

**December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Advent Midweek #2**



**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.

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP BELL**

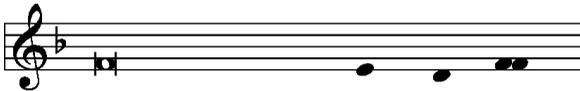
**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**WELCOME**

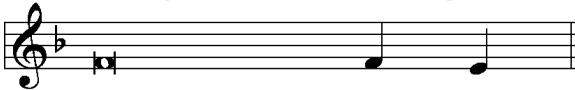
## Advent and Christmas Hymn Sing

### Service of Light

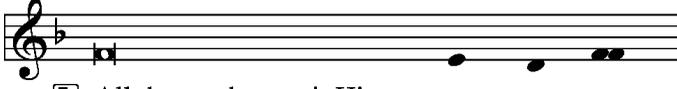
*Stand*



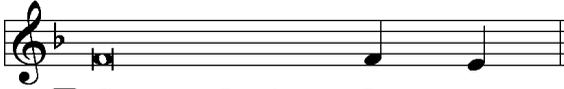
**L** The Spirit and the Church cry out:



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



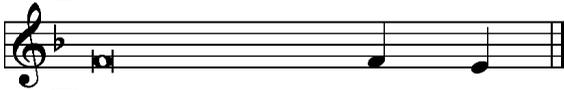
**L** All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



**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,



bles - 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:

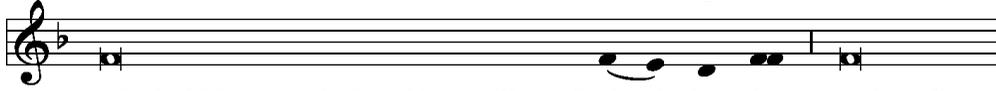


the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

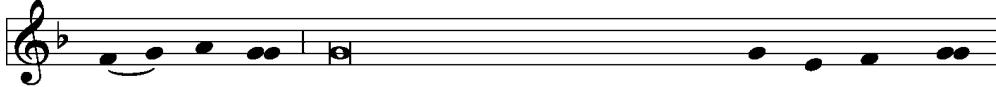
## Thanksgiving for Light



**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-uge.  
 Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in  
 the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.  
 Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,  
 the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

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

Psalm

Psalm 85

- <sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
 you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup>**You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
 you covered all their sin.**
- <sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath;  
 you turned from your hot anger.
- <sup>4</sup>**Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
 and put away your indignation toward us!**
- <sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever?  
 Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- <sup>6</sup>**Will you not revive us again,  
 that your people may rejoice in you?**
- <sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
 and grant us your salvation.
- <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
 for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
 but let them not turn back to folly.**

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup>**Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.

<sup>12</sup>**Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.**

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it  
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a  
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,  
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—  
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:  
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.  
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
God was there up - on His throne.  
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,  
Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son  
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

## First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

**P** A reading from Isaiah, the seventh chapter.

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

Luke 1:26-56

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

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

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

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

<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 "Joy Multiplies in Christ"

Luke 1:26-56

### 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.

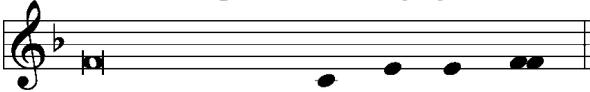
1 For He has re - - - - - garded  
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son

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 empty a - way.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Holy 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*

*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.

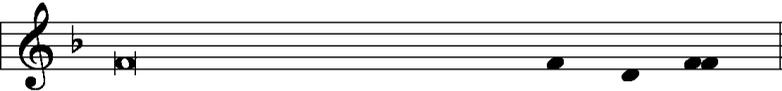
*The prayers then continue:*



**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



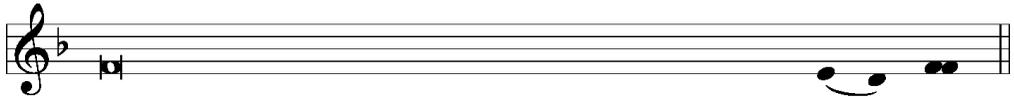
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 252



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



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

# Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

LSB 880



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en  
3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in  
4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.  
rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;  
star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;  
wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic  
But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our  
And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish  
Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.  
be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.  
o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.

- 5 My loved ones, rest securely,  
For God this night will surely  
From peril guard your heads.  
Sweet slumbers may He send you  
And bid His hosts attend you  
And through the night watch o'er your beds.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**DISMISSAL**  
**POSTLUDE**





