

# The Tree of Life



Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

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**School Campus:** 2252 SE 92nd Street, Principal - Justin Eternick (920.988.1999 – call /text)

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Advent 1 – November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Welcome!

*Grace ~ “I am not ashamed of the gospel...”*



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

*Grace ~ “These are written that you may believe...”*



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

*Grace ~ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...”*



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” II Peter 3:1**

Order of Service for  
**THE SEASON OF ADVENT**



**INVOCATION**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Hymn:**

CW21 #574 (1) The Tree of Life

Tune: In Christ Alone

*The tree of life with ev'ry good  
In Eden's holy orchard stood,  
And of its fruit - so pure and sweet  
God let the man and woman eat.  
Yet in this garden also grew  
Another tree, of which they knew;  
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned  
Against whose eating God had warned.*

M: When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C: **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

M: However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death. *Genesis 1:26; Romans 6:23*

**Hymn:**

CW21 #574 (2) The Tree of Life

*The stillness of, that sacred grove  
Was broken as the serpent strove  
With tempting voice, Eve to beguile  
And Adam to by sin defile.  
Oh, day of sadness when the breath  
Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,  
Its awful poison first displayed  
Within the world so newly made.*

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven. In view of God's mercy, today we light the hope candle. The Spirit declares through the psalmist, "Put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption."

C: **We wait for the Lord, and in his word we put our hope.**

*Galatians 4:4,5; Psalm 130:5,7*

**Hymn:**

CW21 #574 (3) The Tree of Life

*What mercy God, showed to our race,  
A plan of rescue by his grace:  
In sending One, from woman's seed,  
The One to fill our greatest need—  
For on a tree uplifted high  
His only Son for sin would die,  
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread  
To crush the ancient serpent's head!*

M: In the hope of God we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

C: **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.**

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

**Hymn:**

CW21 #574 (4) The Tree of Life

*Now from that tree, of Jesus' shame  
Flows life eternal in his name;  
For all who trust and will believe,  
Salvation's living fruit receive.  
And of this fruit so pure and sweet  
The Lord invites the world to eat,  
To find within this cross of wood  
The tree of life with ev'ry good.*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES WITH THE CHILDREN:**

M: We light one Advent candle remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

C: **We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.**

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

C: **We light our Advent candle as a sign of our joy and hope.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**



## **THE WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON – THE OLD TESTAMENT:**

Genesis 1:27; 3:8-15; 4:1-2; 5:3

27 God created the man in his own image. In the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them.

8 They heard the voice of the Lord God, who was walking around in the garden during the cooler part of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 The Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

10 The man said, “I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself.”

11 God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 The man said, “The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 The Lord God said to the woman, “What have you done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

14 The Lord God said to the serpent: Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all the livestock, and more than every wild animal. You shall crawl on your belly, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. 15 I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will crush your head, and you will crush his heel.

Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man.” <sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Adam lived 130 years, and he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his own image. and he named him Seth.

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

CW #2 (vs 1-2) *Savior of the Nations, Come*

*Savior of the nations, come;  
Virgin's Son, make here your home.  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.*

*Not by human flesh and blood,  
By the Spirit of our God  
Was the Word of God made flesh,  
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh*

**SECOND LESSON – EPISTLE:**

Romans 5:12-21

<sup>12</sup> So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, so also death spread to all people because all sinned. <sup>13</sup> For even before the law was given, sin was in the world. Now, sin is not charged to one's account if there is no law, <sup>14</sup> and yet death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those whose sin was not like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern<sup>[a]</sup> of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the gracious gift is not like Adam's trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of this one man, it is even more certain that God's grace, and the gift given by the grace of the one man Jesus Christ, overflowed to the many!

<sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin, for the judgment that followed the one trespass resulted in a verdict of condemnation, but the gracious gift that followed many trespasses resulted in a verdict of justification.

<sup>17</sup> Indeed, if by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through the one man, it is even more certain that those who receive the overflowing grace of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup> So then, just as one trespass led to a verdict of condemnation for all people, so also one righteous verdict led to life-giving justification<sup>[b]</sup> for all people. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the disobedience of one man the many became sinners, so also through the obedience of one man the many will become righteous.

<sup>20</sup> The law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace overflowed much more, <sup>21</sup> so that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace would reign through righteousness, resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

CW #2 (vs 3-4) *Savior of the Nations, Come*

*Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child  
Of the virgin undefiled,  
Though by all the world disowned,  
Yet to be in heav'n enthroned!*

*From the Father's throne he came  
And ascended to the same,  
Captive leading death and hell –  
High the song of triumph swell*

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**

John 12:23-28

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered them, “The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. <sup>27</sup> “Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name!” A voice came from heaven: “I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again.”

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

CW #2 (vs 5) *Savior of the Nations, Come*

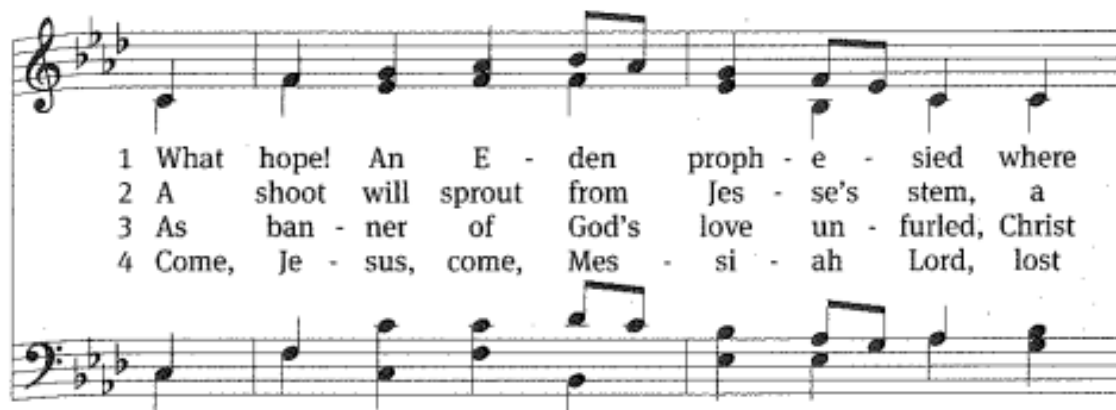
*Praise to God the Father sing,  
Praise to God the Son, our King,  
Praise to God the Spirit be  
Ever and eternally.*

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

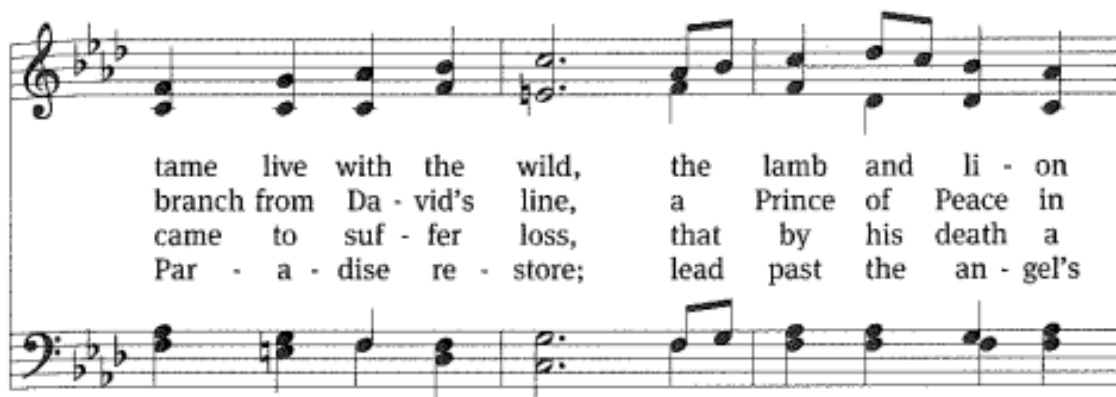
**I believe in God, the Father almighty maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

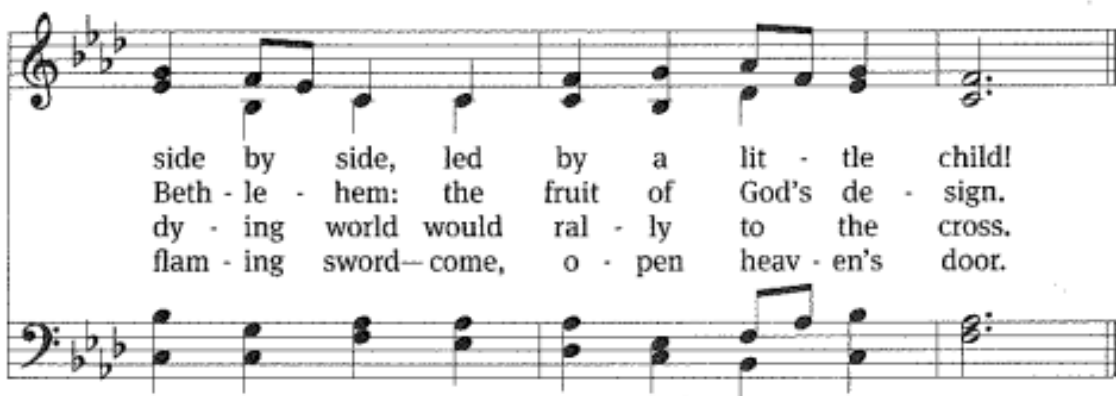
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**



1 What hope! An E - den proph - e - sied where  
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, a  
3 As ban - ner of God's love un - furled, Christ  
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, lost



tame live with the wild, the lamb and li - on  
branch from Da - vid's line, a Prince of Peace in  
came to suf - fer loss, that by his death a  
Par - a - dise re - store; lead past the an - gel's



side by side, led by a lit - tle child  
Beth - le - hem: the fruit of God's de - sign.  
dy - ing world would ral - ly to the cross.  
flam - ing sword—come, o - pen heav - en's door.



# THANKSGIVING

## THE OFFERING

An opportunity to give online can also be used at  
[Paypal.me/GracePortland](https://Paypal.me/GracePortland) or by utilizing this QR code:



## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The congregational responses are spoken unless otherwise indicated*

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory!

## HYMN:

CW #320 (1-6): As Angels Joyed with One Accord

**As angels joyed with one accord  
Upon the advent of our Lord,  
So laud we all and bless the name  
Of him who from the Father came.**

**He comes to us in bread and wine  
To give himself --and gifts divine.  
Oh, praise him for this sacrament,  
Redeeming love's great testament**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

*Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy. If you would like to discuss "close" communion, learn more about becoming a member at Grace, or any other spiritual matter with the pastor, please indicate this on the Friendship Register by checking "would like pastor to call/visit" or contact our pastor at 503-290-6316.*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

Chicago Metro Presbytery

Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

*Sing A Song of Bethlehem*

Chicago Metro Presbytery

Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

*Christy Nockels – An Advent Hymn*

Chicago Metro Presbytery

Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

## **THE BLESSING & THE BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING HYMN:**

CW 6: “Come, O Long Expected Jesus”

***Come, O long-expected Jesus, Born to set your people free;  
From our sins and fears release us By your death on Calvary.  
Israel’s Strength and Consolation, Hope to all the earth impart,  
Dear Desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.***

***Born your people to deliver, Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, Now your gracious kingdom bring.  
By your own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By your all-sufficient merit Raise us to your glorious throne.***

# Worship Notes

## for kids

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_



Songs We Sang

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Scripture Text Was: \_\_\_\_\_

What was the  
sermon about?

Draw a picture  
from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

