

**December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Advent Midweek #1**



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

**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.

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

**G** 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:  
the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

## Thanksgiving for Light

**L** Blessèd 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.  
 A - men.

Sit

Psalm 141

LSB 245

Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.  
 O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice  
 when I cry to You. Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.  
 Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.  
 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-u-ge.

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.

## Psalm

*Psalm 24:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup>**for he has founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.**

<sup>3</sup>Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup>**He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.**

<sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle!

<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory!  
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.

### The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

LSB 356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

## First Reading

1 Samuel 2:1-10

**P** A reading from 1 Samuel, the second chapter.

<sup>1</sup>And Hannah prayed and said,  
"My heart exults in the LORD;  
my strength is exalted in the LORD.  
My mouth derides my enemies,  
because I rejoice in your salvation.  
<sup>2</sup>"There is none holy like the LORD;  
there is none besides you;  
there is no rock like our God.  
<sup>3</sup>Talk no more so very proudly,  
let not arrogance come from your mouth;  
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,  
and by him actions are weighed.  
<sup>4</sup>The bows of the mighty are broken,  
but the feeble bind on strength.  
<sup>5</sup>Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,  
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.  
The barren has borne seven,  
but she who has many children is forlorn.  
<sup>6</sup>The LORD kills and brings to life;  
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD makes poor and makes rich;  
he brings low and he exalts.  
<sup>8</sup>He raises up the poor from the dust;  
he lifts the needy from the ash heap  
to make them sit with princes  
and inherit a seat of honor.  
For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,  
and on them he has set the world.  
<sup>9</sup>"He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,  
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,  
for not by might shall a man prevail.  
<sup>10</sup>The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;  
against them he will thunder in heaven.  
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
he will give strength to his king  
and exalt the power of his anointed."

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

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

## Second Reading

Luke 1:1-56

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

<sup>1</sup>Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, <sup>2</sup>just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses

and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, <sup>3</sup>it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup>that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

<sup>5</sup>In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

<sup>8</sup>Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, <sup>9</sup>according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup>And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. <sup>11</sup>And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup>And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>14</sup>And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup>for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. <sup>16</sup>And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, <sup>17</sup>and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

<sup>18</sup>And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." <sup>19</sup>And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup>And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." <sup>21</sup>And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. <sup>22</sup>And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. <sup>23</sup>And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

<sup>24</sup>After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, <sup>25</sup>"Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

<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.

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

<sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones

and exalted those of humble estate;

<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent empty away.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

<sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**     **“My Soul Magnifies the Lord”**

**Luke 1:46-55**

**Votum**

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

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# Magnificat

LSB 248

**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -  
 joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the  
 Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For \_\_\_\_\_ He has re - garded  
 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 Glo - ry 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

**Litany**

LSB 249

*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.*

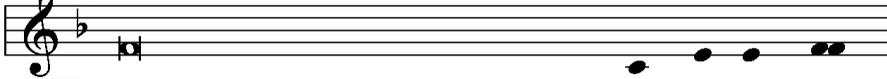
**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- 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.**

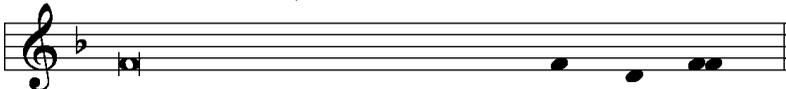
*The prayers then continue:*



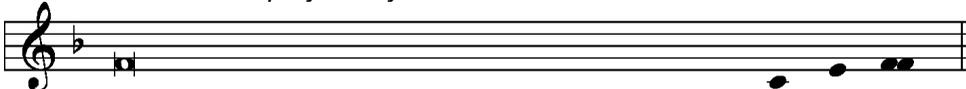
- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



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** Amen.

## 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.**

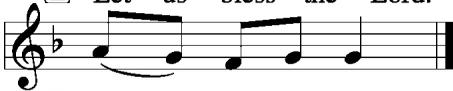
**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Benedicamus

LSB 252



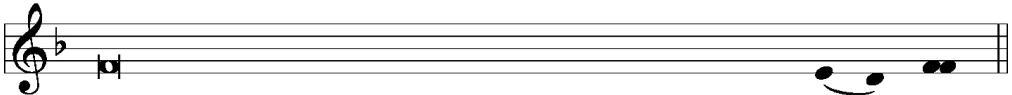
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 252



**P** The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



**C** A - men.

Sit



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,  
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;  
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.  
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.  
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
 I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE



