



# ADVENT



# Watch

# 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 1 - November 29<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**

**Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” II Peter 3:1**

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



**OPENING SONG**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

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.

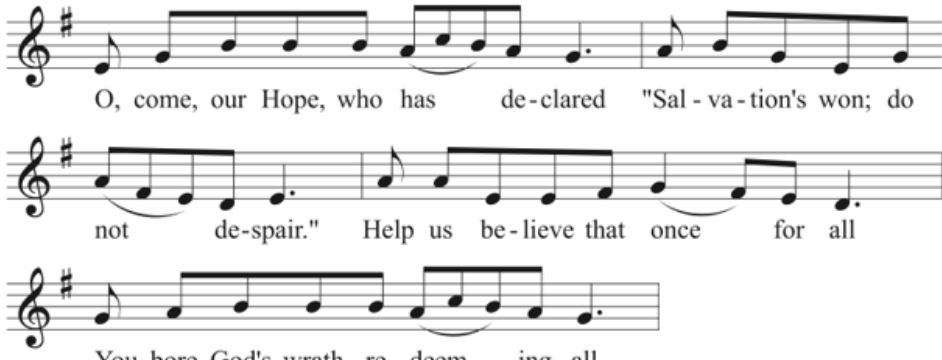
*(We save the joyful refrain of "Rejoice!" until after the announcement of forgiveness.)*

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; 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*

**ALL:**



O, come, our Hope, who has de-clared "Sal - va - tion's won; do  
not de-spair." Help us be-lieve that once for all  
You bore God's wrath, re - deem - ing all.

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

**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

**ALL:**



Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u-el Shall come to you, O Is - ra-el!

**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:**

**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 6:5-19; 7:5-13,16

<sup>5</sup>The LORD saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that all the thoughts and plans they formed in their hearts were only evil every day. <sup>6</sup>The LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with sorrow. <sup>7</sup>The LORD said, “I will wipe out mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth, along with the animals, the creeping things, and the birds of the sky, because I regret that I have made them.” <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>This is the account about the development of Noah’s family.

Noah was a righteous man, a man of integrity in that generation. Noah walked with God. <sup>10</sup>Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. <sup>11</sup>In the sight of God the earth was morally corrupt, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup>God looked at the earth and saw that it was corrupt, for all flesh was corrupt in all their ways on the earth. <sup>13</sup>So God said to Noah, “I have decreed the end of all flesh, because the earth is filled with violence because of them. Now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. Make an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark. Seal it inside and outside with pitch. <sup>15</sup>This is how you are to make it: The length of the ark is to be 450 feet, its width 75 feet, and its height 45 feet. <sup>16</sup>Make a roof for the ark, and leave an eighteen-inch opening just under the roof. Place a door on the side of the ark. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. <sup>17</sup>“I myself am about to bring a flood of waters on the earth, in order to destroy all flesh under the sky that has the breath of life. Everything that is on the earth will die, <sup>18</sup>but I will establish my covenant with you. You shall come into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you. <sup>19</sup>You shall bring a pair (male and female) of every kind of living flesh into the ark with you to keep them alive.

<sup>5</sup>Noah did everything that the LORD commanded him. <sup>6</sup>Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came, and water covered the earth. <sup>7</sup>Noah went into the ark with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives, because of the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup>Clean animals, animals that are not clean, birds, and everything that creeps on the ground <sup>9</sup>went into the ark with Noah two by two (male and female), just as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup>After seven days, the waters of the flood came on the earth. <sup>11</sup>In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that very day, all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. <sup>12</sup>The rain came down on the earth for forty days and forty nights.

<sup>13</sup>On that same day Noah, Noah’s sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, Noah’s wife, and the three wives of his sons along with them entered the ark... <sup>16</sup>Then the LORD shut Noah in.

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

CW #294 (vs 1-2) Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

***Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among your saints, your chosen host,  
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.***

***My loving Father, there you took me; To be henceforth your child and heir.  
My faithful Savior, there you let me; The fruit of all your sorrows share.  
O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat'ning clouds around I see.***

**SECOND LESSON – EPISTLE:**

1 Peter 3:15-22

<sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. <sup>19</sup> After being made alive,<sup>[d]</sup> he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— <sup>20</sup> to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

**THE VERSE OF THE DAY**

Hebrews 11:7

Alleluia! By faith Noah, when he was warned about things that had not been seen before, built an ark, in reverent fear, in order to save his family. By it he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that is by faith. Alleluia!

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

CW #294 (vs 3-4) Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

***My faithful God, you fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.  
Oh, cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.  
Have mercy when I come defiled; Forgive, lift up, restore your child.***

***All that I am and love most dearly; Receive it all, O Lord, from me.  
Let me confess my faith sincerely; And help me your own child to be!  
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but yours alone.***

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 24:36-44

<sup>36</sup> “No one knows when that day and hour will be, not the angels of heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when the Son of Man returns. <sup>38</sup> In fact, in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the very day that Noah entered the ark. <sup>39</sup> And they did not realize what was coming until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man returns.

<sup>40</sup> “At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> So be alert, because you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the master of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> You also need to be ready for this reason: The Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him.

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

CW #444: If You but Trust in God to Guide You

*If you but trust in God to guide you  
And place your confidence in him,  
He'll give you strength and stand beside you  
When days are dreary, dark, and dim.  
For those who trust his changeless love  
Build on the rock that does not move.*

*How can these anxious worries aid you,  
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?  
Will not his wings of mercy shade you  
Whenever troubled times arise?  
Our cross and trials do but press  
The heavier for our bitterness.*

*Be patient and await his leisure;  
In cheerful hope, with heart content;  
Then take whate'er your Father's pleasure  
And his discerning love have sent.  
Doubt not; your inmost wants are known  
To him who chose you for his own.*

*Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,  
Perform your duties faithfully,  
And trust his Word; though undeserving,  
You'll find his promise true to be.  
God never yet forsook in need  
The soul that trusted him indeed.*

## SERMON

Genesis 6:5-19; 7:5-13,16

תֵּבָה "tevah" - an ark

## 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.

## THANKSGIVING

### THE 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 & 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 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.*