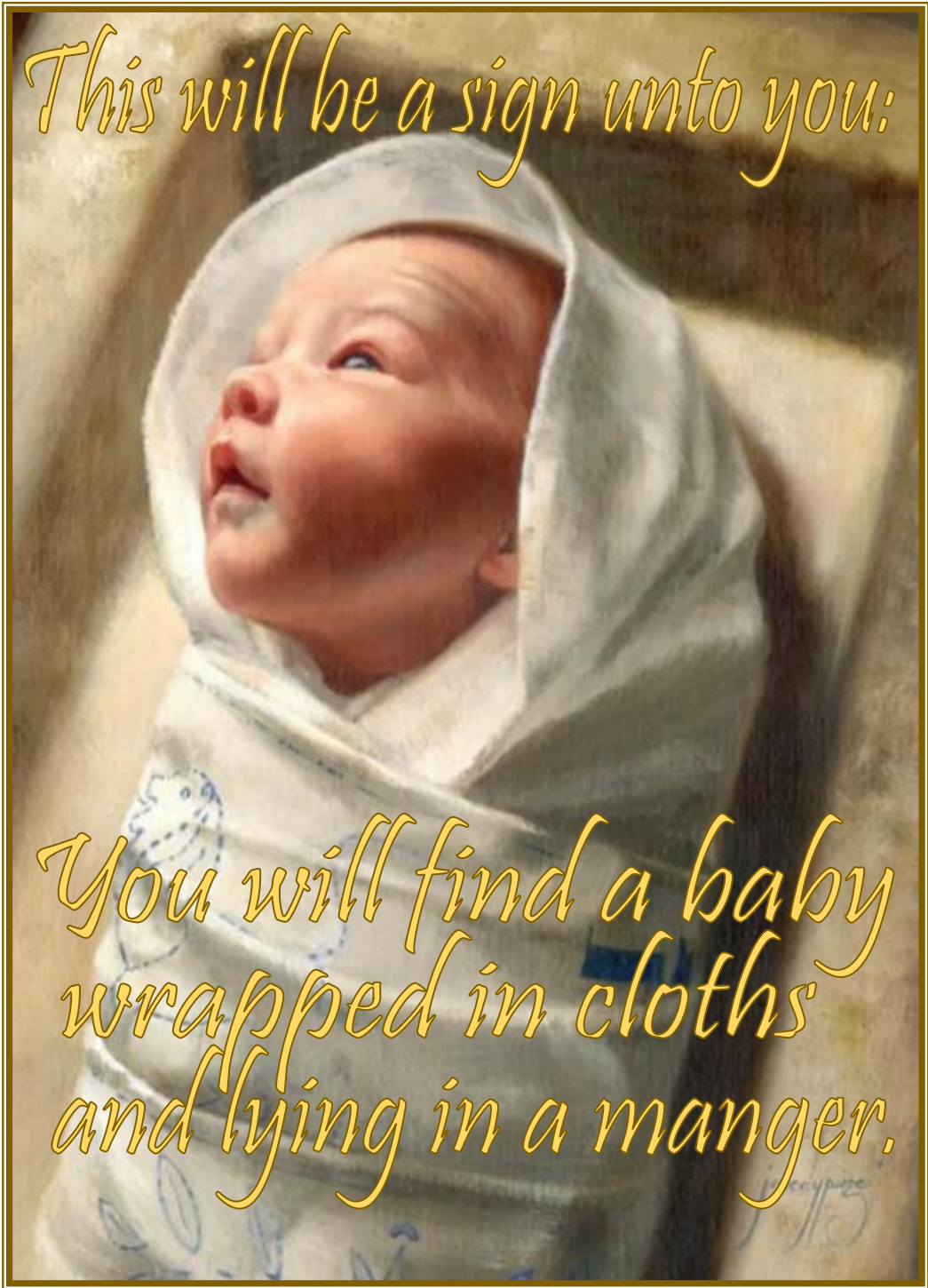


*This will be a sign unto you:*

*You will find a baby  
wrapped in cloths  
and lying in a manger.*



# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving the Portland Area  
With the Means of Grace  
As a family of believers  
For almost 110 years...

As a Church  
As a School  
As a Preschool  
As a Mission  
As a Ministry  
As a Family of Ministries



A Family of Ministries For Christian  
Worship, Education and Care

**Church Campus**  
7610 NE Fremont Street  
Pastor Thad Bitter  
503.290.6316 – call/text

**School Campus**  
2252 SE 92<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Principal, Justin Eternick  
920.988.1999 – call/text  
ECE Director Tammy Godish  
503.312.4230 – call/text

## Christmas 1 - December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 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 110 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 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.” 2 Pt. 3:1**

**INVOCATION - CONFESSION - ABSOLUTION**

**M:** The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

**HYMN**

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising  
*Christian Worship #42 (1)*

***Come, your hearts and voices raising,  
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;  
Loudly sing his love amazing,  
Worthy folk of Christendom.***

**M:** Give thanks to the Lord of lords, to him who alone does great and mighty wonders! He who was not only the Word in the beginning through whom all things were made; but He is the Word who was made flesh and made his dwelling among us.

**HYMN**

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising  
*Christian Worship #42 (2)*

***See how God, for us providing,  
Gave his Son and life abiding;  
He our weary steps is guiding  
From earth's woe to heav'nly joy.***

**M:** Christ made his dwelling among us to reconcile us to God. For this reason, he had to be made just like us in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. And God made him who had no sin to be sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God.

**HYMN**

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising  
*Christian Worship #42 (3)*

***Christ, from heav'n to us descending  
And in love our race befriending,  
In our need his help extending,  
Saved us from the wily foe.***

**M:** The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For God so loved the world that he sent his one and only Son that whoever believes him should not perish but have eternal life.

**HYMN**

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising  
Christian Worship #42 (4)

***Jacob's Star in all its splendor  
Beams with comfort sweet and tender,  
Forcing Satan to surrender,  
Breaking all the pow'rs of hell.***

**M:** Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.  
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

**HYMN**

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising  
Christian Worship #42 (5)

***Gracious Child, we pray you, hear us;  
From your lowly manger cheer us.  
Gently lead us and be near us.  
Till we join th' angelic choir.***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**THE WORD**

**THE FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 63:7-9

7 I will tell about the Lord's mercies, about the praises of the Lord, about all that the Lord has done for us, about his great goodness to the house of Israel, which he performed for them according to his abundant compassion, and according to his great mercy. 8 He said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely," so he became their Savior. 9 In all their anguish he felt anguish, and the Angel of his Presence saved them. In his love and in his pity he himself redeemed them, and he took them up and carried them all the days of old.

**Verse of the Day**

Isaiah 9:6

Alleluia! For to us a child is born. To us a son is given. The authority to rule will rest on his shoulders. He will be named: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Alleluia!

***Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
There he lay, the undefiled, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place --Can he be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his favor.***

***Angels sang about his birth; Wise men sought and found him.  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, Glory all around them.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing.  
All the plains were lit that night; All the hills were ringing.***

***Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the undefiled, But no more a stranger.  
Son of God, of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise his name in all the earth, Hail the King of glory!***

## GOSPEL

Luke 2:21-33

After eight days passed, when the child was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> (As it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male will be called holy to the Lord.”) <sup>24</sup> And they came to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said, <sup>29</sup> Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word, <sup>30</sup> because my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared before the face of all people, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. <sup>33</sup> Joseph and the child’s mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him.

*To shepherds as they watched by night  
Appeared a host of angels bright;  
"Behold the tender babe," they said,  
"In yonder lowly manger laid,*

*"At Bethlehem, in David's town,  
As Micah did of old make known.  
It is the Christ, your Lord and King,  
Who will to all salvation bring."*

*Oh, then rejoice that through his Son  
God is with sinners now at one;  
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,  
Your brother is the eternal God.*

*What harm can sin and death then do?  
The true God now abides with you.  
Let hell and Satan storm and rave,  
Christ is your brother --you are safe.*

*Not one he will or can forsake;  
His cov'nant he will never break.  
Let ev'ry scheme the tempter try,  
You may his utmost pow'rs defy.*

*You shall and must at last prevail.  
God's own you are; you cannot fail.  
To God forever sing your praise  
With joy and patience all your days.*

## THE SERMON

## LUKE 2:8-16

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in

the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## OFFERING

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



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*All responses are spoken*)

**M:** Heavenly Father, to whom glory is sung in the highest and peace is proclaimed to people on earth, give to Your Holy Church the peace of sins forgiven and Your continued favor and merciful good will.

**C:** **Joy, oh, joy beyond all gladness, Christ has done away with sadness!  
Hence all sorrow and repining, for the Sun of grace is shining!**

**M:** On Christmas night You sent the angels to preach the good news of Jesus' birth. Give to all pastors of our Church courage to lead us boldly to the Christ Child. Fill us with joy that we may each make known abroad the glad tidings concerning this Child, that more may be given faith to confess Him as Lord.

**C:** **Repeat the hymn again: To God on high be glory and peace on earth to men!**

**M:** Bless our country, all its citizens, and all who are in authority over us. Cause Your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy, truth, and justice prevail everywhere, that throughout our land people may come to know the Prince of Peace.

**C:** **Hail, the heavenly Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!**

**M:** Merciful God, we thank You for the joys of family and friends this season, together with the abundance of Your blessings. Open our hearts and homes to the lonely and destitute that we may be Your instruments of love and charity.

**C:** **To thee my heart I offer, O Christ-child sweet and dear.  
Thy love for me, a stranger – Oh, be thou ever near!**

**M:** Remember, we pray, the homeless, hungry, and oppressed, and give them hope. Protect the lonely and homebound of our parish. Grant peace and healing to the sick and suffering and those in the hospital. Guide the journeys of those who travel. Comfort those who mourn. Create a new and contrite heart in the erring and faith in those who have not heard the good news.

**C:** **Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and everywhere!  
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

**M:** Lord God, make a manger in the hearts of all who come to the altar that they may treasure up and ponder the marvelous gifts of salvation You give there through the very body and blood of the Lord Jesus.

**C:** **Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,  
Within my heart, made clean and new, A quiet chamber kept for you.**



**M:** In the birth of Your Son, O God, who have clothed us with eternal life. We remember with thanksgiving all those who have died in the faith. Unite our voices with theirs that we may join the heavenly song of angels.

**C:** **Gloria! In excelsis Deo! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!**

**M:** For all these things and whatever else You would have us ask, we implore You to hear us gracious Father, through Jesus Christ our Savior, whom together with the Holy Spirit we praise, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **From out of darkness we have light  
Which made the angels sing that night.  
Glory to God and peace to men  
Now and forevermore, Amen!"**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**M:** Triune God, listen to us according to your wisdom as we also pray:

**C:** **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
They 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 BLESSING**

**M:** May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty — the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Now sing we, now rejoice,  
Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth  
Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth  
The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!*

*Come from on high to me;  
I cannot rise to thee.  
Cheer my wearied spirit,  
O pure and holy Child;  
Through thy grace and merit,  
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
Draw me unto thee! Draw me unto thee!*

*Now through his Son doth shine  
The Father's grace divine.  
Death o'er us had reigned  
Through sin and vanity;  
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.  
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!*

*Oh, where shall joy be found?  
Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.  
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!*

# Worship Notes

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## for kids

### Songs We Sang



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

What was the sermon about?

Draw a picture from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

