



# Grace

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Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about **“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”**

If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **8:00a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.

You can follow the whole service here in this folder as well as on the displays. Some parts of the service will be found in the burgundy “Lutheran Service Book” hymnals in the pew back.

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 19, 2021

### Today in Worship

- “And He shall be their peace.” That is how the prophet Micah described the coming Messiah. God’s people will not find their peace in a big bank account. Nor will our peace be found in being part of the right social circle. Nor will our peace be found in a political leader or even in a political ideology. Nor will our peace be found in our living good and upright lives. Our peace is found in the Messiah, in Jesus, in the Good Shepherd whose strength is the Lord.
- God’s Grace to you as you partake of Your one and only Savior Jesus this day.

### Prelude

### Handbell Anthem

“Lo How A Rose e’er Blooming”, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

### Ringing of the Bells

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #357, vv. 1-3

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

1. O Come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

## Invocation & Opening Sentences

Luke 1:49-51, 54, adapt.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.

**C** We thank You, O Lord!

**P** The Lord's mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

**C** We adore You, O Lord!

**P** The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.

**C** We praise You, O Lord!

**P** The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.

**C** We worship You, O Lord!

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*All four Advent candles on the wreath are lit.*

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Confession & Absolution

Psalm 25:6-7

**P** Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

*A time of silence is observed*

**P** We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**C** **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

**P** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**C** **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

## Verse

“Kyrie for the Four Sundays in Advent” / Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

**Forgive us, Lord, for times when love was lost,  
And moments when we never thought to care,  
For times when we destroy and subdue  
The Word that brings Your people close to You.  
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins  
And help us love so newness can begin.**

*Text: Copyright © 2015 Stephen M. Fearing. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Introit Psalm

1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; *antiphon*: Luke 1:46b-47

**P** My soul magnifies the Lord,

**C** **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

**P** My mouth derides my enemies,

**C** **because I rejoice in Your salvation.**

**P** There is none holy like the LORD;

**C** **there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.**

**P** The barren has borne seven,

**C** **but she who has many children is forlorn.**

- P** The LORD kills and brings to life;
- C** **He brings down to Sheol and raises up.**
- P** The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
- C** **He brings low and He exalts.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** My soul magnifies the Lord,
- C** **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. Into this world of turmoil, You, O Lord, bring peace. Let the peace that calmed the troubled heart of Mary so rule in our hearts and minds that by Your power we may all become peacemakers in our homes, in our community, and in our church; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

*“Out of little Bethlehem will be born a ruler for God’s people, a Good Shepherd, who will bring peace.”*

- L** The Old Testament Reading for the Fourth Sunday in Advent is from Micah, chapter five.
  - <sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.
  - <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Choir Anthem

“Come Thou Long-expected Jesus”

## Epistle Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

*“Because of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, we live.”*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from Hebrews, chapter ten.

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body have you prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,  
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

Matthew 1:23a

**P** Alleluia!

**C** Alleluia!

**P** Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
**C** and they shall call His name Immanuel.

**P** Alleluia!  
**C** Alleluia!

## Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-56

*“Even while in Mary’s womb, the presence of Jesus caused Elizabeth and the baby in her womb to rejoice!”*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup> and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup> and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup> for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup> And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

<sup>52</sup> he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;

<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
<sup>55</sup> as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

<sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*8:00 Service*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*10:30 Service*

## **The Apostles Creed**

## **Message for Children from God’s Word**

## **Hymn of the Day**

Lutheran Service Book #357, vv. 4-7

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

4. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree, Free them from Satan’s tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save, And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

5. O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav’nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

6. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!



## Service of the Sacrament

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.*

### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



### Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...  
... evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 208

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## The Lord's Prayer

### Words of Our Lord

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

### Pax Domini *"The Peace of Our Lord"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

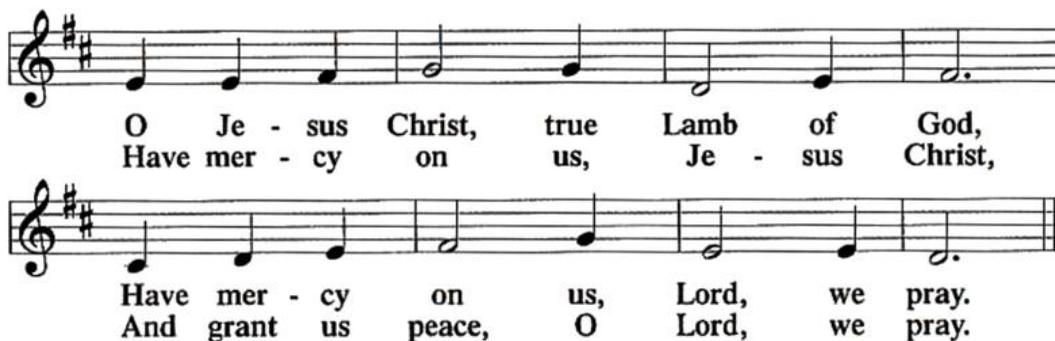
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei *"Lamb of God"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 210

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #342  
 “What Hope! An Eden Prophecied”

1. What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;  
 The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!
2. A shoot will sprout from Jesse’s stem, A branch from David’s line,  
 A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God’s design.
3. As banner of God’s love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,  
 That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.
4. Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;  
 Lead past the angel’s flaming sword – Come, open heaven’s door.

## Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #332  
 “Savior of the Nations Come”

1. Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Your home!  
 Marvel now, O heav’n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.
2. Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God,  
 Was the Word of God made flesh— Woman’s offspring, pure and fresh.
3. Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild.  
 In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.
4. Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall;  
 God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

5. God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

6. For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty power make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

7. From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

8. Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

## Nunc Dimittis *"Song of Simeon"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



## Thanksgiving & Prayer

- P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.
- C** **For His steadfast love endures forever!** *Psalm 106:1*
- P** Let us pray. Lord God, we give You thanks for our Savior Jesus' death and sacrifice on the cross, this amazing gift by which we receive a renewed relationship of peace with You and with one another. Help us all to grow as peacemakers; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## Announcements

## Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #359  
"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming As prophets long have sung,  
It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.
2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, She bore to us a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

3. This flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness ev'ry-where.  
True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us  
And lightens ev'ry load.

4. O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, King of glory, Who dost our weakness know:  
Bring us at length we pray To the bright courts of heaven,  
And to the endless day.

*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*

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*10:30 a.m. Service*

## Lord's Prayer

## The Closing Prayer

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, we give You thanks for our Savior Jesus' death and sacrifice on the cross, this amazing gift by which we receive a renewed relationship of peace with You and with one another. Help us all to grow as peacemakers; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

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