

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
***GLLC Children's Christmas Service***

*To Us a Child  
Is Born*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD  
308 Byrne Street  
Smithville, TX 78957  
512-237-2108  
Evening Prayer 7 PM

**Pastor Timothy Appel**



**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!** We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: “How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.”

**Hearing**, Ask an usher for one of the wireless hearing assistance units.

**Attendance Registration** cards are located in the Hymnal racks of each pew. We ask all members and our guests to complete one and pass it to the center aisles. An usher will collect them after the offering is taken to the altar. The cards are important as they enable our secretary to track members’ attendance as well as guests interested in joining our church. Thank you for your help.



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Written by Lisa M. Clark

Edited by Amy N. Luckemeyer

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**To Us a Child Is Born**  
**A Christmas Program for Young Children**

**The Prelude**

**Processional Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful**

*LSB 379, sts. 1-2*

*(Congregation sings as children enter)*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 O come, all ye faithful,<br>Joyful and triumphant!<br>O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;<br>Come and behold Him<br>Born the king of angels:<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>Christ the Lord! | 2 Highest, most holy,<br>Light of Light eternal,<br>Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;<br>Son of the Father<br>Now in flesh appearing! Refrain<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>O come, let us adore Him,<br>Christ the Lord! |
|--|---|

**The Invocation**

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**Responsive Reading**

- P** To us...  
**C** **A Child is born!**  
**P** To us...  
**C** **A Son is given!**  
**P** This Christmas, we receive...  
**C** **The blessed gift of heaven!**

**Christmas Homily by Pastor Appel**

**Congregational Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

*LSB 357, sts. 1, 4, 7*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,<br>And ransom captive Israel,<br>That mourns in lonely exile here<br>Until the Son of God appear. | 7. O come, Desire of nations, bind<br>In one the hearts of all mankind;<br>Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,<br>And be Thyself our King of Peace. |
|--|---|

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

4. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

## THE MESSAGE PRESENTED BY THE CHILDREN

### The Story of Jesus Birth: Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. . . . Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." . . . All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call His name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him. And he called His name Jesus.

### Action Rhyme by the Children: Jesus was a Baby Boy

#### Hymn: God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392, sts. 1, 3, 5

Children:

1. God loves me dearly,  
Grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly,  
Loves even me.

Refrain:

Therefore I'll say again:  
God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly,  
Loves even me.

All:

3. **He sent forth Jesus,  
My dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus  
And set me free.** *All sing refrain.*

5. **Now I will praise You,  
O Love Eternal;  
Now I will praise You  
All my life long.** *All sing refrain.*

### Action Rhyme by the Children: The Angels and Shepherds

### Song by the Children: In a Little Stable

### Action Rhyme by the Children: The Best Gift!

#### Congregational Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

**Refrain**

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

**Refrain**

## Action Rhyme by the Children: Little Baby Jesus

### Hymn: Away in a Manger

LSB 364

Children

1. 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.

All

2. **The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**
3. **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

### Christmas Poem and Reading from Isaiah 9:6

#### Responsive Reading

- P** To us...  
**C** **A Child is born!**  
**P** To us...  
**C** **A Son is given!**  
**P** This Christmas, we receive...  
**C** **The blessed gift of heaven!**

### Congregational Hymn: What Child Is This

LSB 370

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
2. Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

## Offering

*(Tonight's gifts will go to support the ministry of Grace Lutheran Learning Center)*

## A Christmas Prayer

**P** Father in heaven, thank You for sending us Your Son and our Savior, Jesus. Thank You for sending us the best gift of all: the Child in the manger who lived, died, and rose again for us. In His name we pray.

**C** Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn: Joy to the World

LSB 387

1. 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.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**POSTLUDE**



We give thanks to God that you have been with us tonight to hear the children tell the story of God's dear love for you through Jesus' birth. We warmly invite you to continue to hear more about God's love for you in Jesus with us here at Grace. Every Sunday, we meet for **Sunday school and adult Bible class at 8:45 AM.** Our Sunday morning **Divine Service begins at 10 AM.** During the month of December, we have other special opportunities to celebrate God's gift of Jesus at Christmas:

**Saturday, December 24 at 7 PM**  
Christmas Eve Children's Program  
Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 25 at 9 AM**  
Christmas Day Festival Worship  
with Holy Communion

If you do not have a church home or if you would like to learn more about what we believe at Grace Lutheran Church, please contact **Pastor Appel (237-2108** or [timothyappel@gmail.com](mailto:timothyappel@gmail.com)).

God's blessings to you and your family as you celebrate the Christ child's birth this year!

***"O Come, Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!"***