

**December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**Advent Midweek #3**



**Grace Lutheran Church  
308 Byrne St.  
Smithville, TX 78957  
512-237-2108  
Evening Prayer 7:00pm**

**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."

**Requests**, please give written requests to be included during our "Prayers of the Church" to an usher or an elder before worship service.

**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.

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**WELCOME**

## Advent and Christmas Hymn Sing

### Service of Light

*Stand*

**L** The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.

**L** All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:

**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** The whole cre - a - tion pleads;

**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244



**L** Joy - ous light of glo - ry;



**C** of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



## Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

L Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,  
 who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of  
 fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;  
 may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
 for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion  
 and we, Your creatures, glo - ri-fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.

C A - men.

*Sit*

## Psalm 141

LSB 245

C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice  
 when I cry to You. C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in-cense,

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

**II** Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

**I** Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;  
 let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick-ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.

**II** But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.

Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in  
 the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

**P** Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

**C** Amen.

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.  
**<sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people;**  
**you covered all their sin.**  
**<sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath;**  
you turned from your hot anger.  
**<sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation,**  
**and put away your indignation toward us!**  
**<sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever?**  
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?  
**<sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again,**  
**that your people may rejoice in you?**  
**<sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,**  
and grant us your salvation.  
**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,**  
**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;**  
**but let them not turn back to folly.**  
**<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,**  
that glory may dwell in our land.  
**<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;**  
**righteousness and peace kiss each other.**  
**<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,**  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.  
**<sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good,**  
**and our land will yield its increase.**  
**<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him**  
and make his footsteps a way.  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## What Child Is This

LSB 370

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to

sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let

shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the  
  
 Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;  
  
 Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

## First Reading

Judges 13:2-7

**P** A reading from Judges, the thirteenth chapter.

<sup>2</sup>There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children. <sup>3</sup>And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. <sup>4</sup>Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, <sup>5</sup>for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.” <sup>6</sup>Then the woman came and told her husband, “A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like the appearance of the angel of God, very awesome. I did not ask him where he was from, and he did not tell me his name, <sup>7</sup>but he said to me, ‘Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.’”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

Luke 1:26-38

**P** A reading from Luke, the first chapter.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will

be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Sermon "The Child Who is a Virgin's Great Son"

### Votum

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

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

### Magnificat

LSB 248

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

1 For He has regarded me,  
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,  
3 He has shown strength with His arm;  
4 He has filled the hungry with good things,  
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand - maiden.  
 2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 4 and the rich He has sent emp ty a - way.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Ho ly Spirit;

1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
 2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
 5 as it was in the be - ginning,

1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
 2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
 3 and has exalt ed the lowly.  
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

*Sit*

## Offering

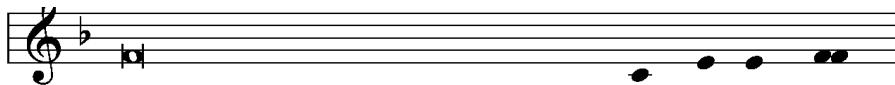
*Stand*

*The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.*

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Matthew, our synodical president, for Michael, our district President, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Donald, for Greg, for Scott, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*



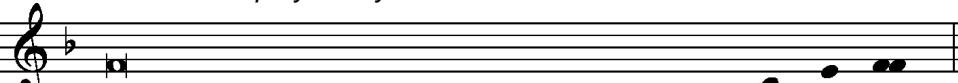
**L** For the faithful who have gone  
before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



Common: **C** Al - le - lu - ia.  
Lent: **C** Thanks be to God.



**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.  
*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*



**L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us  
commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



**C** To You, O Lord.



### Collect For Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold 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.

## Benedicamus

LSB 252

**L** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 252

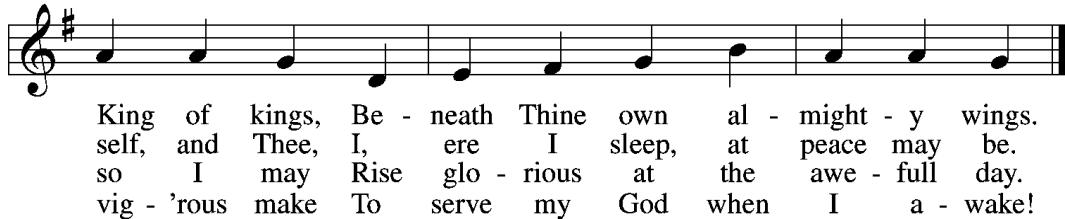
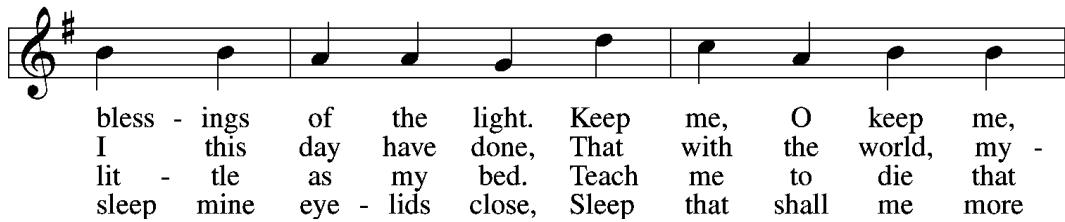
**P** The almighty and merciful Lord,  
    the Father, the  $\dagger$  Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.  
**C** A - men.

Sit

## All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

LSB 883

1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the  
2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that  
3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as  
4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet



5 When in the night I sleepless lie,  
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE





Joy

