



ADVENT



Rejoice

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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Advent 3 – December 13th, 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**

Order of Service for
THE SEASON OF ADVENT



OPENING SONG

Christy Nockels – An Advent Hymn

Chicago Metro Presbytery

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INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

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*

ALL:

O, come, O, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear.

(We save the joyful refrain of "Rejoice!" until after the announcement of forgiveness.)

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt. In view of God's mercy, today we light the joy candle. Though we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and even though we do not see him now, we believe in him.

C: **And we are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for we are receiving the end result of our faith, the salvation of our souls.**

Galatians 4:4,5; 1 Peter 1:8,9



O, come, our Joy, whose love for-gives— Whose death as-sures that we will live! Move us to heed the call, "Re - pent!" And trust, for your sake, God re - lents.

(We save the joyful refrain of "Rejoice!" until after the announcement of forgiveness.)

M: With the joy of God's promise 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. Jesus has paid for your sins and the sins of the world. 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



ALL: Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u-el Shall come to you, O Is - ra-el!

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

M: Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:

M: We light three Advent candles 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.**



SONG

He Has Come For Us

Meredith Andrews

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THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Genesis 8:1-11

God remembered Noah, as well as all the animals and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. So God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. ²The fountains of the deep and the floodgates of the sky were also closed, and the rain from the sky was restrained. ³The waters kept receding from the earth. After the end of one hundred fifty days the waters had decreased. ⁴In the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵The waters receded continuously until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were visible. ⁶Then at the end of forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark. ⁷He sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth, until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent out a dove to see if the waters had receded from the surface of the ground, ⁹but the dove found no place to rest its foot, and it returned to him in the ark, because there was water on the surface of the whole earth. Noah reached out his hand, took the dove, and brought it back to him in the ark. ¹⁰He waited another seven days. Then he sent the dove out of the ark again. ¹¹The dove came

back to him at evening, and there in its mouth was an olive leaf it had just plucked. So Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth.

HYMN RESPONSE:

CW #12 (vs 1-2): *Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes*

*Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.*

*He comes the captives to release, In Satan's prison held.
The gates of brass before him burst; The iron fetters yield.*

SECOND LESSON – EPISTLE:

Hebrews 8:8-12

⁸ But because God found fault with the people, he said: Look, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ⁹ It will not be like the covenant that I made with their forefathers at the time when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt. Because they did not remember my covenant, I ignored them, says the Lord. ¹⁰ This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord. I will put my laws into their mind, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ¹¹ Never again will a man teach his fellow citizen^[a] or his brother, saying, “Know the Lord,” because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. ¹² For I will be merciful in regard to their unrighteousness, and I will not remember their sins any longer.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

Isaiah 40:3

A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

HYMN RESPONSE:

CW #12 (vs 3-4): *Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes*

*He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace To enrich the humble poor.*

*Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With your beloved name.*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:46-56

Then Mary said, My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ because he has looked with favor on the humble state of

his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones. He has lifted up the lowly. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring^[a] forever. ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

CW #4: Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.

The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.

Life and salvation he will bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.

To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.

The King is born in poverty, His chariot is humility,

His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.

The end of all our woe he brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.

To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.

How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!

O peaceful hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!

The cloudless sun of joy is he Who comes to set his people free.

To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart

From earthly use for heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

*So shall your Sov'reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!*

*Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to you; here, Lord, abide!
Oh, enter with your saving grace; Show me your kind and friendly face.
Your Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame We offer to your name.*

SERMON

Genesis 8:1-11

OUR THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE BENEDICTION

Musical notation for the benediction. It consists of a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter).

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN / THE LORD'S PRAYER

Tune: *Away In A Manger – Cradle Song or Traditional Tune*

♪ Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone;
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
As we forgive others, our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And your is the power; all things you maintain.
To you be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! Amen.