

See Insert

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

See Insert

C: Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you! Word of life Jesus Christ, all praise to you! Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the Scriptures. Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you! Word of life Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

See Insert

P:The Gospel of the Lord"

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "My Lord, What a Morning" WOV Hymn # 627

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.

C: Amen

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

C: Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the promise, the blessing, the birth. Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name. Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.

P: Let us pray. Merciful God,

C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

P: Hear us, O God;

C: your mercy is great.

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us,
O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever
and ever.

C: Amen.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
**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**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and
forever.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn "All Earth is Hopeful" WOV Hymn # 629
Postlude

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 sheet at the back of the
church. Be sure to label your poinsettia with your name for when you
come to pick it up.

*Syracuse Community Blood Drive at Luther Memorial Church on
Tuesday, December 7 from 11:15 am to 5:15 pm
Please call Traci at 402-269-2763 to schedule an appointment.*



Today's Readings

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

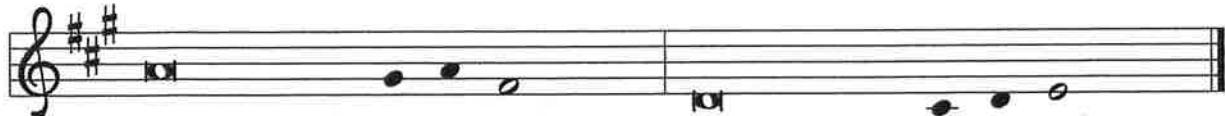
Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for

David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10; tone 3



1 To you, O LORD,
I lift **1** up my soul.

2 My God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be **1** put to shame,
nor let my enemies
triumph **1** over me.
3 Let none who look to you
be **1** put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame
1 who are treacherous.

4 Show me your **1** ways, O LORD,
and teach **1** me your paths.

5 Lead me in your **1** truth
and teach me,
for you are the God
of my salvation;
in you have I trusted
all **1** the day long.

6 Remember, O LORD,
your compas- **1** sion and love,
for they are from **1** everlasting.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth
and **1** my transgressions;
remember me
according to your steadfast love
and for the sake
of your good- **1** ness, O LORD.

8 You are gracious and up- **1** right,
O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners
1 in your way.

9 You lead the low- **1** ly in justice
and teach the low- **1** ly your way.

10 All your paths, O LORD,
are steadfast **1** love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant
and your **1** testimonies.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our

way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So

also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

We pray always for . . .

*The Family of Delbert Peters, Families of Shari Siepelmeier,
Robert Armknecht, Bill Bohling, Jodell Bridgmon, Luetta Bruns,
Linda Daniels, Eric Fass, Bruce Gerking, Mary Goudie,
Jan Rader, Carol Wiebke*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Erick, Diana & Meshack, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.

***Our prayerful thoughts go to the families of Delbert Peters
who passed away on November 23rd. Delbert's funeral
was held yesterday here at Grace Lutheran Church.***

Our sympathy to Shari Siepelmeier and her family as her mother,
Charlene Schafer of Morongo Valley, California, passed away
November 15.

*Noisy coin offering will be collected today. All loose change
will be designated for Tanzanian Orphan Scholarship.*

Today 11/28/21

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Program Practice – 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday 12/1/21

Confirmation – 4:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 12/5/21

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Program Practice – 9:30 a.m.

Church office email grace68329@gmail.com

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

The **Children's Christmas Program** will be presented on December 12th during the morning service at 8:30 a.m., and will be followed by the Birthday Party for Jesus.

*The **Community Cantata** will be at Grace Lutheran the evening of December 19th at 7:00 p.m.*

The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at Grace Lutheran will be at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 24th. The Christmas Eve Offering has been designated for Lutheran Family Services.

We are again hosting Tanzanian orphan Scholarships. The cost for each child this year will be \$450 and includes tuition and board. The last few years we raised \$1,350.00 - enough to host 3 children. Donations towards this project should be designated on your offering and then one check will be sent to Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln. These donations must be in NO LATER than December 28th.

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