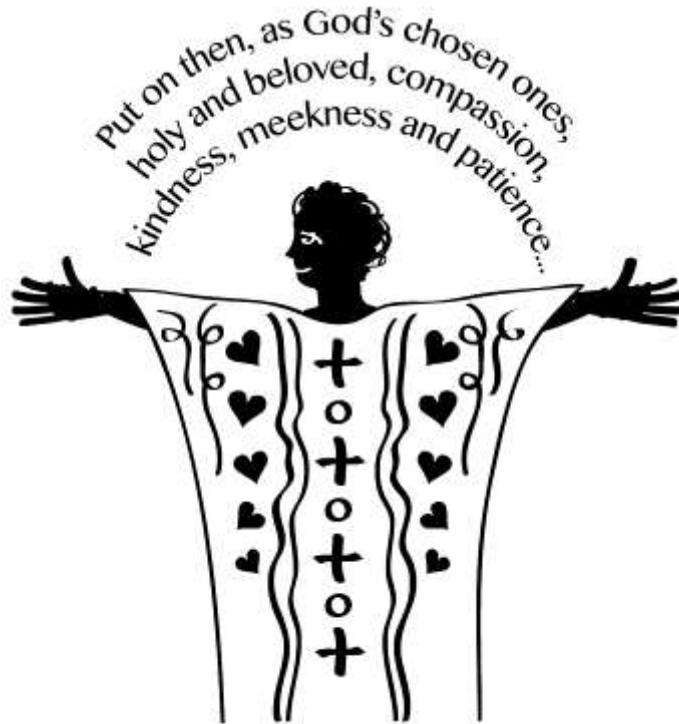


December 30th, 2018
First Sunday after Christmas



Colossians 3:12

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: *When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for “the redemption of Jerusalem” and “the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in “giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,” including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).*

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.

Guest Pastor. Today our congregation extends a warm welcome to Reverend David Mumm. We give thanks for the Word of God that he proclaims among us!

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 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

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 † 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit: *(Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.)*
Ps. 98:1- 4; antiphon: Is. 52:10

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
 and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

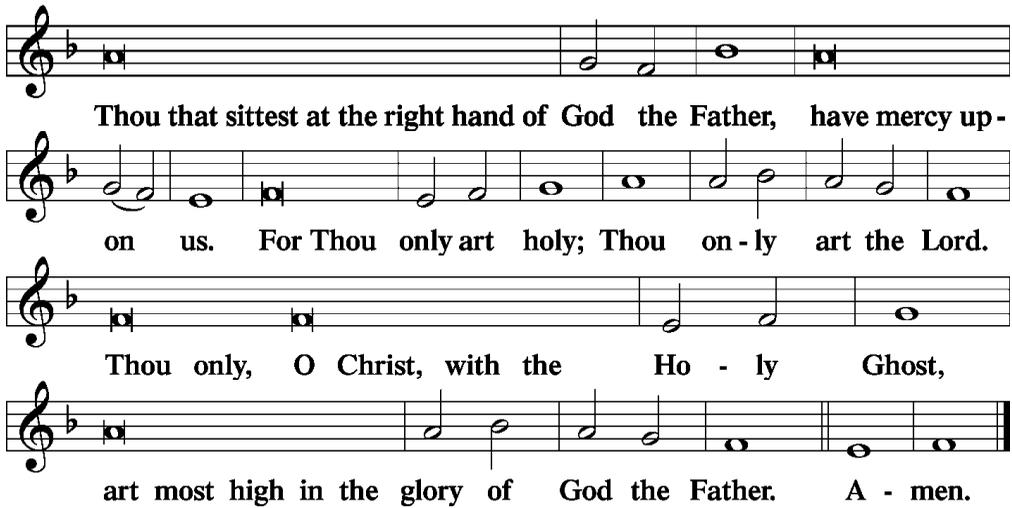
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Hymn of Praise: (Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.)

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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

P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spirit.

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 O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Sit

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

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

A Today's Old Testament reading is from Exodus, thirteenth chapter

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

³Then Moses said to the people, ...

¹¹"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens

the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

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.*)

Is. 9:6; Ps. 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle

Colossians 3:12-17

A Today's Epistle reading is from Colossians, the third chapter.

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²² When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord
²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
 according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
 and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G 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.)*

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,

**the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,**

**being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;**

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;**

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven**

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✠ of the world to come. 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.)*

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
5 He is a ser - vant, I a lord: How great a



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
mys - ter - y! How strong the ten - der Christ Child's love! No



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
tru - er friend than He, No tru - er friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.

7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Sermon "Two Christmas Worshipers"

Luke 2:33-40

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

Votum

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

Stand

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



C 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 unto 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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 † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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 † 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 always.



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.

Sit

Distribution

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
 He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
 2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -
 4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did
 5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
 dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
 deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.
 of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.
 ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.

Refrain

There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me
 dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

LSB 359

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man
 sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness
 sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright
 cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

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



P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
G 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.

P 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 gracious unto you.

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



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 plow, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

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 30th, 2018

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

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Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Dec. Elders: Ed Randle Organist(s): June Parker
C. Johannessen Esther Wolff (Sub)
Kim Appel (Sub)
Ushers: Davey Kadlecek
MW Kasper **Dec. Altar** June Parker
Trustees: Allan Hancock **Guild:** Libby Caldwell
Ivan Fritsche

	Readers:		Acolytes:
Dec. 30	Debbie Higgins	Dec. 30	Marianna Peres & Juniper Smith
Jan. 6	Rowan James	Jan. 6	Adrian Wolff & Baylor Watson
Jan. 13	Debbie Higgins	Jan. 13	Joshua Zimmerhanzel & Mackenzie Peres
Jan. 20	Philip Appel	Jan. 20	Thomas Brown & David Wolff

Sunday Worship (12/23) Sunday School (12/23) 43

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In Sunday School today, the children will hear the message "The Birth of Jesus Foretold." God favored Mary, choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. God favors us because of Jesus Christ, choosing us to be His children! *Ask your children, "How did God show Mary, and us, His unmerited grace and favor?"*

FINANCIALS – as of December 23rd, 2018

	Dec. 2	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Y-T-D
General Offering	5,423.00	4,961.00	2,859.00	5,618.95	215,066.33
2018 Weekly goal	4,232.69	4,232.69	4,232.69	4,232.69	215,867.19
Difference	1,190.31	736.31	(1,373.69)	1,386.26	(800.86)
SS Offering	47.00	32.00	32.00	37.00	
GLLC Donations	60.00	607.00			

VISIT WITH PASTOR

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, his home phone is: 512-237-9664, his email address is: timothyappel@gmail.com, 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).

NEWSLETTER/BULLETINS

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

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 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.

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Dec. 30</u>	<u>Mon. Dec. 31</u>	<u>Tue. Jan. 1</u>	<u>Wed. Jan. 2</u>
8:45-Bible Class 10am-Worship/Communion		New Year's Day!	10am- GLLC Chapel
<u>Thur. Jan. 3</u>	<u>Fri. Jan. 4</u>	<u>Sat. Jan. 5</u>	<u>Sun. Jan. 6</u>
6pm-LWML	Pastor Away- Family Day		8:45-Bible Class 10am-Worship/Communion

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:	Charlene & RC Franke (Ann Schroder's siblings), Mildred Karcher, Annie Mae Rohde, Evelyn Tietjen (Helen Fleck's mother), Teresa Slusher, Katherine Benedix
Long Term Health Concerns:	Blackie Wallace, Kenny Wood (Sandy Kadlecek's father)
Battling Cancer:	Lula Jones (friend of Rose Pietsch), Mike Davis, Sherry Cook (relative of Nancy Fritsche), Rosie Williams (friend of Sandy Kadlecek), Stephanie Bage (daughter of Juanita Bertsch), Paul Sharp (friend of Pat Langer), Coey Zapalac (friend of Kimberly Craig), Becky Jones (Sharon Reinberg's daughter), Randy Psencik (friend of Patsy Wiggins), Bob Packard (friend of the Kadlecek's), Christopher Krueger (cousin of Bianca Kasper), Marvin "Butch" Schroeder (brother of Johnny Schroeder), Leslie Davis (friend of Kellye Geigenmiller), Kelsey Cantrell (relative of Kathy Kasper)
Recent Health Concerns:	Preston Young (Don Young's nephew), Lee Hampton, Mark Peres, Dr. Newt Hasson (friend of David Rohde), Janet McMahan (daughter of Ivan & Nancy Fritsche), Harold Galipp (Gracie Harmon's brother), Cameryn Higgins (friend of the Smith family), Melissa Brown, Emmett Stabeno (infant friend of Rose Pietsch), Scott Penn, Carlton McLain (Angel Hurst's father), Andrew Dittmar, Donna Kadlecek, Brooks Perkins (brother of Stephanie Dittmar), Abigail Ramirez (relative of Kathy Kasper), Kyle Lastovica (friend of Cathy Smith), Charlie Pyle (friend of Rod & Patt Langer), Gracie Harmon, Carolyn Riley (friend of Patti Langer), Tamara Tennefos (sister of Kathy Kasper), Eugene Randle, Lane Hurst, Alice

	Miller, August Eberly (grandson of Brenda Sanders), Heather Davis, Nick Jackson (friend of the Langers), Milly Cheak, Frances Pool, Kathleen Brohlin, Linda Hanna (Stefanie Monecke's mother), Aaron Atsye (friend of the Deapens), Johnnie Kalina, Johnny Schroeder, Glenn Dyess (son-in-law of the Wallaces), Johnny Webber (nephew of Darlene Becker), David Rohde, LaVerne Wallace, Patsy Wiggins, Zachary Montgomery (great grandson of the Schroeders), Sharee Villa (friend of Patsy Wiggins), Courtney Glenn (friend of Kellye Geigenmiller), Marybeth Claiborne, Sammye Hodges (friend of the Kadleceks), Carolyn Foytik (Sharon Hancock's sister), Shannon Synatschk (cousin of Ann Schroeder), Becky Robison (friend of Millie Fritz), Scott Kubsch (nephew of Johnnie Schroeder), George Haydon (friend of Charlie Johannessen), Kikue Hannusch, Mary Jo Grassmuck (friend of Wendy Rohde), Jayden Anderson (friend of Sandy Kadlecek), Clarence Cossey (friend of Ed Randle)
In the Military:	Justin Teague, Madison Whitney, Weston Roudebush (son-in-law of Walter Psencik)
Other Prayer Requests:	Ramon Wolff, Wesley Tucker (son of Teresa Slusher), Teresa Juarez (sister of Christina Juarez), Jeff Dunn (friend of the Langers), Jessica Rogoway (Brooke Deapen's grandmother)
In Mourning:	The family of Katherine Highsmith (Carol Wood's mom)

January 6th, 2018

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Board of Education Question of the Week

Then he added "Behold I have to come to do _____

"

Last week's answer:

Youth: Adults:



End of Year Giving

In Proverbs 2:6, God's Word promises: "The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Faith Lutheran High School exists to instill Christ's wisdom in His Word to prepare faithful leaders for tomorrow. Thank you for being a part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. The Board of Directors has set a goal of raising \$50,000 by December 31, 2018 to support the ministry of FLHS and we are well on the way toward that goal. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

New Student Registration

Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to February 1, 2019 will have registration fees waived for the 2019-2020 school year. Register early to take advantage of this savings! Please call today to obtain registration materials.

Raffle Items

The Spring Raffle is just around the corner. The Board of Directors is currently looking for valuable items or monetary donations to be used in the raffle. Please contact Nikki Kueck if you have something to donate! Thank you!

The Congregation in the Word and at Prayer

Order for Family Devotions for December 30, 2018-January 5, 2019

Invocation

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

☞ *Amen.*

Learn by Heart: *Christian Questions with Their Answers #11-20*

Daily Readings

Sunday: Isaiah 58:1-59:21; Luke 1:26-38

Monday: Isaiah 60:1-22; Luke 1:39-56

Tuesday: Isaiah 61:1-11; Luke 1:57-80

Wednesday: Isaiah 62:1-12; Luke 2:1-20

Thursday: Isaiah 63:1-14; Luke 2:21-40

Friday: Isaiah 63:15-65:2; Luke 2:41-52

Saturday: Isaiah 65:8-25; Luke 3:1-20

Hymn of the Week: *"Insert Hymn Here" (LSB)*

Meditation: *Portals of Prayer* or other devotion

Prayers (along with your own prayers, consider including prayers and petitions from below and from the bulletin, *Lutheran Book of Prayer*, or *LSB* pp.305-318)

Sunday: For the fruit of the Spirit

Monday: For faithful service in daily work

Tuesday: For deliverance from temptation

Wednesday: For our communities and neighborhoods

Thursday: For Lutheran schools and seminaries

Friday: For those near death

Saturday: For hearts receptive to God's Word

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.*