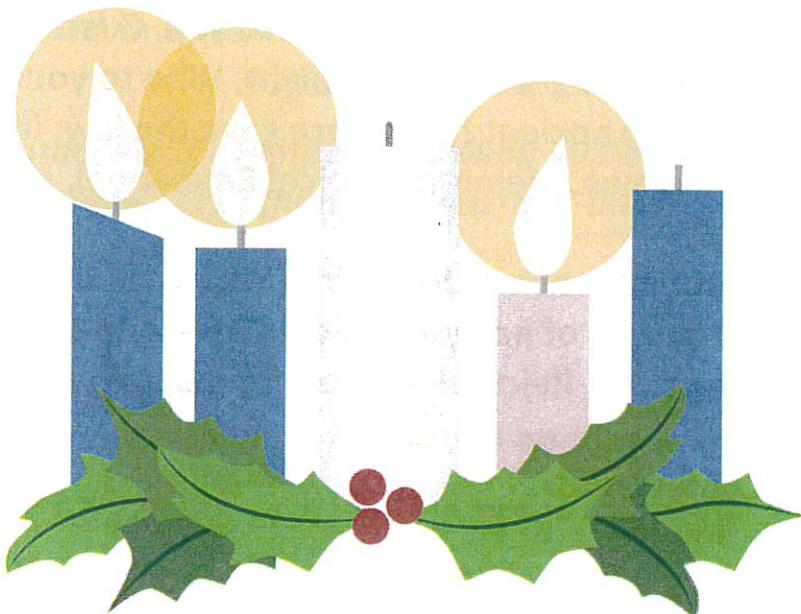


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

By Grace you have been saved!

*"We have decided to follow Jesus and
There's no turning back!"*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2022

Prelude & Announcements

Opening Hymn "The Advent of Our God" LBW # 22

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”

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The First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10	See Insert
Psalm 146:5-10	See Insert
Second Lesson: James 5:7-10	See Insert
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Hymn of the Day	"Hark, the Glad Sound!"
Apostles' Creed	LBW # 55
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Closing Hymn	"Joy to the World"
Postlude	LBW # 39

We pray always for . . .

*Grace Bentzinger, Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels,
Eric Fass, & Haleigh Werner*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

*Anna, Vanessa, Diana & Meshack, 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*

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

Today 12/11/22

*Worship – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School Christmas Program Practice – 9:30 a.m.*

Monday 12/12/22

Bible Study – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 12/14/22

*Kids for Christ – 4:00 P.M.
Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.*

Thursday 12/15/22

Church Council – 7:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 12/18/22

*Worship w/Communion &
Sunday School Christmas Program – 8:30 a.m.
Birthday Party for Jesus to follow worship
Community Cantata Presentation – 7:00
Fellowship to follow in the basement*

**Noisy Coin Offering will be collected again today
for the JCC Wish Lists –
we are about half way there.**



Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

Isaiah 35:1-10

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

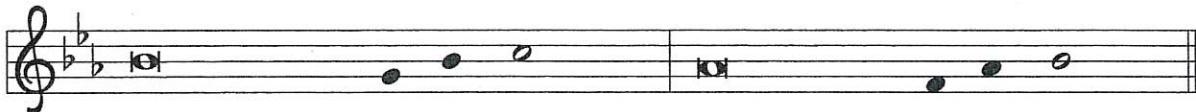
⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm

Psalm 146:5-10; tone 1



continued

Happy are they who have
the God of Jacob¹ for their help,
whose hope is in the¹ LORD
their God;
⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that¹ is in them;
who keeps promises¹ forever;
⁷who gives justice to those
who are oppressed,
and food to¹ those who hunger.
The LORD sets the¹ captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those
who¹ are bowed down;
the LORD¹ loves the righteous.
⁹The LORD cares¹ for the stranger;
the LORD sustains
the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way¹ of the wicked.
¹⁰The LORD shall¹ reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout
all generations. ¹Hallelujah!

or Luke 1:46b-55 [not printed]

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors!
¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see:⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then

did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger
ahead of you,
who will prepare your way
before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The **Children's Christmas Program** will be presented Sunday, December 18th during the morning service at 8:30 a.m., and will be followed by the Birthday Party for Jesus.

*The **Community Cantata "A Noel Celebration"**
will be presented at Grace Lutheran the evening of
December 18th at 7:00 p.m.
With fellowship in the basement to follow*

The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at Grace Lutheran will be at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 24th.

There will be worship on **Christmas Day**. It will be a joint worship with Hope Lutheran and will be at 10:00 a.m.

We are again hosting Tanzanian orphan Scholarships. The cost for each child this year will be \$450 and includes tuition and board. Last year we raised \$1,800.00 - enough to host 4 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.

Poinsettias have been donated by

Jim Armknecht family

Bruce, Jim, Diane, Janice & family

Gene & Diane Ekhoff

Carl & Sarah Purcell

Eleta Eisenhauer

Dean & Jody Wellensiek

Russell & Kate Dietz

Bill & Alta Bohling

In Memory of

Sandy Armknecht

Bob & Ruth Armknecht

Our Parents & Barb & Herb

Our Parents & Grandparents

Jill & David

Our Parents

Our Grandparents & Russell's dad

Our Parents and loved Ones