

***December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019***  
***Second Sunday in Advent***



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:** *“John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent!’”* (Matt. 3:1–2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John’s work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, “*a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots*” (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is “*a signal for the peoples*” (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. “*With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips*” (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the “*root of Jesse*” comes to us, “*even he who arises to rule the Gentiles*” (Rom. 15:12), that “*we might have hope*” and be filled “*with all joy and peace in believing*” (Rom. 15:4, 13).

**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**

# Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343



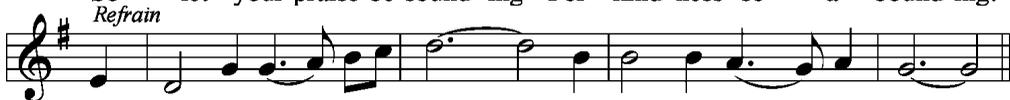
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing; Your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!  
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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 † 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. 105:4-8; antiphon: Is. 40:3b*

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

**Seek the LORD and his strength;  
 seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
 his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

**O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
 children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

He is the LORD our God;  
 his judgments are in all the earth.

**He remembers his covenant forever,  
 the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

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

## Gloria Patri



**G**lo-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

**C** 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.  
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 11:1-10

**P** Today's Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, eleventh chapter

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,

the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
 or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
 and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
 and faithfulness the belt of his loins.  
<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
 and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
 and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
 and a little child shall lead them.  
<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
 their young shall lie down together;  
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
 and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy  
 in all my holy mountain;  
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
 as the waters cover the sea.  
<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall  
 the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

**P** 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.*)

*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

*Romans 15:4-13*

**P** Today's Epistle reading is from Romans, the fifteenth chapter.

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,  
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

<sup>11</sup>And again,  
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,  
"The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope."

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**P** 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

*Matthew 3:1-12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



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

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children

for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

**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 we  
 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** "John Is Preaching to You" **Matthew 3:7-8**

*(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.
- G** Amen.

*Stand*

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

**G** 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.



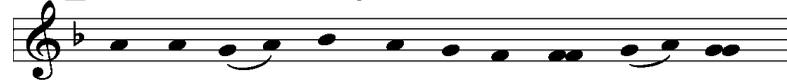
**C** And with thy spir - it.



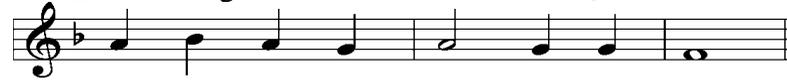
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**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

**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."

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 al - ways.



**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



**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

# 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 shall  
 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.

# I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and  
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners  
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I  
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my  
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -  
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in  
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt  
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -  
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:  
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.  
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:  
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

*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



**C** 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 - tles 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 with out end. A - men.

**Thanksgiving**

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** 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.

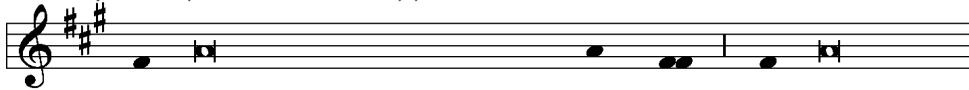


**A** Bless we the Lord.

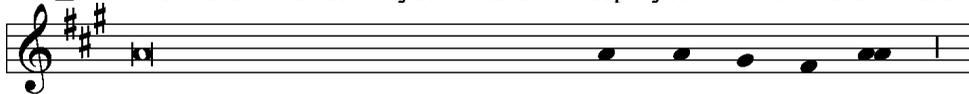


**C** Thanks be to God.

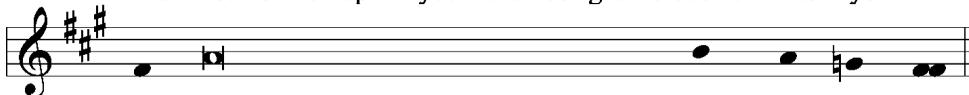
**Benediction:** *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)* LSB 202



**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  $\dagger$  give you peace.



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

Sit

### The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
 And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
 The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

**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 8th, 2019

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

Grace Lutheran Church  
308 Byrne, Smithville, Tex.78957  
Office Phone: 512-237-2108  
Fax Number: 512 237-2832  
Email: [gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com)  
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Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst  
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957  
Office Phone: 512-360-2800  
Fax Number: 512-237-5990  
Email: [gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com)

**Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service**

**Dec.Elders:** Kerry Becker Organist(s): June Parker  
C. Johannessen Esther Wolff (Sub)  
**Ushers:** Davey Kadlecek Dec. Altar Kim Appel (Sub)  
Brad Zimmerhanzel Guild: Helen Fleck  
**Trustees:** Ed Randle Becky Watson  
Ronnie Pietsch

	<b>Acolytes:</b>
<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>Ramon Wolff &amp; Joshua Zimmerhanzel</b>
<b>Dec. 15</b>	<b>Jacob Moore &amp; Baylor Watson</b>
<b>Dec. 22</b>	<b>Juniper Smith &amp; Storm Gorton</b>
<b>Dec. 25</b>	<b>David Wolff &amp; Thomas Brown</b>
<b>Dec. 29</b>	<b>Joshua Zimmerhanzel &amp; Adrian Wolff</b>

Sunday Worship (12/1) 118 Sunday School (12/1) 48

**FINANCIALS**

	<b>Nov. 17</b>	<b>Nov. 24</b>	<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
General Offering	3,971.00	2,570.00	6,160.00	197,926.20
2019 Weekly goal	4,440.02	4,440.02	4,440.02	213,120.96
Difference	<b>(469.02)</b>	<b>(1,870.02)</b>	<b>1,719.98</b>	<b>(15,194.76)</b>
SS Offering	35.00	38.00	50.00	
GLLC Donations	15.00			

**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**

Each week, our congregation live streams the Sunday morning on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/](http://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/)). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. If you have any questions about how to make use of this resource, please speak with Pastor Appel

## 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.

### **KFUO Radio (Pastor Appel Hosts Sharper Iron at 8 AM)**

**This week on KFUE.org**, continue in the new "Christ is Surely Coming" series on Sharper Iron in 1 Thessalonians (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear about the new "Making Disciples for Life" resource on The Coffee Hour (12/11 at 9:00 a.m CT), and hear reassurance in God's Word on Moments of Assurance (weekdays at 12:00 p.m. CT). Find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org)!



It is time to order your poinsettias. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The cost this year is \$10.00. Checks should be made out to LWML. The last day to sign up is TODAY!!

### AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<b><u>Sun. Dec. 8</u></b>	<b><u>Mon Dec. 9</u></b>	<b><u>Tue. Dec. 10</u></b>	<b><u>Wed. Dec.11</u></b>
8:45am-Bible Class 10am-Worship/Communion 6:30pm-Youth Group		9am-Pastor Circuit Mtg 7pm – FLHS Christmas	10am- GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Advent Midweek Schedule
<b><u>Thur. Dec. 12</u></b>	<b><u>Fri. Dec. 13</u></b>	<b><u>Sat. Dec. 14</u></b>	<b><u>Sun. Dec. 15</u></b>
	Pastor Away- Family Day	9am-Program Practice	8:45am-Bible Class 10am-Worship/Communion 3pm Christmas Caroling

### 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>Annie Mae</b> Rohde, <b>Mildred</b> Buscha
Long Term Health Concerns:	<b>Blackie</b> Wallace, <b>Kenny</b> Wood (Sandy Kadlecek's father)
Battling Cancer:	<b>Shirley</b> Bartsch (friend of Cathy Smith), <b>Linda</b> Krzesniak (friend of Galen and Jane Bunte), <b>David</b> Jenkins(friend of Rose Pietsch), <b>Charlie</b> Rooks(friend of Daniel and Donna Kadlecek), <b>Beth</b> Ann Olsen(friend of Ronnie & Rose Pietsch), <b>Kurt</b> Daniels(friend of Daniel and Dona Kadlecek), <b>Daniel</b> Rice (friend of Rose Pietsch), <b>Michelle</b> Bage(daughter of Juanita Bertsch), <b>Lanice</b> Oeltjen-Hunger (friend of Juanita Bertsch), <b>Addi</b> Ghanes (infant friend of Juanita Bertsch), <b>Kade</b> Ryman(friend of Bennights), <b>Lula</b> Jones (friend of Rose Pietsch), <b>Mike</b> Davis, <b>Sherry</b> Cook (relative of Nancy Fritsche), <b>Rosie</b> Williams(friend of Sandy Kadlecek), <b>Paul</b> Sharp (friend of Pat Langer), <b>Coey Zapalac</b> (friend of Kimberly Craig), <b>Becky</b> Jones (Sharon Reinberg's daughter), <b>Randy</b> Psencik (friend of Patsy Wiggins), <b>Bob</b> Packard (friend of the Kadlecek's), <b>Christopher</b> Krueger (cousin of Bianca

	Kasper), <b>Marvin</b> “Butch” Schroeder (brother of Johnny Schroeder), <b>Leslie Davis</b> (friend of Kellye Geigenmiller)
Recent Health Concerns:	<b>Lisa</b> Bates(worker at GLLC), <b>John</b> Corbett(friend of the Dutys), <b>Linda</b> Barta (cousin of the Dutys), <b>Fannie</b> Duty, <b>John</b> Shrock(friend of Nelda Rohde), <b>Peggy</b> Davis(Patsy Wiggins’ sister), <b>Nancy</b> Fritsche, <b>Shannon</b> Monecke, <b>Nelda</b> Rohde, <b>Clarence</b> Hannusch, <b>Gus</b> Jehnings (Milly Cheak’s brother), <b>Larry</b> Kretschmar (friend of Gary Smith), <b>Dale</b> Behrend(brother of Donna Kadlecek), <b>Brittney</b> Ross (friend ofCourtney Pietsch), <b>Stan</b> Knutson (friend of Kerry Becker), <b>Paul</b> Aucoin (Chrissy Becker’s dad), <b>Terri</b> Harris (Kimberly Craig’s sister), <b>Ivan</b> Fritsche, <b>Preston</b> Young (Don Young’s relative), <b>Lee</b> Hampton, Dr. <b>Newt</b> Hasson(friend of David Rohde), <b>Janet</b> McMahan (daughter of Ivan & Nancy Fritsche), <b>Harold</b> Galipp (Gracie Harmon’s brother), <b>Cameryn</b> Higgins (friend of the Smith family), <b>Melissa</b> Brown, <b>Scott</b> Penn, <b>Donna</b> Kadlecek, <b>Abigail</b> Ramirez (relative of Kathy Kasper), <b>Charlie</b> Pyle (friend of Rod & Patt Langer), <b>Gracie</b> Harmon, <b>Tamara</b> Tennesfos (sister of Kathy Kasper, <b>Eugene</b> Randle, <b>Alice</b> Miller, <b>August</b> Eberly (grandson of Brenda Sanders), <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>Johnnie</b> Kalina, <b>Ann &amp; Johnny</b> Schroeder, <b>Glenn</b> Dyess(son-in-law of the Wallaces), <b>Johnny</b> Webber (nephew of Darlene Becker), <b>David</b> Rohde, <b>LaVerne</b> Wallace, <b>Patsy</b> Wiggins, <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>Sammye</b> Hodges (friend of the Kadleceks), <b>Carolyn</b> Foytik(Sharon Hancock’s sister), <b>Scott</b> Kubsch(nephew of Johnnie Schroeder), <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)
In the Military:	<b>Justin</b> Teague, <b>Madison</b> Whitney, <b>Weston</b> Roudebush ( son-in-law of Walter Psencik)
Other Prayer Requests:	<b>Tammy</b> Parishier(friend of Donna Kadlecek), <b>Peter</b> Bullara (Melissa Brown’s son), <b>Dixie</b> Stolle(friend of Frances Pool), <b>Cameron</b> Parishier(friend of Frances Pool), <b>Ramon</b> Wolff, <b>Wesley</b> Tucker (son of Teresa Slusher), <b>Teresa</b> Juarez (sister of Christina Juarez), <b>Jeff</b> Dunn (friend of the Langers)

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**  
Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10  
Epistle Reading: James 5:7-11  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-15

### **2020 Trip to Israel Opportunity**

Beloved in the Lord Jesus, you are invited to join me (on my 24<sup>th</sup> tour), a native of Israel, born in Nazareth on a Journey to the Holy Land–Israel for an experience of a lifetime. *We will depart from Chicago on August 24 and return on September 5, 2020...walk where Jesus walked...where every page of the Bible is seen in its original context alive...cruise the Sea of Galilee...climb the Mount of Olives and view the Old City of Jerusalem...visit Tabgha, scene of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes...the Mount of Beatitudes, site of the Sermon on the Mount and where Jesus chose His Twelve Apostles...walk the Via Dolorosa (Road of Suffering) to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher...stroll in the Garden of Gethsemane...visit Bethlehem...the Church of the Nativity and much more.*

What to expect: During this 13-day tour, you will experience the sounds, smells and sights of two civilizations the old and the new. You will stand at the cross roads of history and feel the vibrant influence of how this land shapes all other lands.

We will do more than just visit sights. We will go off the beaten path and have personal and daily devotions. The Bible will be our map and guide. Experience the Holy Land—a place like no other. Please join me on this blessed adventure

The price is \$4, 000.00 p/p includes: air fare from Chicago to Tel Aviv and back to Chicago, hotel accommodations (for double occupancy) tips, entry fees and all meals.

#### ***For further information contact:***

Pastor Nabil Nour  
46448 263rd St.  
Hartford, SD 57033  
605-526-3571 (O)  
605-201-6998 (Cell)  
preachermanfootwasher@gmail.com

### **Volunteer at the Born Again Emporium**

Grace and First Presbyterian will partner to staff the thrift store THIS WEEK (December 9-14). Join us as you are able, Monday to Thursday 10 AM-2 PM, and Friday and Saturday 9 AM-2 PM.

### **Board of Education Question of the Week**

Matthew 3:11 – “He will baptize you with the \_\_\_\_\_  
and with \_\_\_\_\_.”

Last week’s answer: “to the house of the LORD”

Youth: 8 Adults: 8



### **“Faith at Christmas” Program**

FLHS students will present a Christmas program, “Faith at Christmas,” on Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm, and pre-service music will begin at 6:45. Program will include a collection of choir pieces, hymns, instrumental pieces, scripture readings and more. Refreshments will be served following the program. Please join us!!!

### **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. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

### **Free Wednesday mornings?**

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Mr. Jonathan Kueck will be leading us this week, beginning at 10:30 am.

### **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

### **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!

### **Thank you!**

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know!



## *Advent Midweek & Christmas Schedule*

Wednesday Dec. 11, 2019	Classes 5:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:00-6:45 Fr – P Advent Worship 7:00 pm GLLC Children's Christmas Program	Host: Elders
Wednesday Dec. 18, 2019	Classes 5:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:00-6:45 R-Z Advent Worship 7:00 pm	Host:
Sunday Dec. 22, 2019	9:00 am Children's Christmas Program (Parish Hall) 10:00 am Divine Service (Sanctuary)	
Tuesday Dec. 24, 2019	7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Scripture and Carols	
Wednesday Dec. 25, 2019	9:00 am The Nativity of Our Lord Festival Worship with Holy Communion	

# The Congregation in the Word and at Prayer

## Order for Family Devotions for December 8-14, 2019

### Invocation

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

✠ Amen.

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

### Daily Readings

*Sunday:* Isaiah 24:14-25:12; 1 John 2:15-29

*Monday:* Isaiah 26:1-19; 1 John 3:1-24

*Tuesday:* Isaiah 26:20-27:13; 1 John 4:1-21

*Wednesday:* Isaiah 28:14-29; 1 John 5:1-21

*Thursday:* Isaiah 29:1-14; Jude 1-25

*Friday:* Isaiah 29:15-30:14 Revelation 1:1-20

*Saturday:* Isaiah 30:15-26; Revelation 2:1-29

**Hymn of the Week:** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (LSB 344)

**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.