

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
&
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

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"**

**"Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes
On Sinai's height, In ancient times once gave the law, in cloud
And majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come
to you, O Israel"**

**"Oh, come, strong 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

See Insert

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

See Insert

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

See Insert

Opening Hymn

"Joy to the World"

LBW Hymn # 39

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

See insert

Hymn of the Day "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" LBW Hymn # 37

Apostle's Creed

Page 65

Offering

Offertory/Offertory Prayer

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Prayers of the Church

Page 76

The Lord's Prayer

Page 76

Benediction

Closing Hymn

"The Advent of Our God"

LBW Hymn # 22

Dismissal

Sunday School Program 2021 -adapted from "A Christmas Nativity Play for Children"

by Annette McDermott

Cast of Characters

Mary.....Sam Effken

Joseph.....Kael Fricke

Shepherd.....Sharley Thompson

Shepherd.....Hayden Wellensiek

Shepherd.....Jude Fricke

Wise Man.....Charlotte Wellensiek

Wise Man.....Owen Weber

Wise Man.....Dean Wellensiek

Angel.....Sheridan Thompson

Angel.....Brylee Cropp

Angel.....Lily Bilslend

Sheep.....Violet Wellensiek

Donkey.....Henry Rolf

Musical Selections

on Bells – “Hark the Herald Angel Sings”

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

“Away in a Manger”

“Silent Night”

on Bells - “Silent Night”

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

“The First Noel”

on Bells – Oh Come All Ye Faithful

*Everyone is invited downstairs to help celebrate a
Birthday Party for Jesus after worship.*

We would like to thank the parents and volunteers,
who have made this Christmas pageant possible.

Lisa & Nick Weber

Melissa Wellensiek



Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

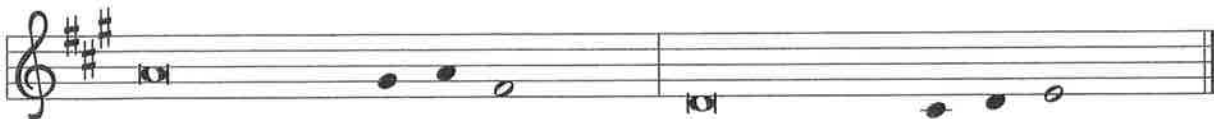
Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
¹⁵The LORD has taken away the
judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in
your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
¹⁶On that day it shall be said to
Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your
midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud
singing
¹⁸as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach
for it.
¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into
praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and
praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Psalmody

Isaiah 12:2-6; tone 3



Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not ¹be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength
and my might,
and has become ¹my salvation.
³With joy you ¹will draw water
from the wells ¹of salvation.

⁴And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the LORD,
call ¹on God's name;
make known the deeds of the
LORD among the nations;
proclaim that this name
¹is exalted.

continued

⁵Sing praises to the LORD,
who has done ¹gloriously;
let this be known in
¹all the earth.

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy,
O ¹royal Zion,
for great in your midst
is the Holy ¹One of Israel.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication

with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. ⁹Even 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."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers

also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

We pray always for . . .

*Robert Armknecht, Bill Bohling, Jodell Bridgmon, Luetta Bruns,
Linda Daniels, Eric Fass, Mary Goudie, Jan Rader, Joan Staack*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

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

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

*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*

Today 12/8/19

Sunday School Christmas Program – 8:30 a.m.

Birthday Party for Jesus to follow the program

Monday 12/13/21

Bible Study – 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday 12/14/21

Church Council – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 12/15/21

Confirmation – 4:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY 12/19/21

Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.

No Sunday School

Community Cantata Presentation – 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship to follow in the basement

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.

*The **Community Cantata***

"The Road to Bethlehem" *A Journey to the Newborn King*
Will be presented at Grace Lutheran the evening of
December 19th at 7:00 p.m.

With fellowship in the basement to follow

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

The 2022 Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting is scheduled for
January 16th. Please have all of the reports turned into the
church secretary **by December 27th**

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.

The following poinsettias have been donated

<i>Bill & Alta Bohling</i>	<i>In Memory of Our Parents & Brother David</i>
<i>Gene & Diane Ekhoﬀ</i>	<i>In Memory of Parents, Sister Barb &</i> <i>Brother Herb</i>
<i>Gayleen Eden</i>	<i>In Memory of Mike & Our Parents</i>
<i>Russ & Kate Dietz</i>	<i>In Memory of our Grandparents &</i> <i>Russ's dad</i>
<i>Larry & Cheryl Grundman</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Carl & Sarah Purcell</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents & Grandparents</i>
<i>Dean & Jody Wellensiek</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents</i>
<i>Karen Cerny</i>	<i>In Memory of Family</i>
<i>Arlene Panko</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Eleta Eisenhauer</i>	<i>In Memory of David & Jill</i>