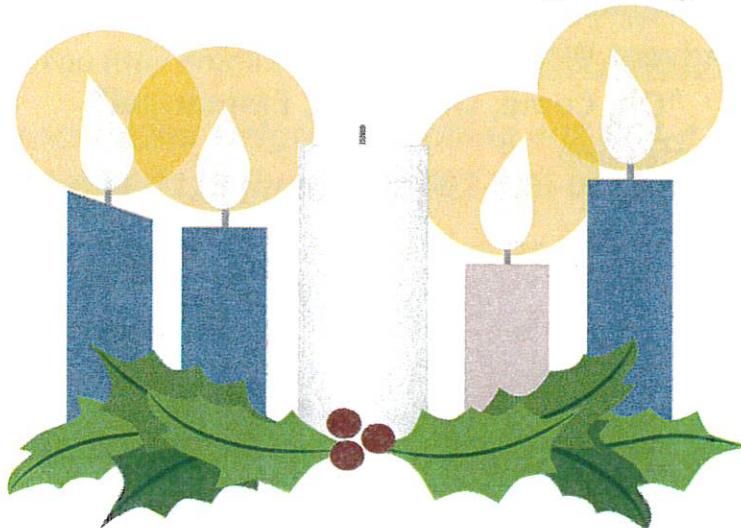


*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes you to*

*The Great Thanksgiving*



**FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF  
Advent**

**&  
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

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

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 18, 2022**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**Pastor Jim Helgren**

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Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Advent Hymn     **“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”**     LBW # 34

Brief Order of Confession     Page 77

Prayer of the Day     See Insert

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16     See Insert

Gospel Responses     Page 83

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25     See Insert

Opening Hymn     **“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”**     LBW # 45

## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Hymn of the Day     **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**     LBW # 30

Prayers of the Church     Page 85

Offering/Offertory Prayer     Page 87

The Great Thanksgiving     Page 88

The Lord's Prayer     Page 91

Post-Communion Canticle & Prayer     Page 92

Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn     **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**     LBW # 60

**We carry the “light” out into the world! Depart to serve!**

### AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

We believe that with the bread and wine one receives the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome other Christians to receive Holy Communion with us. Children who have not had first Communion instruction may come forward for a blessing.

Noisy Coin Offering will be collected again today  
for the JCC Wish Lists.

***We pray always for . . .***

*Grace Bentzinger, Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels,  
Tucker Drake, Eric Fass, Eugene Rosenthal, & 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](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com).*

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

**Today 12/18/22**

*Worship w/Communion &  
Sunday School Christmas Program – 8:30 a.m.  
Followed by A Birthday Party for Jesus  
Community Christmas Cantata – “A Noel Celebration”  
at Grace Lutheran Church – 7:00 p.m.  
Fellowship to follow in the church basement*

**Saturday 12/24/22**

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/Communion – 7:00 p.m.*

**Next Sunday 12/25/22**

***Christmas Worship w/Communion – 10:00 a.m. NOTE TIME!***

*Joint Worship with Hope*

*No Sunday School*



*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.*

Members of our Program this morning are:  
Hayden, Charlotte, Dean & Violet Wellensiek,  
Sam Effken, Sharley & Sheridan Thompson,  
Ashlyn Webb, Lily Bilsleend, Henry Rolf.

A Big Thank you to Bret & Melissa Wellensiek for organizing  
this program to share with us.

Please join us following Worship to share the  
Birthday Party for Jesus in the church basement.

*The Community Cantata "A Noel Celebration"*  
will be presented at Grace Lutheran  
*This Evening December 18<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Poinsettias have been donated by**      **In Memory of**

Jim Armknecht family	Sandy Armknecht
Bruce, Jim, Diane, Janice & family	Bob & Ruth Armknecht
Gene & Diane Ekhoff	Our Parents & Barb & Herb
Carl & Sarah Purcell	Our Parents & Grandparents
Eleta Eisenhauer	Jill & David
Dean & Jody Wellensiek	Our Parents
Russell & Kate Dietz	Our Grandparents & Russell's dad
Bill & Alta Bohling	Our Parents and loved Ones
Kurt & Julie Effken	Loved Ones
Gayleen Eden	Mike & Our Parents
Bill & Carolyn Cropp, Bryce & Lisa Cropp	Loved Ones



# Today's Readings

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Reading

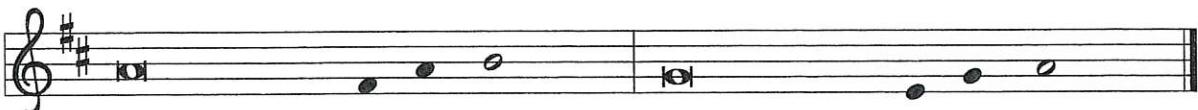
Isaiah 7:10-16

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying,  
11Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. 12But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. 13Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look,

the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. 15He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

## Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; tone 1



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
leading Joseph <sup>1</sup> like a flock;  
    shine forth, you that are enthroned  
    up-<sup>1</sup> on the cherubim.  
<sup>2</sup>In the presence of Ephraim,  
Benjamin, <sup>1</sup> and Manasseh,  
    stir up your strength  
    and <sup>1</sup> come to help us.  
<sup>3</sup>Restore <sup>1</sup> us, O God;  
    let your face shine upon us,  
    and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.  
<sup>4</sup>O LORD <sup>1</sup> God of hosts,  
    how long will your anger fume  
    when your <sup>1</sup> people pray?  
<sup>5</sup>You have fed them  
    with the <sup>1</sup> bread of tears;  
    you have given them  
    bowls of <sup>1</sup> tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>You have made us  
the derision <sup>1</sup> of our neighbors,  
    and our enemies  
    laugh <sup>1</sup> us to scorn.  
<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
    let your face shine upon us,  
    and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.  
<sup>17</sup>Let your hand be upon the one  
at <sup>1</sup> your right hand,  
    the one you have made so strong  
    <sup>1</sup> for yourself.  
<sup>18</sup>And so will we never  
turn a-<sup>1</sup> way from you;  
    give us life,  
    that we may call up-<sup>1</sup> on your name.  
<sup>19</sup>Restore us, O LORD <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
    let your face shine upon us,  
    and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup>the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

<sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Gospel

## Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son,

and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.