
GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Let There
Be Christmas*

by Joseph M. Martin

Words of Welcome

Thank you for worshipping at Grace today. For more information about Grace and its ministries, please visit our website www.graceboone.org or speak with a member of the Hospitality Ministry or one of our **ushers who are waiting in the Narthex.** **Currently we offer both in-person and online worship options.**

During Worship:

- Bulletin Notes: Congregation responses are in BOLD print; "ELW" refers to the red hymnal; The Holy Bible is in the lower racks below the pews.
- Devices for the hearing impaired and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.
- Please turn off all cell phones or place in silent mode.
- We especially welcome and encourage families with young children to join us for worship.
- To reach the restrooms and water fountain, exit through the double doors at the back of the Sanctuary and turn right.
- Worship Services, worship bulletins and information about upcoming events are available online at www.graceboone.org. Follow on Facebook and YouTube.
- Wifi is available through our GraceGuests network (password: GraceGuests1234).

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Affirmation of Welcome

In the name of Jesus, who invites us with reconciling love and grace to join in the kingdom of God, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church welcomes all who profess, or seek to profess, Jesus Christ as their Savior. Believing that the Gospel is God's gift to all, we rejoice in the diversity of God's people and welcome all, regardless of age, cultural and economic background, ethnic and linguistic heritage, gender, marital status, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. We are all one in God's eyes, sharing in the free gifts of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we encourage all to take part in the life of this congregation as we worship, witness and openly share the love of God through Christ our Lord.

Lutherans sing!

Music functions as an integral part of the service, carrying prayer and praise and illuminating the proclamation of the word. You are encouraged to sing with energy, enthusiasm, and emotion. Feel free to sing in harmony...the choir often sings unison on the first and last verses and harmony on the inner verses. Let us join our voices and become one as we sing out with joy and worship our Lord together.

Today's Worship Theme

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases, we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

✂ **GATHER** ✂

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

✂ **WORD** ✂

CHRISTMAS OVERTURE

"Let There Be Song"

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.
O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels. Sing in exultation.
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God; all glory in the highest.
O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee; born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

Come, all ye faithful. Come, all ye faithful.
Let there be song! Let there be song!
Let there be song!

Please hold a time of quiet prayer and reflection.

LESSON 1: Let There Be Faith! Isaiah 53: 1-2; 11:1 and Zechariah 6: 12 (paraphrased)

"The Advent Rose"

Soloist: Dallas Cobb

Like a rose blooming in the winter, like a candle burning bright,
Like a star shining in the shadows, like a love song in the night,
Home comes softly. Hope comes gently like a promise over all;
Falling graceful as a snowflake from the loving heart of God.

Like a lark singing to the silence, like a fragrance in the air,
Like a wind moving through the forest, like the whisper of a prayer,
Peace comes softly. Peace comes gently, bringing mercy, bringing grace;
heaven's blanket of assurance, warming touch of love's embrace.

Let the valleys ring with music. Let the desert bloom and thrive.
For a Rose opens in the moonlight, bringing hope and joy and life.
Bringing love to heal the nations, bringing comfort to the soul:
Bringing truth to light the darkness, bringing grace to make us whole.

Like a rose blooming in the winter, bringing grace to make us whole.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

LESSON 2: Let There Be Hope! Psalm 130: 7, 31: 24 and Isaiah 40: 31 (paraphrased)

"The Divine Expectation"

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us. Let Us find our rest in Thee.
Come. Come. Come, Lord Jesus. Come today. Come, Veni Emmanuel!

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth, Thou art.
Dear desire of every nation, enter every longing heart.
Come. Come. Come, Lord Jesus. Come today. Come, Veni Emmanuel!

Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child, and yet a King.
Come, Almighty to deliver. Let us all Thy Grace receive.
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.

By Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone.
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.
Live divine, all loves excelling joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling. All Thy faithful mercies crown.

Come to us, O child of wonder. Come and sing redemptions' song.
Come, O come, and break our bonds asunder. Come and bring a glorious dawn.
Come. Come. Come, Lord Jesus. Come today. Come, Veni Emmanuel!

Come Emmanuel! Alleluia! Come Emmanuel! Alleluia! Come Emmanuel!

LESSON 3: Let There Be Peace! Micah 5: 2-5 (paraphrased)

"Concertato on O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth!**
How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is given.
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His Heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend on us we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels; the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**
Our Lord, Emmanuel.

LESSON 4: Let There Be Love! Matthew 1: 18-25 (paraphrased)

"Carols from a Quiet manger"

Soloist: Blair Holden

Still, still, still, come see the Child so still.
As Mary gently rocks her Baby, angels softly sing His praises.
Still, still, still, come see the Child so still.

Still, still, still, can you hear the falling snow?
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping; holy star its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still, can you hear the falling snow?

Beautiful Savior, born in a manger, God with us, Emmanuel.
Hope of the nations, Joy of creation,
You are my glory and my king.

Sleep, sleep, sleep. Close Your eyes, my love and dream.
No crying as I gently hold You. Let my tender arms enfold You.
Sleep, sleep, sleep. Close Your eyes, My Love, and dream.
Close Your eyes my Love, and sleep.

LESSON 5: Let There Be Joy! Luke 2: 8-15 (paraphrased)

*"Arise!"
(Hodie Christus Natus Est)*

Arise, ye sleepers. Awake from the night.
Come and see the Savior's everlasting light.
The Child who in a manger lay, has wakened the dawn to a glorious day!
Hodie Christus natus est. Hodie Christus natus est.

Arise, ye sleepers. Awake from your rest.
Come and see the Child who evermore will bless.
Through Him, the battle of sin will be won.
Awake from the darkness, Your Light now has come!
Hodie Christus natus est. Hodie Christus natus est.

Arise, sleepers; awake. This is the day the Christ is born.
Arise, sleepers; awake. Lift high your praise this glorious morn.

Arise, ye sleepers. Awake from the night.
Come and see the Savior's everlasting light.
The Child who in a manger lay, has wakened the dawn to a glorious day!
Hodie Christus natus est. Hodie Christus natus est.
Hodie Christus natus est. Hodie Christus natus est.
Hodie. Hodie. Hodie!

LESSON 6: Let There Be Wonder! Matthew 2: 1-2 (NKJV)

"Bleak Midwinter's Gift"

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow.
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Heaven cannot hold Him; nor earth sustain.
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a Shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet what I can, I give Him: give my heart.

✠ MEAL ✠

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you. **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table so all who seek Christ's true presence promised through this bread and wine are welcome and invited. Communion will be served at two stations in the Narthex entry area. Follow the directions of the users. You will receive bread first (the bread is gluten and dairy free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Please alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you.

LESSON 7: Let There Be Grace! John 1: 1-5, 9-13 (ESV)

"Let There Be Christmas"

Let there be music. Let there be praise.
Let there be singing to fill every space.
Let there be starshine, dazzling and white.
Let there be worship. Let there be Christmas tonight.

Let there be carols. Let there be song.
Let there be angels to sing loud and strong.
Let there be candles, gentle and bright.
Let there be worship. Let there be Christmas tonight.

Christmas, come now, and fill us with love.
Bring your spirit of grace from above.
Christmas come let our hope be restored.
Bring us news that a Savior is Born!
Christ the Savior is born!

Let there be glory. Let there be peace.
Let there be promise. Let justice increase.
Heaven has spoken, "Let there be Light!"
Come, all ye faithful. Let there be Christmas tonight.

Let there be music. Let there be singing.
Let there be worship. Let there be Christmas tonight.
Come to the manger. Kneel and adore Him.
O let there be Christmas tonight. Silent night.

LESSON 8: Let There Be Life!

"A Joyful Gathering of Carols"

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room.
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns. Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, Repeat the sounding joy.**

**Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed, cattle stall.
Swift are winging, angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing.
"Christ the Babe is Lord of all."**

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin, mother and Child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar.
Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!"**

**The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the king of Israel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies.
With th'angelic host proclaim. Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**"Glory to the newborn King!"
Let there be hope! Let there be peace!
Let there be love! Let there be joy!
Let there be music! Let there be singing!
Let there be Christmas!**

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Chancel Choir

Soprano

Lynn Caldwell, Blair Holden, Lauren Johnson, Joyce Powell,
Kelly Rucker, Catherine Templeton, Sheila Umberger, JoAnn Wright

Alto

Ruth Daggett, Jenny Dalton, Janet Edsell,
Reba Matthewson, Carol Riggs

Tenor

James Holden, Phillip Riggs, Vicar Spence Robertson, Harold Stophel

Bass

Duane Daggett, Dallas Cobb, Bob Edsell,
Steve Frank, Andy Shanely

Chamber Orchestra

Flute: Kinard Douthit

Oboe: Pam Helms

Clarinet: Lindsey Scarborough

Trumpets: John Entzi, David Rolland

French Horn: Taryn Wooten

Trombone: Molly Hazelwood

Violins: Corinne Brouwer, Raphael Papo

Viola: Matt Troy

Cello: Johanna Di Norcia

Piano: Susan Frank

Percussion: Rachel Oglesby, Pastor Steve Troisi, Susan Frank

Special Thanks

Harold Stophel, Kurt Fengler and Grace Builders:
John Smyre, Bob Edsell, Peter Rucker, Paul Caldwell, Phillip Riggs
for designing and building the risers used today.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor.....Steve Troisi
 Vicar.....Spence Robertson
 Choir Director.....Libby Brown
 Rehearsal Accompanist.....Susan Frank
 Narrators.....Duane Daggett, James Holden, Kelly Rucker and JoAnn Wright
 Communion Assistants.....Scott Evans, Judy Michael and Justin Wilson
 Ushers.....Jeff & Janice Voss
 Altar Guild.....Elizabeth Smythe

ALTAR GREENERY

Is given to the glory of God and in honor of
 our wonderful children and grandchildren
 by Gail & Alan Hauser.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Is burning to the glory of God and in
 thanksgiving for music that uplifts our souls
 by Andy & Jan Burgess.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 11

Isaiah 35:1-10 | Psalm 146:5-10 | James 5:7-10 | Matthew 11:2-11

GIVING REPORT

Giving September 1, 2022 through October 30, 2022

October Giving	October Budgeted Giving	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budgeted Giving
\$17,814.00	\$27,500.00	\$32,852.92	\$55,000.00

*To support the ministry of Grace, please visit www.graceboone.org/donate
 or place your gift in the offering plate as you enter for worship or leave from worship.*

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***Grace Lutheran
Sharing God's love so that all are served and supported.***