

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Second Sunday in Advent**  
**With Communion**



*WHILE you are waiting... BE at PEACE WITH EVERYONE*  
2 PETER 3:14

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD  
308 Byrne Street  
Smithville, TX 78957  
512-237-2108  
Divine Service 10 AM

**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.”

**In our readings today:** *“The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God”* (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes *“proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, *“the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together”* (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd *“will gather the lambs in his arms”* (Is. 40:11). He speaks *“tenderly to Jerusalem,”* and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises *“new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells”* (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He *“is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance”* (2 Peter 3:9).

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

**Holy Communion** is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus’ own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

**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.

### **A Prayer Before Worship**

*O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen*

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**WELCOME**



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,  
 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,  
 3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,  
 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
 Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.  
 Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.  
 And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
 Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
 The sinful self be put away,  
 The new self now put on.

6 All glory to the Son,  
 Who comes to set us free,  
 With Father, Spirit, ever one  
 Through all eternity.

Stand

**Invocation** (*God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.*)

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Confession:** (*We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.*)

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**Absolution:** (*God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.*)

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**Introit:** (*Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.*)

*Ps. 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: Ps. 80:3*

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!**

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

it took deep root and filled the land.

**Restore us, O God of hosts;**

**let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

## Gloria Patri



**G** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

**Kyrie:** (*Shortened form of the Greek "Kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy." In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.*)

LSB 186



**G** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Salutation:** (*The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.*)



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**Collect:** (*Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They "collect" the Gospel theme for the day.*)



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

### Children's Message

**Scripture Readings:** (*Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.*)

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

**A** Today's Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, fortieth chapter

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,  
that her iniquity is pardoned,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, “Cry!”  
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,  
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades  
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good news;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,  
“Behold your God!”

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:** (*The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.*)

**Gradual**

*Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you;

**righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

**Epistle**

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

**A** Today's Epistle reading is from II Peter, the third chapter.

<sup>8</sup>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then

the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia

LSB 190



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Creed:** (God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

Sit

**Hymn of the Day:** (This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)

## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

**Sermon** "The Way of the Lord"

Mark 1:3

*(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)*

**Votum**

- The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Amen.

Stand

**Offertory:** *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.)* LSB 192



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

**Sharing of the Peace:** *(At peace with God through Jesus, we greet each other in that peace.)*

*The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*  
Sit

**Offering:** *(The congregation responds to God's forgiveness by bringing Him the first fruits of what He has given.)*

Stand

**Prayer of the Church:** *(The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.)*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

*Close of the Prayers*

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

**Preface:** *(The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.)*

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus:** (*Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9).*) LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Lord's Prayer:** (*We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.*)

**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.

**Words of Our Lord:** (*We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.*) LSB 197

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini:** (*Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.*) LSB 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

**Agnus Dei:** (*Latin for "Lamb of God." As John the Baptist cried (John 1:29), so we sing to Christ, our Lamb who was sacrificed for our sins.*) LSB 198



**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

# Distribution

## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

# Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

LSB 619



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which Thou for  
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in Thee and  
 3 Who can con-demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is nigh, who  
 4 Though death may threat-en with dis - as - ter, It can - not rob me  
 5 My heart has now be-come Thy dwell-ing, O bless - ed, ho - ly



me didst shed, These are my life and strength for -  
 Thou in me. No sor - row fills my soul, de -  
 jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and thus se -  
 of my cheer; For He who is of death the  
 Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy prais - es



ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.  
 light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.  
 cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.  
 mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.  
 tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

## Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be



for my soul the high - est good!

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

**Post-Communion Cantic:** *(Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)*

**Nunc Dimittis**

LSB 199

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.**

**Thanksgiving**

LSB 200

**O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.**

**Post-Communion Collect:** *(We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)*

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Benedicamus



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

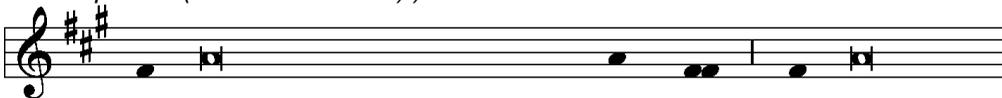


**A** Bless we the Lord.

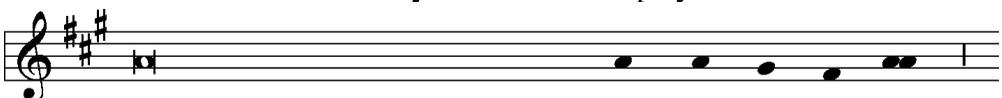


**C** Thanks be to God.

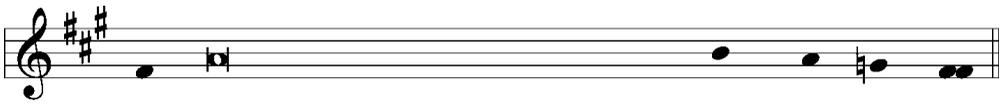
**Benediction:** *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)* LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit

### Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev -'ry long-ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

### Silent Prayer After Worship

*Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.**

Grace Lutheran Church  
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**Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service**

**Dec.. Elders:** Vince Kaiser  
Ed Randle  
**Ushers:** Chad Catron  
M. W. Kasper  
**Trustees:** Ivan Fritsche  
Allan Hancock  
**Organist(s):** June Parker  
Esther Wolff (Sub)  
Kim Appel (Sub)  
**Dec. Altar** Marilyn Burns  
**Guild:** Mary Lou Oliver

**Readers:**  
Dec. 10 Bernie Satterwhite  
Dec. 17 Huntis Dittmar  
Dec. 24 John Stelling  
Dec. 31 Chad Catron  
**Acolytes:**  
Dec. 10 Mackenzie Peres & Sterling Brown  
Dec. 13 Marianna Peres & Baylor Watson  
Dec. 17 Juniper Smith & David Wolff  
Dec. 20 Thomas Brown & Mackenzie Peres  
Dec. 24 Barrett Watson & Alex Caldwell  
Dec. 25 Sterling Brown & David Wolff  
Dec. 31 Alex Caldwell & Juniper Smith

Sunday Worship (12/3) 148 Sunday School (12/3) 51

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

In Sunday School today, the children learned how each of us is like the lame beggar as we stand before God (Acts 3). Yet through the Means of Grace, God's Word and Sacraments, God bestows on us what Christ accomplished on the cross: forgiveness of sins. In your family discussions, talk about what it means to have the "forgiveness of sins."

**FINANCIALS – as of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

	<b>Nov. 26</b>	<b>Dec. 3</b>	<b>Dec. 10</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
General Offering	3,415.50	4,673.52			184,599.09
2016 Weekly goal	3,954.04	3,954.04	3,954.04	3,954.04	185,839.88
Difference	<b>-538.54</b>	<b>719.48</b>			<b>-1.204.79</b>
SS Offering	34.00	60.00			
GLLC Donations		20.00			

**VISIT WITH PASTOR**

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, his home phone is: 512-237-9664, his email address is: [timothyappel@gmail.com](mailto:timothyappel@gmail.com), or contact the Office at 512-237-2108. Pastor Appel is normally in the office between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, Mon thru Thurs. He will be available in the afternoons as well, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits. If unable to reach Pastor, please contact your Elder (Elders list on bulletin board outside of Office).

**SERMONS ONLINE**

Grace Lutheran Church records our worship services through our audio system. Each week's sermon is placed online; go to [www.glcs.org](http://www.glcs.org) and follow the link on the front page to listen to Pastor Appel's sermons. This is a great resource if you miss a service, want to hear a sermon again, or help witness to a friend. If you would like a CD copy of the sermon for yourself or to give to someone else, please let the church office know.

**NEWSLETTER/BULLETINS**

The newsletters as well as our bulletins are online in PDF format for your viewing. Go to [www.glcs.org](http://www.glcs.org) and click on "Newsletter/bulletins" and then click on the PDF file to access.

**AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<b><u>Sun. Dec. 10</u></b>	<b><u>Mon. Dec. 11</u></b>	<b><u>Tue. Dec. 12</u></b>	<b><u>Wed. Dec.13</u></b>
8:45a Bible Class 10a Worship/Communion Trim the Tree after service 6:30p Youth Group		9a Pastor Circuit Mtg.-Elgin	<b>10a GLLC Chapel MIDWEEK SCHEDULE (see below)</b>
<b><u>Thur. Dec. 14</u></b>	<b><u>Fri. Dec. 15</u></b>	<b><u>Sat. Dec. 16</u></b>	<b><u>Sun. Dec. 17</u></b>
	Pastor Away- Family Day	9a Christmas Program Practice	8:45a Bible Class 10a Worship/Communion 3p Christmas Caroling



*Advent Midweek & Christmas Schedule*

Dec. 13, 2017	Classes 5:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:00-6:45 Fr – P Advent Worship 7:00 pm GLLC Children's Christmas Program	Host: LWML
Dec. 20, 2017	Classes 5:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:00-6:45 R-Z Advent Worship 7:00 pm	Host: LLL
Dec. 24, 2017	8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Divine Service 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Sunday School Children's Program	

Dec. 25, 2017	9:00 am The Nativity of Our Lord Festival Worship with Holy Communion	
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**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST**



If you are missed in our prayer list, or if there are changes (addition, deletions or corrections) to our prayer list, please let us know. **On the first of the month we will be updating names**, so if you wish to add names, or continue to leave names on the list, please call the church office (237-2108) or write a note on the back of the attendance card.

In the Nursing Home:	<b>Charlene &amp; RC</b> Franke (Ann Schroder's siblings), <b>Mildred</b> Karcher, <b>Lorine</b> Vogel, <b>Charlotte</b> Metzler, <b>Lucy &amp; Alvie</b> Tinberg, <b>Annie Mae</b> Rohde, <b>Eleanore</b> Brantley, <b>Evelyn</b> Tietjen (Helen Fleck's mother), <b>Teresa</b> Slusher, <b>Milly</b> Fritz, <b>Katherine</b> Benedix, <b>Mildred</b> Buscha,
Long Term Health Concerns:	<b>Blackie</b> Wallace, <b>Kenny</b> Wood (Sandy Kadlecek's father)
Battling Cancer:	<b>Dan</b> Trafton (nephew of Mary Ann Dierker), <b>Becky</b> Jones (Sharon Reinberg's daughter), <b>Paul</b> Prange (friend of the Stellings), <b>Billy</b> Duty (Marilyn Randle & Jim Duty's brother), <b>Bill</b> Haley (friend of the Rohde's), <b>Gloria</b> Neveraz (Bianca Kasper's friend), <b>Charlene</b> Frerich (the Johannessen's daughter), <b>Randy</b> Psencik (friend of Patsy Wiggins), <b>Coey</b> Zapalac (friend of Kim Kunz), <b>Bob</b> Packard (friend of the Kadlecek's), <b>Christopher</b> Krueger (cousin of Bianca Kasper), <b>Jo Ann</b> Copeland, <b>Marvin</b> "Butch" Schroeder (brother of Johnny Schroeder), <b>Leslie</b> Davis (friend of Kellye Bonorden), <b>Kelsey</b> Cantrell (relative of Kathy Kasper)
Recent Health Concerns:	<b>Brenda</b> Anderson, <b>Lane</b> Hurst, <b>Alice</b> Miller, <b>August</b> Eberly (grandson of Brenda Sanders), <b>Michael</b> Langer, <b>Mary Ann</b> Duty, <b>Frank</b> Nevins, <b>Viola</b> Halbrader (Betty's mother), <b>Heather</b> Davis, <b>Nick</b> Jackson (friend of the Langers), <b>Milly</b> Cheak, <b>Frances</b> Pool, <b>Kathleen</b> Brohlin, <b>Linda</b> Hanna (Stefanie Monecke's mother), <b>Jensen</b> Vellier (infant friend of Rose Pietsch), <b>Barbara &amp; Charlie</b> Johannessen, <b>Aaron</b> Atsye (friend of the Deapens), <b>Johnnie</b> Kalina, <b>Johnny</b> Schroeder, <b>Glenn</b> Dyess (son-in-law of the Wallaces), <b>Shirley</b> Thornton (Bianca Kasper's mother), <b>Johnny</b> Webber (nephew of Darlene Becker), <b>David</b> Rohde, <b>Robert</b> Miller, <b>LaVerne</b> Wallace, <b>Patsy</b> Wiggins, <b>Janelle &amp; Rowe</b> Caldwell (friends of the Dutys), <b>Zachary</b> Montgomery (great grandson of the Schroeders), <b>Sharee</b> Villa (friend of Patsy Wiggins), <b>Courtney</b> Glenn (friend of Kellye Geigenmiller), <b>Marybeth</b> Claiborne, <b>Lula</b> Jones (friend of Rose Pietsch), <b>Mike</b> Grassmuck (friend of Wendy Rohde), <b>Sammye</b> Hodges (friend of the Kadleceks), <b>Carolyn</b> Foytik (Sharon Hancock's sister), <b>Shannon</b> Synatschk (cousin of Ann Schroeder), <b>Becky</b> Robison (friend of Millie Fritz), <b>Donna, Holly &amp; Carl</b> Barrera, (friends of Patsy Wiggins), <b>Scott</b> Kubsch (nephew of Johnnie Schroeder), <b>Samuel</b> Engman, <b>George</b> Haydon (friend of Charlie Johannessen), <b>Kikue</b> Hannusch, <b>Mary Jo</b> Grassmuck (friend of Wendy Rohde),

	<b>Jayden</b> Anderson (friend of Sandy Kadlecek), <b>Clarence</b> Cossey (friend of Ed Randle), <b>Christopher</b> Harms (friend of the Metzlers).
In the Military:	<b>Justin</b> Teague, <b>Aiden</b> Hunter Haught (grandson of Eugene Randle), <b>Madison</b> Whitney, <b>Kenneth</b> Hancock (brother of Tracy Hancock)
Other Prayer Requests:	<b>Kaylee &amp; Ramon</b> Wolff, <b>Wesley</b> Tucker (son of Teresa Slusher), <b>Teresa</b> Juarez (sister of Christina Juarez), <b>Joshua</b> Zimmerhanel, <b>Albert</b> Sellers (uncle of Bianca Kasper), <b>Jeff</b> Dunn (friend of the Langers), <b>Jessica</b> Rogoway (Brooke Deapen's grandmother)
In Mourning:	The family of <b>Randy</b> Farrow (brother of Brenda Sanders)

**HANNUSCH FAMILY BENEFIT**

Here is a way you can help support a family at Grace in their time of need. An account called the Hannusch Family Benefit has been set up at First National Bank in order to assist Caren, Jacob, and Madison with medical expenses due to Jeff's hospital stays and the costs associated with a funeral after he passed away at the beginning of September.

If you would like to help out, you can make a donation by going to any of the First National Bank branch locations in Smithville, Bastrop, Cedar Creek, or Elgin. Please prayerfully consider how you can show the love of Christ to one of our fellow members in their time of need.

**END OF YEAR GIFTS**

In Psalm 119:111, we are taught to pray to our Lord Jesus Christ: "Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart." Faith Lutheran High School exists to pass down this great heritage of God's Word to high school students and their families. You can be a part of this important mission through your prayers and

financial support. The Board of Directors has set a goal of raising \$50,000 by December 31, 2017 to support the ministry of FLHS. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. Gifts can be mailed to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960 or delivered directly to the school. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!



WE will be trying to finalize the church member directory in the next couple of weeks. Please submit any photos that you would like to see included in the Directory, i.e., Bazaar, LWML, LLL-fish fry, etc.





Holy Cross, Warda, invites you to join them on Sunday, Dec. 17, for a Christmas concert by the St. Paul Serbin Choir. The concert will be held in the Holy Cross Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m. This is a glorious way to remember what Christmas really is about and helps us get away from the busy secular aspect that so often hides us from what we really are celebrating. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the Serbin Choir and some good old fashioned Christian fellowship afterward.



We are scheduled at BAE January 8 -13 We welcome volunteers to come and join us. Thanks to all who donate and shop with us. The Lord continues to bless us

### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

**Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Third Sunday in Advent**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Epistle Reading: I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Holy Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28



# The Congregation in the Word and at Prayer

## Order for Family Devotions for December 10-16, 2017

### Invocation

☩ In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

✠ Amen.

**Introit** (Bulletin, p. 3)

**Learn by Heart:** *The Close of the Commandments and Its Meaning*

### Daily Readings

*Sunday:* Revelation 3; Amos 1-4

*Monday:* Revelation 4-5; Amos 5-9

*Tuesday:* Revelation 6-7; Obadiah

*Wednesday:* Revelation 8-9; Micah 1-3

*Thursday:* Revelation 10-11; Micah 4-7

*Friday:* Proverbs 30:11-23; Psalms 140-143

*Saturday:* Day off, or make up a reading you missed earlier in the week

**Hymn of the Week:** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (LSB 344, Bulletin, p. 7-8)

**Meditation:** *Portals of Prayer* or other devotion

**Prayers** (along with your own prayers, consider including prayers and petitions from below and from the following resources: Bulletin, p. 20; *Lutheran Book of Prayer*; LSB pp.305-318)

*Sunday:* Thanksgiving for God's Word

*Monday:* For peace and good government

*Tuesday:* For the addicted and despairing

*Wednesday:* For those who mourn

*Thursday:* For fruitful use of the Sacrament

*Friday:* For the preaching of the cross

*Saturday:* For our visitors to the Divine Service

**Collect** (Bulletin, p. 4)

### Apostles' Creed

### Lord's Prayer

### Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer

### Benediction

☩ The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

✠ Amen.