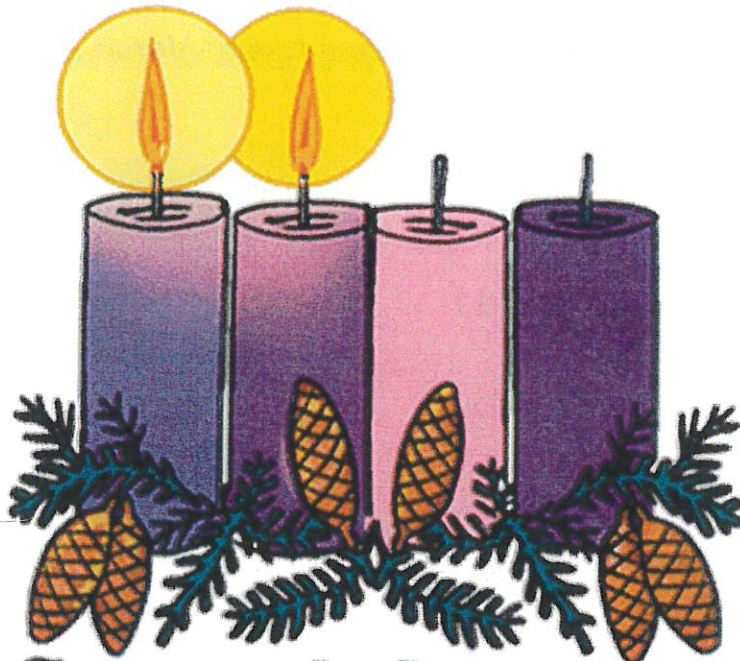


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



**Second Sunday
of Advent**

By Grace you have been saved!

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

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude & Announcements

Opening Hymn "Prepare the Royal Highway" LBW # 26

Prayer and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"It's Christmas Coming Again" Verse 2 See Insert

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Glory to God Page 58

The Prayer of the Day See Insert

The First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11 See Insert

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 See Insert

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-15a See Insert

The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 See Insert

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Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" LBW # 29

Apostles' Creed Page 65

The Offering

Offertory "Oh Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" verses 1 & 2 LBW # 34

Prayers of the Church Page 76

The Lord's Prayer Page 76

Benediction and Dismissal Page 76

Closing Hymn "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" LBW # 36

Postlude

We pray always for . . .

Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Eric Fass, Haleigh Werner & Will Yank

We also remember in our prayers . . .

*Anna, Vanessa, Meshack & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring
in Tanzania.*



Today's Readings

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; 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

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's
hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way
of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway
for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be
made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be
revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has
spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower
of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows
upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand
forever.

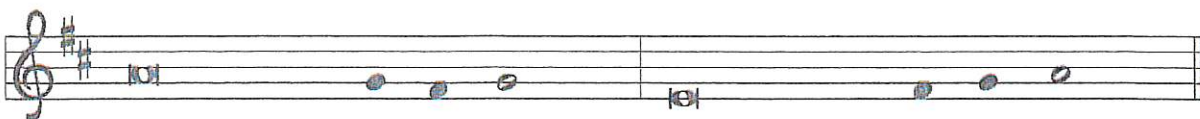
⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; tone 6



You have been gracious to your ¹land,
O LORD;
you have restored
the good for- ¹tune of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the iniquity
¹of your people
and blotted out ¹all their sins.

continued

⁸I will listen
to what the LORD ¹ God is saying;
for you speak peace
to your faithful people
and to those
who turn their ¹ hearts to you.
⁹Truly, your salvation is very near
to ¹ those who fear you,
that your glory
may dwell ¹ in our land.
¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness
have ¹ met together;

righteousness and peace
have ¹ kissed each other.
¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up
¹ from the earth,
and righteousness
shall look ¹ down from heaven.
¹²The LORD will indeed ¹ grant prosperity,
and our land will ¹ yield its increase.
¹³Righteousness
shall go be- ¹ fore the LORD
and shall prepare for ¹ God a pathway.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons

ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
“See, I am sending my messenger
ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;
³the voice of one crying out in the
wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people

from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

TODAY’S READINGS December 10, 2023

Volume 55, Number 1

Next Sunday’s Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28.

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Lectionary year B.

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 12/10/23

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Program Practice– 9:30 a.m.

Monday 12/11/23

Bible Study – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 12/13/23

Kids for Christ – 4:00 p.m.

Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 12/17/23

Worship w/Communion &

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

Birthday Party for Jesus to follow worship

Community Cantata Presentation – 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship to follow in the basement

The Noisy Coin Bucket has been set out to collect donations for the JCC Teacher/Staff Wish List. We are collecting to help our teachers/staff members from Grace Lutheran who do SO much for our children for items they would have to purchase on their own.

Senior members if you wish to share a meal with our Kids for Christ on Wednesday, December 13th, please call the church @ 402-864-4201, by tomorrow noon.

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 or SE Office. Be sure to label your poinsettia with your name for when you come to pick it up.

***Poinsettias have been
donated by***

*Dean & Jody Wellensiek
Russell & Kate Dietz
Carl & Sarah Purcell
Colleen Naber & family
Alta Bohling
Gayleen Eden
Kris Ebeler & family
Cropp Families
Gene & Diane Ekhoﬀ*

In Memory of

*Our Parents
Our Grandparents & Russell's dad
Our Parents & Grandparents
Larry Naber
Bill Bohling and Loved Ones
Mike and our Parents
Chuck Ebeler and Grandparents
Parents/Grandparents
Parents, Barb & Herb*

The **Children's Christmas Program** will be presented next Sunday, December 17th during the morning service at 8:30 a.m., and will be followed by the Birthday Party for Jesus.

The **Community Cantata** "*Bethlehem's Child*" will be presented at Grace Lutheran the evening of December 17th at 7:00 p.m.

With fellowship in the basement to follow

There will be worship on Sunday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Day. It will be a joint worship at Hope Lutheran and will be at 10:00 a.m.

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

Tanzanian Orphans information will be sent to all sponsors in January! The Cost per scholarship will be \$475.

Hello Tanzania Sponsors,

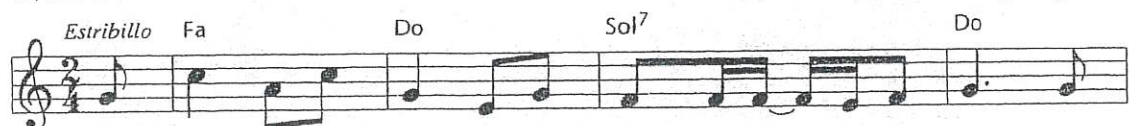
Pastor Sarah is going to Tanzania with the Synod from January 21st to February 6th. If you would like to send a letter to the students that you sponsor, please do so and have them turned into the Sheridan church office by January 14th, so that Pastor Sarah is able to take them with her when she goes on her trip!

ADVIENTO

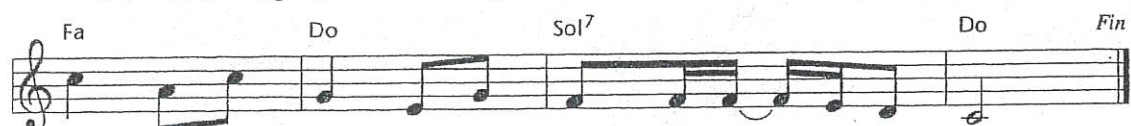
Ya viene la Navidad

282

It's Christmas coming again



Ya vie - ne, ya vie - ne, ya vie - ne la Na - vi - dad; ya
It's com - ing, it's com - ing, it's Christ - mas com - ing a - gain; it's



vie - ne, ya vie - ne, ya vie - ne la Na - vi - dad.
com - ing, it's com - ing, it's Christ - mas com - ing a - gain.



1 En - cen - da - mos la ve - la, la ve - la del a - mor; mor; y
1 Light a can - dle for love, light a can - dle for love; love; and




con e - lla pren - di - da j - lu - mi - ne - mos el a - mor; y
light . . up the world . . with the love . . . of the Lord; and



con e - lla pren - di - da j - lu - mi - ne - mos el a - mor.
light . . up the world . . with the love . . . of the Lord.

2. Light a candle for peace . . .
3. Light a candle for joy . . .
4. Light a candle for hope . . .



I'm thankful
for so many
things in my life.
But, most of all,
I'm thankful for
God.

Without Him,
I would have
nothing else to
be thankful for.
Amen.