

Sunday Service

Epiphany: Second Sunday After Christmas

January 3, 2021 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live Broadcast 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.

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

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

Seating with social distancing at the cGrace is now the norm on Sundays at 8:30 and 10:15 AM. Please remember, you will need to wear a face mask at Grace. Thank You!

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: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we have moved Holy Communion to the end of our worship service and will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the closing hymn pastor will pronounce the sending and then those who wish to share in the celebration of communion shall remain.

The distribution of the bread and wine in individual cups will be by an elder. Please take one of each and wait for Pastor to proceed with the taking of the elements for your group. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored on the tray.*** 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 church.

Welcome, Pastor Kenneth Susskraut! As Pastor Cris and Coli are away today, we are blessed with Pastor Susskraut to lead our services. Thank you!

Nostalgia - Family Roots of Jesus at Christmas

Christmas contains so many memories: movies, songs, and baked things, which yearly cause us to dive into the deep well of nostalgia. At the beginning of the Christmas story, Matthew is asking the reader to dive into the deep well of Nostalgia about Jesus' roots.

TODAY: Epiphany

Look, they are following the light to salvation. And as they bring their gifts, these Gentiles find they have been given the greatest gift of all.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

"A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER" - Michigan District

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1. A great and mighty wonder, a full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the infant with virgin honor pure!

Refrain: PROCLAIM THE SAVIOR'S BIRTH; "TO GOD ON HIGH
BE GLORY AND PEACE TO ALL THE EARTH!"

2. The Word becomes incarnate and yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems to shepherds from the sky. (Refrain)
3. While thus they sing you Monarch, those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains, and oceans, clap your hands. (Refrain)
4. Since all He comes to ransom, by all be He adored,
The infant born in Beth'lem the Savior and the Lord. (Refrain)
5. All idols then shall perish and Satan's lying cease,
And Christ shall raise His scepter, decreeing endless peace. (Refrain)

-- Opening

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

--- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Pastor:  O Almighty God,

PEOPLE: GOD, OUR LOVING FATHER,

WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE OFTEN IMPATIENT AND RUSH TO CRITICIZE.

WE TAKE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR GRANTED.

WE ARE OFTEN UNGRATEFUL AND NOT GRACIOUS.

WE OFTEN EXPECT CHURCH TO MIRROR OUR OWN BIASES.

WE FORGET TO ASK FOR OUR CHURCH TO MIRROR YOU.

WE OFTEN USE YOUR SCRIPTURES TO SUPPORT OUR OPINIONS.

WE FORGET THAT THEY ARE A LAMP TO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH.

OUR HOPE IS CENTERED ON OURSELVES AND NOT ON YOU.

RENEW US, LORD, THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL

AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS, TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.

Pastor: The story of Jesus is about life and forgiveness.... You are God's beloved; you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope of new life. God loves you, and God is the restorer of hope. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, as you revealed your only Son to the nations by the leading of a star, grant that we who know you now by faith may be led to see you in your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

---THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY”

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- 1. Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**
- 2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is a mere shadow of the great city their parents and grandparents knew. People doubt whether God is really alive, or really all that powerful, or really even cares. Soon the whole world will be caught up in this brand new thing God is doing.

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.God.

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD**

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

For Paul there are two kinds of people: Jews and Gentiles, or to put it another way, insiders and outsiders. The Prince of Peace is establishing peace where division and hostility once ruled unchallenged.

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and

partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

These men from the east come looking for the One who has been born and who will save His people from their sins.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by

the prophet:

"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest

over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father, Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

--- HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Child is This"

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1. **What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping.
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**
2. **Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**
3. **So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh: Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born. The babe, the son of Mary.**

--- THE SERMON -

Nostalgia - Family Roots of Jesus at Christmas ----- "Epiphany "

--THE OFFERTORY

***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. Amen***

--- 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 Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord look upon you with grace and redemption.
May the Lord always walk before you and give you peace.*

PEOPLE:  **AMEN**

-----THE CLOSING HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

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- 1. 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.***
- 2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly host sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!***
- 3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.***

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heav'n
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heav'n
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

----- SENDING

Pastor: *Have peace knowing we are all with you.*

Serve others knowing God walks before you.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the "Sending" those who wish to share in the celebration of Holy Communion shall remain for the "Order of Holy Communion."

Pastor will signal groups up to the altar alternating between left and right sides. An elder will distribute the bread and wine for your side. Then Pastor Cris will direct your partaking of the elements, pronounce the blessing for your side, then you may place your cup in the basket on the side and depart in peace.

--- 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

--- ADDITIONAL HYMNS

"ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

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1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light: (Refrain)

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen His natal star. (Refrain)

4. All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To th'eternal Three in One. (Refrain)

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come - Michigan District

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1. From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
Where of now will say and sing.

2. To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

3. This is the Christ, Our God most high,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.

4. He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.

5. These are signs that you will shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark,
Where you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav'ns and earth were
made.

"Away in a Manger"

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1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till 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 take us to Heaven to live with Thee there.

---- **THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today** **January 3, 2021**

Worship Service	8:30 AM
Second Worship Service and video service www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
AA	7:30 PM

Rest of the week **January 4 - 9, 2021**

LWML Meeting	Monday, 1 PM
Pastor Cris returns (will Isolate for week)	Monday night
Olivet School Meets	Tuesday, 8 AM - 2 PM
Small Group Communion	canceled until 1/13
Bible Study - at Grace and on ZOOM	canceled until 1/14
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK; Judy Fredrich & Shari Blizzard - 1/08



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION YESTERDAY: Phil & Judy Fredrich - 1/2/1965 (56 Yrs)

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given by Bob & Vivian Barto.

LWML LADIES: May the New Year be bright through understanding and joy. Tomorrow, your LWML will host a guest speaker from Hospice. Craig Perry is the speaker and will be happy to answer any questions. He is to speak around 2:00 **this Monday, January 4, 2021.** Our LWML meetings begin at 1:00 P.M. For further information please contact Judy Fredrich, Vice-President LWML at Grace, Thank You.



CHECK IT OUT! THE FLOWER CHART it is in need of sponsors. Many weeks are blank as of right now! Please sign up for donating flowers in memory of or to honor someone close to you, a special occasion or giving thanks to God. Weekly cost for the two vases of flowers is \$30.00.



ENJOYMENT COUPON BOOKS: are now available in the Narthex. The coupon books sell for \$35.00 each of which \$10.00 is donated to Grace Lutheran's Youth Group needs.

GIVING - We are here to provide "Grace and Peace in this Chaotic and Lonely Time" to those in our church and community. Thank you for your past and continual prayers and financial support to Grace and your community. We have added Paypal for online donations. If you would like to give through Paypal, please go to: www.GraceLutheranPSL.com and click the "GIVE" button on the upper right side of the page.

THANK YOU ALL! Pastor Cris is so grateful for all the love and support shown to him and Coli this year as he's learned to teach, preach, and lead so differently due to COVID. Thanks for all the extra (generous) contributions toward new technology and providing for community needs. We are blessed to be part of the Grace family! Thank you also for your Christmas gifts!

PASTOR'S SAFETY PRECAUTIONS Due to traveling and being with family members in Atlanta through 12/30, Pastor Cris and Coli will quarantine themselves this week. Pastor Cris will be available by phone and internet.

2020 Christmas Décor Donations

Vivian and Bob Barto in memory of Dick and Tom Barto
Ed Bock in loving memory of daughter Holly and wife, Barbra
Steven and Soo Choung in honor of Jesus birthday
Joe and Linda Gannon in honor of their children, John Scott, Eise Marie, and Matthew
Kevin Garbers in loving memory of his mother and father
Claude Hessee in honor of Kevin Hessee
Korean Church in honor of Jesus birthday
Judie Hunter and Jan Lendak in loving memory of their parents
Jan and Jan Lendak in loving memory of John and Ann Lendak
Gene and Leigh Liagre in honor of God's goodness
Bernie and Shirley Mullins in loving memory of loved ones who have passed
Jim and Piper Neagles in honor of Jesus' Birthday
Nancy Oldham in honor of the Heinsohn and Oldham Families
Heather Palmer in loving memory of Dorothy Osovski
Laura Peeler with love for her parents
Mary Anne Roksvold in loving memory of her husband Tom and son's Tom Jr. & Kristian
Karen and Peggy Sawyer in loving memory of their father and husband Kenneth
Gloria Solack in memory of her husband John
Chuck and Joyce Strickler in loving memory of their family
Sabina Sukhai in loving memory of her parents, Lylee and Byril Debrah
Midge and Ed Watts in honor of Greta Tuning

Thank you for your donations and contributions in helping to make our sanctuary so beautiful for this joyous season celebrating Jesus's birth.