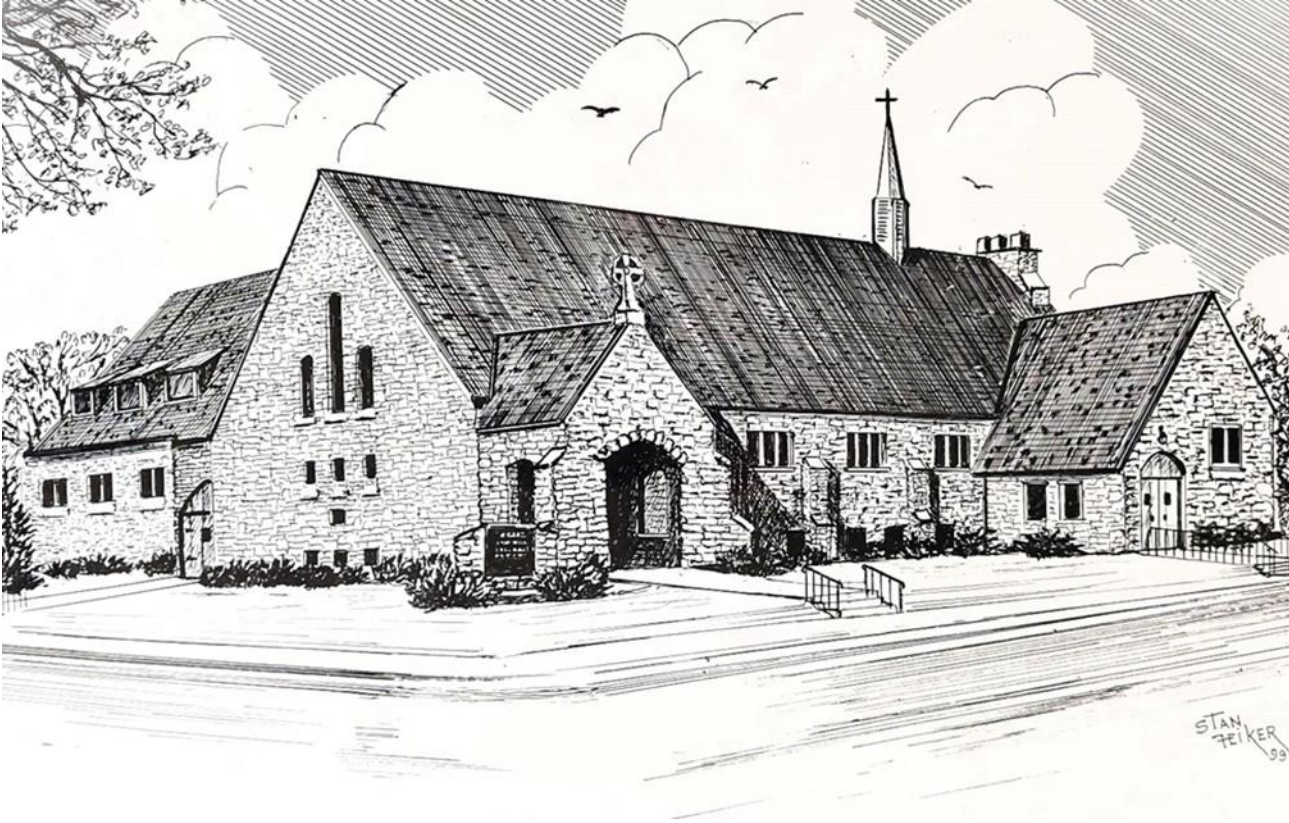


Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Racine, Wisconsin

Second Sunday in Advent
December 10, 2023

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
3700 Washington Ave., Racine, WI 53405
www.gracelutheranracine.net
262-633-4831

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. David W. Hintz
(920) 227-7915 (mobile)
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Welcome to Grace!

December 10, 2023

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.

Friendship Pad: Please sign the Friendship Pad when it is passed during the service.

Offering: The offering plates are not passed. Rather, they are located at the back of the nave. Please place your offering in one of the plates as you enter or leave the church. You may also hand it to one of the ushers.

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

Large Print Hymnals: 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
Divine Service, Setting Three**

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

♪ Prepare the Royal Highway	LSB 343
Invocation	LSB 184
Confession of Sins and Absolution	LSB 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ **Introit** *Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 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.

P Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
C as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

♪ **Gloria Patri** **LSB 186**

♪ **Kyrie** **LSB 186**

♪ **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.

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.”

Nicene Creed

LSB 191 or inside back cover of hymnal

Catechism Time – The Lord’s Prayer

Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 322

The Forth Petition

P Give us this day our daily bread

P What does this mean?

C God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

♪ On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry	LSB 344
Sermon	"The Kyrie"
	Mark 1:1-8
Prayer of the Church	

♪ Offertory	LSB 192
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The offering plates are not passed. Please see note on the first page of the bulletin.

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 cover of the Friendship Pad. 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:

♪ All Christians Who have Been Baptized	LSB 596
♪ I lay My Sins on Jesus	LSB 606
♪ In Thee Is Gladness	LSB 818
♪ Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	LSB 347
♪ Nunc Dimittis	LSB 199
♪ Thanksgiving	LSB 200
♪ Salutation and Benedicamus	LSB 201
♪ Benediction	LSB 202
♪ Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending	LSB 336

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF December 10th through December 17th

SUNDAY 9:00 AM DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION
 10:30 AM

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY 5:15 PM ADVENT MEAL
 6:30 PM MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

FRIDAY

SUNDAY 9:00 AM DIVINE SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION
 10:30 AM BIBLE STUDY

The Lord Jesus Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us

Although we pray that God “would rend the heavens and come down” (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves “have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment” (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for “a long time, and shall we be saved?” (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. Just as He once came into Jerusalem to sacrifice Himself for us upon the cross (Mark 11:4–8), He still comes to His Church with the fruits of His Passion. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are “enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge,” and so He will “sustain you to the end” (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although “heaven and earth will pass away,” His words “will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He “send out the angels” to gather us and all of His elect “from the ends of the earth” to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).