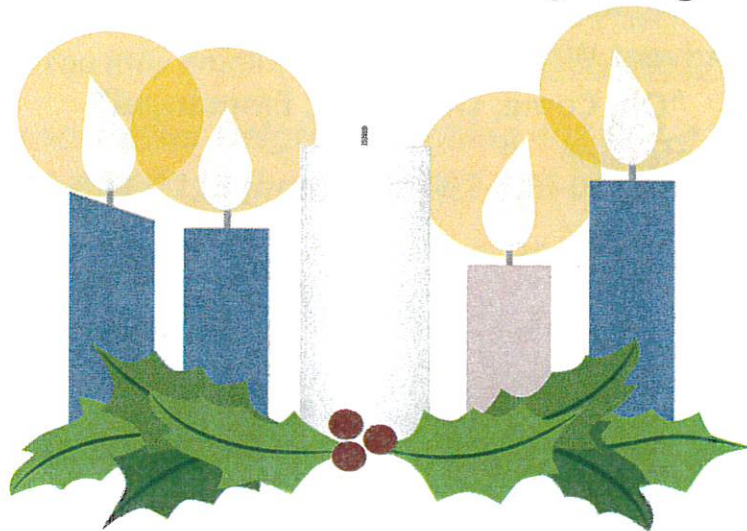


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes you to*

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Pastor Jim Helgren

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.*

***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 Bilslend, 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 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.**

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

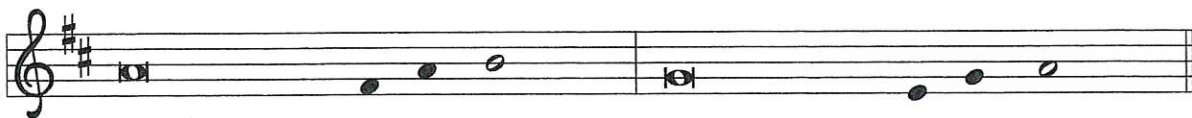
Isaiah 7:10-16

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 ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned
up- ¹ on the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim,
Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength
and ¹ come to help us.

³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us,
and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume
when your ¹ people pray?

⁵You have fed them
with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them
bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶You have made us
the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies
laugh ¹ us to scorn.

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us,
and we ¹ shall be saved.

¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one
at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong
¹ for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never
turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life,
that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us,
and we ¹ shall be saved.

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

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

⁷To 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. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son,

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

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

which means, "God is with us."

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