

ISAIAH

**A Vespers Liturgy by John Hermanson
Adapted as an Advent Communion Liturgy**

**Grace Lutheran Church
Fort Washington, MD**

Pastor Becca Vargas

** Please stand as you are able*

Welcome to Worship

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

P: In the desert, a voice cries out:

A: *“Prepare the way of the Lord- Make straight his paths!”*

P: John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

O God, we lift our souls to you:

You have searched us, and you know us.

**You know all that we have done and left undone. We
confess that we have not lived in love.**

Forgive us.

With your steadfast love, remember us.

Humble us and guide us in truth and justice.

People of God, rejoice! The Kingdom of God is at hand- By the mercy of God and the grace of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven: You are free!

Amen.

***Entrance Hymn**

***Greeting and Call to Worship**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

A: We are people walking in darkness,
living in the land of night,

wandering in the wilderness,

looking for a way.

Awake, Awake

R: Awake, Awake, O Zion, Awake. Awake, O Zion, Awake.

1. How beautiful the feet on the mountain
of the messenger who announces peace:
2. O, you who once were slaves, once were foreigners in a foreign place:
3. Arise, put on your strength, your selves in splendid clothes array:
4. O, listen, can you hear? The sentinels are singing, the Lord is near:

***Canticle of Praise**

Remember these things, O Israel, I love you and you are mine.

I've swept away your sins like the morning mist. Return to me redeemed.

R: Sing, O Heavens for the Lord has done it! Shout O Depths of the sea!
Break forth into singing, every mountain, every tree!
Sing, O people, for the Lord is with us, calling us to Jubilee!
Rejoice in the promise- we have been redeemed!

1. Raging waves will never overwhelm us and
the flames of fire cannot distress,
for the Lord makes a pathway through the wilderness.
2. You frustrate the omens of the liars and
make foolish knowledge of the wise. Come
and heal our divisions; open up our eyes!
3. For the Lord who gathers what was scattered will
raise our ruins from the dust.
All around and within us, see the new is springing up!

***Prayer of the Day**

Welcome to the Children Lighting the Advent Wreath

P: Light breaks the darkness!

A light that scatters gloom and gathers us.

Advent Hymn

1. He came down that we may have hope.
2. He came down that we may have peace.
3. He came down that we may have joy.
4. He came down that we may have love.

Children's Sermon

Introduction of the Scripture: Luke 4

A: When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. Jesus unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of Jubilee”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.

The Reading of Scripture

First Reading	From the Hebrew Scriptures
Psalm	Read in Unison
Second Reading	From the New Testament

*Gospel Acclamation



** Please stand as you are able*

P: The Holy Gospel according to _____, the _____ chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

...The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day**

***Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the virgin Mary.**
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**
He descended into hell.*
**On the third day he rose again. He
ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and
the life everlasting. Amen**

***The Prayers of the Church**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Announcements

Dismissal of Online Worship