

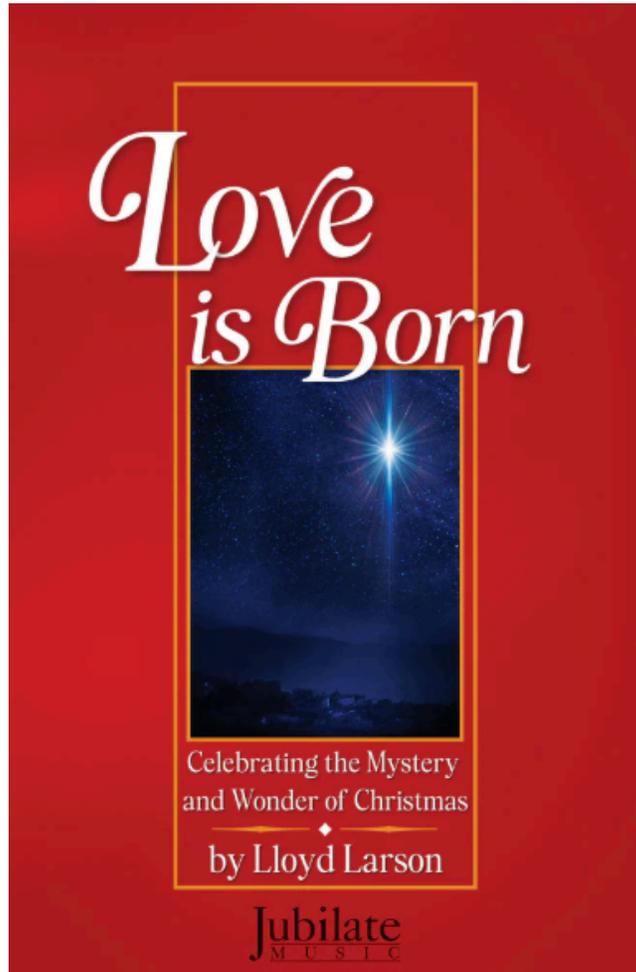
12.7.2025

10:00 am

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2nd Sunday of Advent

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



From the Composer

Love Is Born is a musical journey from dark to light; from hopelessness to fulfilled promise. It reminds us that even in our most difficult moments, God is present and has an ultimate plan which shall prevail. This musical is a blending of original and familiar melodies that underscore the timeless message of Emmanuel coming from the very heart of God and entering our world with His message of hope, peace, joy, and love. May you be encouraged and inspired by the timely, yet timeless, message of promise that Love (Jesus) has indeed been born for each of us! ~Lloyd Larson



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Greeter: TBD
Ushers: Roger Bodo and Morgan Wright
Altar Guild: Amy Atkins
Coffee Host: Jan Burgess

If you are visiting, please review the Welcome Pew Card in the hymnal holder.

✠ **GATHER** ✠

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan the QR code for our “Grace Happenings” weekly e-newsletter.



GATHERING HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

ELW 244

I. Hope of the World

OVERTURE

“A Carillon of Hope”

“Come, Hope of Every Longing Heart”

*Hope of the world, help of the helpless;
Lord, quickly come to set us free.*

Messiah King, come and redeem us, hope of the world for all to see.

Emmanuel, come dwell among us. Come now and reign in majesty.

*King of all kings and Lord of glory,
O Hear our prayer and humble plea.
Hope of the world for you and me.*

*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.*

*Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation, hope of every longing heart.*

Come, hope of every longing heart.

II. Prince of Peace

“Proclaim God’s Peace”

*“Comfort, comfort, O my people, speak of peace,” now says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim of the peace that waits for them.”
Hear the voice of one who’s crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to full repentance for the kingdom now is near.*

*“Comfort, comfort, O my people, speak of peace,” now says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim of the peace that waits for them.”
Make straight the road that long was crooked, make the rougher places plain.
Let your heart be true and humble as befits God’s holy reign.*

*“Comfort, comfort, O my people, speak of peace,” now says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim of the peace that waits for them.”
Proclaim God’s peace!*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray. Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow. You bring water to parched ground and life out of death. Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand.

Amen.



Second Sunday in Advent

“Peace Will Come”

*Refrain: Peace will come to those who wait on the Lord.
Peace will come to those who wait on the Lord.
Peace will come, our King will come.
Peace will come to those who wait on the Lord. (Refrain)*

*The Lord is good to those who wait, for His mercies never cease.
Put your trust in Him, the promised King.
He is coming, the Prince of peace, our Prince of peace. (Refrain)*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.*

*Peace will come, our King will come, peace will come to those who wait,
Our King will come to those who wait, peace will come to those who wait on the Lord.*

III. How Great Our Joy

“Angels Are Singing, Heaven Is Ringing”

*Angels are singing, heaven is ringing, “Glory in the highest!”
Angels are winging, noels they're bringing, “Glory in the highest!”
Born in a manger, He is the Savior! To Bethlehem, now go, adore him
He has come to save us, Praise the name of Jesus the Lord is born tonight.*

*Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, sing gloria. Gloria, sing gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Come to Bethlehem and see. Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Christ is born tonight!*

“How Great Our Joy!”

*Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!
While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!*

*There shall be born, so he did say, in Bethlehem a Child today.
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!*

*How great is our joy! Sing Praise to the Lord on high!
How great is our joy! Sing Praise to the Lord. How great our joy!*

*There shall the Child lie in a stall, this Child who shall redeem us all.
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!*

IV. Love Is Born

“Love Is Born Tonight”

*Love is born tonight in a manger. Love is born in Bethlehem town.
Love is born, Christ is born, Love is born this holy night.
Born a child and yet the Messiah! Mary sings her lullaby,
Christ is born, love's purest light, born on this holy night.*

*Love is born tonight in a manger. Love is born in Bethlehem town.
Love is born, Christ is born, Love is born this holy night.
Bring your gift and kneel at the manger.
Christ is born in Bethlehem town.
God has come to earth, What a glorious birth!
Come behold the King of love!*

*Love is born tonight in a manger. Love is born in Bethlehem town.
Love is born, Christ is born, Love is born this holy night.*

✠ 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

*Communion Assistants: Amy Atkins,
Bryan Berger, and Jan Burgess*

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.
Thanks be to God!

Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table; all who seek Christ's true presence promised through this bread and wine are welcome and invited to partake in communion. You'll receive bread first (it is gluten-, nut-, soy- & dairy-free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Please alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you. Communion will be served in the Narthex (back of the sanctuary).

COMMUNION

*"The First Noel" Cindy Berry
Piano: Reba Matthewson*

*"Joy To The World" Lloyd Larson
Piano: Susan Frank*

✠ **SENDING** ✠

"The Wonder of God's Love"

*Angels are singing, heaven is ringing, "Glory in the highest!"
Angels are winging, noels they're bringing, "Glory in the highest!"
Born in a manger, He is the Savior! To Bethlehem, now go, adore him
He has come to save us, Praise the name of Jesus The Lord is born tonight.
Love is born tonight in a manger. Love is born in Bethlehem town.
Love is born, Christ is born, Love is born this holy night.
Love is born tonight in a manger. Love is born in Bethlehem town.
Love is born, Christ is born, Love is born this holy night.*

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of His Love.**

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Chancel Choir

Soprano: Lynn Caldwell, Martha Caldwell, Blair Holden, Kelly Rucker, Catherine Templeton, Ainsley Trumbo, Sheila Umberger, JoAnn Wright

Alto: Ruth Daggett, Jenny Dalton, Janet Edsell, Elaine Kallestad, Reba Matthewson, Carol Riggs

Tenor: Harley Atkins, Jaquante Coleman, Peter Ejidike, Gabriel Esparanza, James Holden, Phillip Riggs, Harold Stophel

Bass: Alexander Cox, Duane Daggett, Bob Edsell, Barry Elledge, Nolan Hayworth, Scott Kallestad

Director: Libby Brown

Narrators

Duane Daggett, James Holden, Kelly Rucker, JoAnn Wright

Chamber Orchestra

Flute: Dr. Kinard Douthit

Oboe: Dr. Mark Biggam

Clarinet: Lindsey Scarborough

Trumpets: Andrew Cook, David Rolland

French Horn: Taryn Wooten

Trombone: Zachary Quinn

Violins: Michael Coston, Lacy Holder

Viola: Dr. Maria Kindt

Cello: Issy Saavedra

Piano: Susan Frank

Percussion: Jordan Harris, Steve Troisi

Special Thanks

Harold Stophel, the late Kurt Fengler, Grace Builders and friends of the choir for designing and building the risers used today.

Rehearsal Accompanist: Susan Frank

Watauga Community Band and Billy Ralph Winkler, Director

CHANCEL GREENERY

Is given to the glory of God
and to honor all the children of Grace—
both young and young-at-heart!
by Jeff & Janice Voss.

SANCTUARY LAMP

Is burning to the glory of God and
in honor of the birthday of our
children, Hephzibah and Joel,
by Peter and Mercy Ejidike.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 14

Isaiah 35:1-10 | Luke 1:46b-55 | James 5:7-10 | Matthew 11:2-11

*'Tis the Season
at Grace Lutheran Church*

- Dec. 14: 10:00am Advent 3 Worship Service
Dec. 14: 3:00pm Family Christmas Event; 5:30pm Youth L.I.T. Party
Dec. 19: 7:00pm Mountain Home Music “An Appalachian Christmas”
Dec. 21: 10:00am Advent 4 Worship Service (more decorating afterward)
Dec. 24: 4:00pm & 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services
Dec. 28: 10:00am 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship Service
Jan. 4: 10:00am 2nd Sunday of Christmas Worship Service

