

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
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Welcome to Grace!

December 6, 2020

What We Believe:

✝ As Lutheran Christians we stand with the church of the ages and confess the faith of the **Holy Bible**, which is **God's Word**.

✝ We believe that our **Triune God** created man and woman holy; however, since we sinned and still sin we cannot free ourselves from **sin and death**. Therefore God sent His Son **Jesus Christ**, who is our **only way to salvation**. By His death and resurrection and through no work or decision of our own, we have forgiveness, life, and salvation.

✝ We joyfully receive these gifts in His Word, and in the holy sacraments of **Baptism** and the **Lord's Supper**.

✝ In all our teaching and preaching we seek to be faithful to God's holy **Law** which shows our sin, and to proclaim His precious **Gospel**, which is the good news of our **salvation in Christ!**

✝ We subscribe also to **Luther's Small Catechism** and the other documents in the Book of Concord of 1580 because they faithfully confess these biblical truths.

Guests and Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life and salvation.

Holy Communion is also a statement of our unity in Christ (*community*). Those who receive the Lord's Supper at Grace Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

For this reason, *only members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* are ordinarily communed at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine of Close Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the service.

Nursery: If your child becomes restless during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Nursery downstairs.

Fellowship Time: Immediately following the 9:00 AM Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Large Print Hymns: Are available from the ushers!

Electronic Devices: PLEASE silence all devices during worship. Thanks!

May the Lord bless your worship today!

Second Sunday in Advent
December 6, 2020 – Divine Service, Setting Three

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

♪ Comfort, Comfort Ye My People LSB 347

Invocation LSB 184

Confession of Sins and Absolution LSB 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ Introit

Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: Psalm 80:3



P Restore us, | O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

C Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

P You brought a vine out of | Egypt;*

it took deep root and | filled the land.

C Restore us, O | God of hosts;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

♪ Gloria Patri LSB 186

♪ Kyrie LSB 186

The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent.

♪ Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 189

P Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading – *Isaiah 40:1–11*

Pew Bible, p. 599

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Epistle – 2 Peter 3:8–14

Pew Bible, p. 1019

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

♪ Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel – Mark 1:1–8

Pew Bible, p. 836

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Apostles’ Creed

LSB 192 or inside back cover of hymnal

Catechism Time – Confession

Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 326

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian

congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

♪ **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry** **LSB 344**

Sermon

♪ **Offertory** **LSB 192**

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪ **Preface** **LSB 194**

♪ **Sanctus** **LSB 195**

Lord's Prayer **LSB 196**

The Words of Our Lord **LSB 197**

♪ **Pax Domini** **LSB 197**

♪ **Agnus Dei** **LSB 198**

Distribution – *If you are visiting with us, please read “Guests and Holy Communion,” printed on the inside page of the worship bulletin. If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your pew, please notify the pastor or an usher. If possible, please sit near the center aisle, and it will be brought to you at the conclusion of the distribution. Wine greatly diluted with water is available in purple-tinted cups in the center of each Communion tray for those with alcohol sensitivities.*

Distribution Hymns:

♪ **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** **LSB 621**

♪ **Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come** **LSB 350**

♪ **Nunc Dimittis** **LSB 199**

♪ **Thanksgiving** **LSB 200**

♪ **Salutation and Benedicamus** **LSB 201**

♪ **Benediction** **LSB 202**

♪ **Prepare the Royal Highway** **LSB 343**

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF December 6th THROUGH December 13th

<u>TODAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE III WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Sunday School and Bible Study
<u>TUESDAY</u>	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	6:30 PM	Confirmation Class
<u>THURSDAY</u>	5:15 PM	Advent Fellowship
	6:30 PM	MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP
<u>FRIDAY</u>		Office Closed
<u>SUNDAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE III WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Voters' Meeting (Budget and Elections) Special Voters' Meeting (Worship Schedule)
	10:30 AM	Sunday School



About the Bulletin Cover: In the midst of so many retail stores preparing for a lucrative and domesticated Christmas, the Gospel for this Sunday might be a bit jarring. The Lord's prophet is the voice crying in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. So today, the Lord's Word comes to us undomesticated, calling to repentance the wayward sinner and bringing forgiveness to the burdened. The Messiah is coming. He comes today bearing forgiveness and life.

Our Partnership in the Gospel

Grace's Mission: We are friends in God's family through Jesus, strengthened by His Spirit to represent Christ in our daily lives, our community and the world.

Grace's Vision: To be an active, growing Christ-centered congregation offering youth and adults traditional Lutheran worship, Bible study and fellowship while reaching out especially to our neighbors, families and friends with the Gospel invitation.

2020 Theme: *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11*

Our Worship Attendance:

November 25 & 26, 2020: 58 (37/21) **November 29, 2020:** 60