

Christmas
isn't about presents

but
in

His
presence



AND SHE BROUGHT
FORTH HER FIRSTBORN
SON... AND LAID HIM IN
A MANGER; BECAUSE THERE
WAS NO ROOM FOR THEM
IN THE INN.

LUKE 2:7

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

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Christmas Day- December 25th, 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**

Christmas Day – December 25th, 2020

+ In Nomine Jesu +

OPENING HYMN

Sing We Now Of Christmas

Chicago Metro Presbytery

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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.

C: **And also with you.**

HYMN

See in Yonder Manger Low

Christian Worship #58 (1)

*See in yonder manger low,
Born for us on earth below,
See --the gentle Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.
Hail the ever blessed morn;
Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

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

See in Yonder Manger Low

Christian Worship #58 (2)

*Lo, within a stable lies,
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the cherubim.
Hail the ever blessed morn;
Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,*

"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

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

See in Yonder Manger Low
Christian Worship #58 (3)

*Sacred Infant, all divine,
What a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this.
Hail the ever blessed morn;
Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

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

See in Yonder Manger Low
Christian Worship #58 (4)

*Teach, oh, teach us, holy Child,
By thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee
In thy sweet humility.
Hail the ever blessed morn;
Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

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.

**Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yolk of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

HYMN

Joy to the World
Christian Worship #62 (1&2)

The First Lesson is normally followed by a psalm. The hymn, "Joy to the World," is based on the words of Psalm 98, which is the psalm appointed for Christmas Day.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Verse of the Day

Galatians 4:4-5

Alleluia! But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. Alleluia!

HYMN

Christ the Lord to Us is Born
Christian Worship #59(1)

“Alleluia” is traditionally sung between the Second Lesson and Gospel to express the congregation’s joy as they anticipate hearing about their Savior Jesus in the Gospel.

***Christ the Lord to us is born, Alleluia!
On this joyous Christmas morn, Alleluia!
Of a virgin lowly, He, the King most holy,
Born this day to save us.***

GOSPEL

John 1:1-5,14-18

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

OUR CONFESSION ON CHRISTMAS - EXCERPTS FROM THE ATHANASIAN CREED

Now this is the true Christian faith. It is necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons, but one. One, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God; one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ. He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead. This is the true Christian faith.

HYMN

Away In A Manger
Christian Worship #68

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with you there.*

CHRISTMAS DAY DEVOTION

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

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

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

¹⁵ 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.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

OFFERING

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



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: **Christ the Lord!**

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. Oh, come, let us adore Him,

C: Christ the Lord!

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: Amen.

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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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 good and right so to do.

M: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! When the time had fully come, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. 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.

THE 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.

C: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

Please come forward to receive the Sacrament at the usher’s directions.

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.**

CLOSING HYMN:

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Koine

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Worship Notes

Name _____

Date _____

for kids

Songs We Sang



The Scripture Text Was: _____

What was the sermon about?

Draw a picture from the lesson.



Words I Don't Know:

