

Sunday Service

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022 - 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM



Grace Lutheran Church

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Welcome...

We are so happy that you are here with us today. Our desire is to be like another home for you. If you are new to Grace or to the area and are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider joining our family here at Grace. A Fellowship Time is held after each Worship Service, and we invite you to stay for a few minutes so we can get acquainted.

To our many members and friends worshipping at home, whether near or far, we are so happy that you are sharing this worship with us from your homes.

To Everyone: Please check Grace Lutheran's website daily! www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

HOLY COMMUNION

This meal is weird and wonderful: weird because we actually believe that the bread and wine are the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ; wonderful because Jesus is with us. We take this meal very seriously here at Grace. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out and allow us to answer your questions. **Children** who have not been instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament may come to the Lord's Table with their parents for a blessing but are asked to fold their arms across their chests to indicate they are to receive a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: We have moved Holy Communion to the end of our worship service. After the closing hymn, Pastor Cris will pronounce the sending and then for those who wish to share in the celebration of communion shall remain.

The distribution of the bread by an Elder and the wine in individual cups will be by Pastor Cris. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored on the tray, center.*** Those who find it difficult to walk to the altar can be communed at your seat. Please inform the usher of your need. After Pastor Cris has given your group the blessing at the altar, you may place your cup in the basket and depart from the Sanctuary down the center aisle, and enjoy fellowship in the hall.

BOOK OF ADVENTS

The Christmas season is filled with so much tradition, but so often we feel tired and frustrated by our attempts to fulfill our own desires. However, the Bible is the book of advents, the book of new beginnings when we see God come in a new way to save us all.

Today: Prince of Peace

Joseph is a righteous man, yet he is having to deal with the surprise pregnancy of his bride to be. Here we see the Prince of Peace shining through Joseph.

-THE OPENING HYMN

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” (LW 41 Vs 1-4)

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels;
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal.
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest;
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!



-- Christmas Invocation

P: How beautiful upon the mountains

C: are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

P: who brings good news, who announces salvation,

C: who says to Zion, your God reigns. (Isa 52:7 NRSV)

-THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (LW 49 vs. 1-3)

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinner reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born king!”

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord.
Late in time behold Him come, off spring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born king!"
3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born king!"



-- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God's forgiveness)

Pastor: The shepherds shook with fear that night as the heavens opened and God came down. There, in the fields, their dirty, unholy, imperfect lives intersected with the holiness of God. As you and I come face to face with God's divinity, it is appropriate for us to confess our unholy and imperfect lives, too.

PEOPLE: WE CONFESS, THAT LIKE THOSE BETHLEHEM SHEPHERDS, OUR LIVES ARE STAINED WITH SIN. OUR WORDS, OUR BEHAVIOR, AND OUR THOUGHTS CARRY WITH THEM THE GUILT AND SHAME OF OUR SIN. WE ADMIT THAT ALL TOO OFTEN WE WANDER THROUGH LIFE THINKING WE CAN MAKE IT ON OUR OWN. FORGIVE US, WE PRAY. PROCLAIM YOUR CLEANSING WORD OF TRUTH ON US AGAIN THIS DAY, O JESUS.

Pastor: "Do not fear," the angel said. "For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior who is Christ the Lord." Brothers and sisters in Christ, all your sins have been forgiven, and all your stains have been washed clean. May you now know the peace that is yours with God through Jesus Christ! This is the good news of Christmas!

PEOPLE: AMEN.

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Reigning God, whose rule extends to the farthest stars, come to rule within us on this glorious day, when the Word becomes flesh once more, to dwell among us. We open ourselves to the light and long to offer our lives as a dwelling place for your truth. Speak to us again through the Child of Bethlehem. Reach out to the child in each of us, and hold us in the warmth of love's embrace.

PEOPLE: AMEN

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

In the midst of struggle, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news
of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up
their voice;

together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-15

Our actions tell the story. Our lives are living parables, shouting the mystery of godliness.

For the grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation for all people, training
us to renounce ungodliness and worldly
passions, and to live self-controlled,
upright, and godly lives in the present age,
waiting for our blessed hope, the

appearing of the glory of our great God
and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself
for us to redeem us from all lawlessness
and to purify for himself a people for his
own possession who are zealous for good
works.

Declare these things; exhort and rebuke
with all authority. Let no one disregard
you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph knows he will have to break their engagement, but he decides to do this quietly.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in

this way. When his mother Mary had been
betrothed to Joseph, before they came
together she was found to be with child
from the Holy Spirit. And her husband
Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to
put her to shame, resolved to divorce her
quietly. But as he considered these things,
behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to

him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

---HYMN OF THE DAY

Away in the Manger (LW 64 vs 1-3)

- 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*
- 2. The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes,
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by
my cradle til morning is nigh.*
- 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.*



--- THE SERMON

BOOK OF ADVENTS - Prince of Peace

--- THE OFFERTORY

“Create in me a clean heart” (LW pg 143)

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with-in me.
Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.*

--- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after each petition)

Pastor: . . . Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

--- THE LORD’S PRAYER

----- THE BLESSING

*Pastor: May the feet of God walk with you, and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you, and his ear hear you cry.
May the smile of God be for you, and his breath give you life.
May the child of God grow in you, and his love bring you life.*

PEOPLE: AMEN.

----THE CLOSING HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High” (LW 55 Vs. 1-3)

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria....in excelsis Deo; Gloria....in excelsis Deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav’nly song?
Gloria....in excelsis Deo; Gloria....in excelsis Deo.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Gloria....in excelsis Deo; Gloria....in excelsis Deo.

----- SENDING

Pastor: Have peace knowing we are all with you.

Serve others knowing God walks before you.

Those who wish to share in the celebration of Holy Communion may be seated.

--- THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: May the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.



Pastor: The tree of life in the midst of the garden was the tree of our defeat. Christ was lifted up on the tree of victory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored. And so we praise you ..

PEOPLE: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA, HOSANNA, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST

---- THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

After Pastor Cris has concentrated the elements you are invited to come to the altar and receive communion. Please use the right or left aisle as you come forward to the altar. After Pastor Cris has pronounced the blessing for your side, you may place your cup in the basket and depart the sanctuary down the center aisle. Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

--- DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Joy to the World”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

Questions for Christmas Devotion

1. When you think someone has sinned grievously against you, how do you respond?
2. Read Matthew 1:18-25. Based on Mary being pregnant, what would Joseph have logically thought happened?
3. How does Joseph respond to this? How is that just or righteous?
4. How does this foreshadow Jesus and his righteousness?

---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

<u>Today</u>	<u>December 25, 2022</u>
Worship Services	10:15 AM
Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
 <u>Rest of the Week</u>	 <u>December 26 - 31, 2022</u>
ACC & Church Office are Closed	Monday
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6:00 AM
1/1, New Years Day Service with Communion	Sunday, 10:15 AM (ONLY)

For complete calendar information, go to www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Alicia VanDerlip - 12/27, Ed Furniiss - 12/30

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by members and friends of Grace Lutheran in celebration of the birth of Christ!

THE 2023 FLOWER CHART is now up and ready for you to fill in your special dates for next year!

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY: We will be holding only one service next Sunday, New Years Day, at 10:15 AM.

GIVING: We are here to provide "Grace and Peace in a Confusing and Trying Time" to those in our church and community. Thank you for your past and continual prayers and financial support to Grace and your community.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023: Your new offering envelopes are available on the table by the exit door in the Fellowship Room. If you are a visitor/potential member and have been giving lately, there should be a box for you as well. If you would like a box, let me know, Kevin

ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE: Grace Lutheran Church Alzheimer's Community Care has been selected to receive \$1 from every \$2.99 Community Bag sold during the month of January 2023 at the Winn-Dixie, 281 Southwest Port St. Lucie Boulevard.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: This is canceled because Pastor Cris is out of town this week.

COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY: This is canceled because Pastor Cris is out of town this week.

PLEASE SEND CARDS TO PEOPLE: We have several members who are immunocompromised and unable to participate with groups of other people. If you have not seen them in a service lately, please consider calling them or sending a card or letter. Isolation is a lonely situation!

BULLETIN AND PRINTED PRAYER REQUESTS: All information for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted by 10:00 AM Thursday to be printed. Prayer requests received after 10:00 AM on Thursday will be updated on the website ASAP and printed in the following Sunday's bulletin.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: ARE HERE! These coupon books are chalked full of various discount coupons. The books sell for \$35.00 each, and \$10.00 will go to the church. They are available in the fellowship hall, or you can stop by the office, 9:00-Noon, during the week! ,

OFFICE HOURS: The "Church Office" along with ACC will be closed this Monday, 12/26 and next, Monday, 1/2/2023. Otherwise Grace's office is open from 9:00 AM through 12:00 (Noon) daily, Monday - Friday. The office is overseen on Monday by Diane Heinz, Tuesday - Thursday, Kevin Garbers and on Fridays, Pam White. Please feel free to stop by or call anytime during those hours. Office phone is 772 - 871 - 6599 After hours you can contact Kevin at 772-971-9200 or Pastor Cris at 770 - 328 - 5078.

Next Sunday: January 1, there will only be one service with communion at 10:15 AM

2022 Christmas Décor Donations

Vance & Betsy Aldott in memory of Betsy's parents and Rev & Shirley Knaus
Bob & Vivian Barto in loving memory of William Worthing, Wade Chandler, Tom & Dick Barto
Youngln & Hyesum Chung in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
William Creelman in memory of Clara
Lois Danzo in memory of her parents Walt & Delores Donn
Bob & Tracy Decklever in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
Helga Fielitz, Katherin Davis, Ronald Fielitz in memory of Guenter
Kevin Garbers in memory of Mom, Dad & Andy
Dayre & Jay Horton in honor of their daughters Kim & Wittney
Jay Horton in honor of Dayre Horton's birthday
Judie Hunter in memory of parents John & Jeanne Engelhardt
Port St. Lucie Korean Church in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
Jan & Jan Lendak in memory of their parents
Gene & Leigh Liagre in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
John & Melinda Linderman in memory of Edith Monson & Connie Linderman
Mike & Doreen Massa in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
Frank & Tricia McGinnis in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
Suzanne Michaud in memory of Jesi Hoke, Travis' grandfather
Jim & Piper Neagles in memory of their parents & friends now with Jesus
Nancy Oldham & Joyce Matte in memory of their families
Laura Peeler in memory of her parents and brother
Lyn Pistner in memory of her mother & best friend
Mary Ann Roksvold in memory of her husband Tom and sons Thomas Jr. & Kristian
Sherry Self in honor of Cris & Coli Escher
Gloria Solack in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
Susan Spee in memory of loved ones
Chuck & Joyce Strickler in memory of family members
Sabina Sukhai in memory of Byvil and Lylee Debra (Dad & Mom)
Kathy Whilden in memory of parents David H. & Evelyn A. Geneau
Betsy & Don Wisheart in memory of Walter & Barbara Cotte and Martin & Kay Wisheart

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY
DURING THIS FESTIVE SEASON.*