

Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

He came as a witness
to testify to the
LIGHT,
so that all might
believe through him.

John 1:7, NRSV

The Third Sunday in Advent

Lessons and Carols

December 11, 2011

8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion Services

*The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to bring the good news of
God's saving grace, through Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection
to all to be free to be the people of God.*

Welcome to Worship at Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Prelude

Grace Brass

Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation

Processional Hymn “Savior of the Nations Come”

#263

vs. 1,3,6

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
Your prophets spoke of a day
when the desert would blossom
and waters would break forth in the wilderness.
Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.
Strengthen our hearts
as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.
May he give water to all who thirst,
for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever.

Advent Wreath Hymn

#253

“He Came Down” *vs 1-3*

Prayer of the Day

C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Please be seated

Prologue

Antiphon

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Isaiah 40:3-5

³A voice cries out:

"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.

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

Anthem

"Prepare"

Youth Bells

Antiphon

O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open: Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

Hymn

"O Come O Come Emmanuel" v 5

#257

O come, O 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 you O Israel.

Isaiah 42:5-9

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,

who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

“A Shoot Shall Break Forth out of Jesse”

Antiphon

O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting: Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Hymn

“O Come O Come Emmanuel” v 6

#257

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to
flight. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.*

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
⁶⁹He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his servant David,
⁷⁰as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
⁷¹that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all
who hate us.
⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.
⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.
⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Anthem

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Chancel Choir

Antiphon

O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people: Come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Anthem

“Mary Did You Know”

Pastor Mike

Antiphon

O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver, the anointed of the nations and their Savior: Come and save us, Lord our God.

Isaiah 7:14

¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Anthem

“Shepherd’s Song”

Adult Bells

Baptism of Finnegan Todd Holst and Welcoming of New Members Joel and Stacie Holst. *Parents of Finnegan are Joel and Stacie Holst.*

Sponsors are Christopher and Joy Evans (10:45)

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Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

All:

God of love, pour out your unifying Spirit upon us. We give you thanks for the blessing of this community of faith. Continue to awaken your gifts in us so we can faithfully build up the body of Christ. Strengthen us to answer the call to the work of your ministry here at Grace. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all,

C: And also with you!

Please be seated

Announcements

The Offering
Offertory

“Come Lord Jesus”

Youth Bells

Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim our Lord's death until he comes.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Come to Christ, who comes to us in this holy supper.

Please be seated

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymns: #631, #244, #262.

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Hark, the Glad Sound”

#239

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

Adult Bells



Good Morning and Welcome to Grace!

Please sign the Attendance Registrations sheets which are found in each pew. Visitors, please also sign the guest book at the Welcome Center, and please join us for coffee and education hour activities between services.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

A nursery is available if your children become restless during the service. Heather Nelson or another daycare staff member will be the attendant each Sunday morning (*exception: December 25 and January 1st*). If you don't see anyone in the nursery, check in the daycare office. The service is always broadcast in the Gathering Hall if you prefer to take your child there.

If you are not able to come forward to take communion, please notify an usher before the service. Then try to sit by the aisle and the pastors will commune you in your pew.

Communion – We welcome all people to the Lord's table to receive Holy Communion. Children not instructed are invited to come forward for a blessing.

When by intinction: Receive the host (wafer), then dip the host into the chalice (cup) to receive wine (red) or grape juice (clear);

depart by the side aisle. Gluten free wafers and a separate glass chalice are available by request on the pulpit side (left when facing altar).

When by pouring chalice: Receive a cup. Receive and eat the bread. Proceed to the wine or grape juice. If you would prefer to have grape juice, take a rose colored glass from the inner ring of the tray; grape juice will be in the outer most chalice on both sides. Communion bread is gluten free.

In our prayers: Norma Black, Norman Buihner, Frances Engquist, Vivian Feilmann, Joe Honsey, Tom Russell, Stuart Turner, Sarah Williamson, Zelma Wilson, and the others we name before you...

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Gary and Marion Nehmer in memory of their son, Kevin.

A Stephen Minister is available in the upper room between services for people who need a listening ear, encouragement and prayer support.

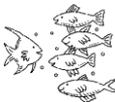
Education Opportunities

Sunday School classes and **Adult Forum** meet at 9:30 after coffee time. Please consider signing up to serve coffee and greet people with a donut and a smile. Hurry, there are several December and January dates available!

Dec. 11 Adult Forum –

Option A: Orchard Place – Nancy Bobo, VP Development & Marketing
Option B: Bible study with Julie Honsey – “Close Encounters of the Jesus Kind: Studies in Luke” – Esperanza Chapel.

Dec. 18 Adult Forum – Time of Fellowship.



**NEW
Member
Class**

You are invited! The **New Member Class** will meet today from 1-2 p.m. in the Gathering Hall with Pastor Mike.

Adult Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings, from 8:45–10:15a.m. in Grace Hall, or Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. in Esperanza Cafe. Pastor Mike leads this study. *If there is anyone who needs a ride on Tuesday mornings, please call the church office for the names of volunteers drivers.*

Ro Zimany will graciously be leading next week on the topic of Buddhism and its Hindu Roots.

Text Study on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Leonard Larsen and Mark Mattes lead this study.

Wednesday Evening activities: Book Discussion, Confirmation, Kids Hours, English/Spanish classes, Music Groups or just hang out. Join us before hand for supper between 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Grace Hall I. *The December 14 meal will be Roast beef and mashed potatoes, prepared by Beth and Kristin. There will be no Super Wednesday meals on Dec 21st or 28th.*



Happy Birthday to the following people this week!

Burke Shiffler, Kari Dostalick, Jack Frost, Dorothy Singh, Judy Nyberg, Sherry Brindley, Bradley Ashton, Thomas Garcia, Anthony Garcia, Mo Grotheer, Norman Iverson, Matt Ziska, Helen Fanning, Paul Weaver, Payton Lawson, Katja Rahjes



Happy Anniversary this week to:

Gregory and Darlis Honnold

The **English/Spanish Classes** have resumed! Join us Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in Esperanza Café.



THANK YOU for filling the December and January Wednesday Night Suppers! There are two dates remaining to be filled: **February 1 and February 8.**

Jane Ridnour has menu suggestions to make your planning easy. The basics (milk, butter, etc.) are always on hand. Sign up in the kitchen, or contact Jane at 277-6838.



Community Christmas Tree: The Community Christmas Trees in Grace Hall are festive and beautiful with the ornaments and lights. Thank you to all who have shared so far. We are asking people to bring a couple ornaments from home to decorate and by Christmas we will have trees that show the diversity and traditions of this community of faith.



Christmas Pageant rehearsals are underway during the Sunday School hour and Super Wednesday music rehearsals. You'll want to put these dates on your calendar: **Rehearsals** on Saturday December 17 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon,

and Sundays December 18 during the Sunday School hour. The Pageant will be during the second service on Sunday the 18th.



Congregational meal: On December 18 at 12:00pm, the Youth Education Team and the Fellowship Team will be hosting a congregational meal in Grace Hall. The main dish, dinner rolls, and drinks will be provided, and a sign-up sheet for attending and/or

bringing side dishes, salads, and desserts is at Volunteer Central. Please sign up so that we have an estimated count for the meal. But if you forget, come anyway!



Gift Making Party – Today from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Grace Hall. Come sit by the beautiful trees in Grace Hall and make:

Fleece scarves with Carol Krause;

Felt flowers Barb Zimany;

Needlepoint with Helen Ringgenberg/Embroidery Guild

Hair ribbons with Jenie Olson

Decorated soap bars with Joyce Lewis

Danish paper heart ornament with Verda Swanson

Samples of the crafts and gifts are on display in the gathering hall between services. Free will offerings will be taken to help offset the cost of supplies. Come and join the party!



You still have time to add your name to the list of Christmas Eve Special Music: Please contact Pastor Mike by December 18 so we can add your selection to the program.



DMARC Announcement:

From a recent letter from DMARC:

The Great Recession has arrived and settled in our community, which is something you must already know...something you may not know, is that DMARC congregations currently represent nearly 67,000 faith congregants. Of this group, about 13,000 of DMARC's own who are in need of assistance are likely to be among the 30,000 clients we help this year.

DMARC's reserves have been severely strained. Please consider a contribution to the ministry of DMARC. Checks can be sent to DMARC at 3816 36th St. Suite 202, Des Moines, IA 50310 or you may donate online at www.dmreligious.org



Poinsettia deliveries to homebound members: There are several members of the Grace family who cannot make it to church but would greatly appreciate a visit and a gift of Christmas cheer. A sign-up sheet for delivering poinsettias is located at Volunteer Central. Please consider

bringing a plant to one or more of the people on the list. You may pick up your poinsettia(s) for delivery anytime after the Christmas Day worship service. The building will be open Tuesday through Friday of the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Thank you!



2011 Offerings

All 2011 offerings should be turned into the office by noon on December 29. Thank You!

This Week at Grace

SUNDAY, December 11, Lessons and Carols

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. – Adult Forum, Education Hour, Brass

10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion, Welcome New Members: Joel, Stacie, and Finnegan Holst and Baptism of Finnegan Todd Holst

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. – New Member Class

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. - Gift Making Party

6:00 p.m. – Hannah Circle Christmas Party

MONDAY, December 12

10:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting

4:00 p.m. – TOPS

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. - AA in Grace Hall

TUESDAY, December 13

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

8:45 a.m. – Bible Study in GH

6:00 p.m. – Bible Study in Esperanza Café

6:00 p.m. – Brass Practice/TOPS

7:00 p.m. – Council Meeting, Finance Committee, and
Social Ministry Team

WEDNESDAY, December 14

9:00 a.m. – Willing Workers

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Super Wednesday Supper – GH I

5:30 p.m. – Book Discussion in Library

5:30 – 5:50 p.m. – Chapel Chimers

5:55 – 6:30 p.m. – Youth Bells (grades 6-12)

5:55 – 6:25 p.m. – Youth Choir

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Text Study in Conference Rm.

6:30 p.m. – English/Spanish class in Esperanza Cafe

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Confirmation in Esperanza Chapel

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Grace Bells

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Pray & Play Hour (ages 4-5)

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Kids' Hour (Grades 1-5)

7:45 – 8:45 p.m. – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, December 15

9:00 a.m. – Quilters

5:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Embroidery Christmas Celebration - GHI

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts

FRIDAY, December 16

8:00 – 1:30 p.m. Mosaic – Esperanza Café

7:00 p.m. – Daycare Christmas Program

SATURDAY, December 17

10:00 a.m. Sunday School Pageant Dress rehearsal

2:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Ringgenberg Family - GHI

SUNDAY, December 18

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. – Adult Forum, Education Hour, Brass

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Pageant Dress rehearsal

10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion, Sunday School Pageant

12:00 p.m. – Congregational Potluck – Grace Hall

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor - Michael Schmidt

Director of Laity Ministries - Stephanie Johnson

Grace Kids Care Director - Heather Nelson

Office Administrator - Jackie Holmes

Building/Grounds - Luis Reaza

Receptionist - Diana Johnson

Office Assistant - Michelle Voelker

Interim Organist - Rich Snyder

Ushers – 8:15 Linda Biegger, Dee Hummel, Tim Nelson

10:45 Mark Stumme, Tom McCleary, Jay Wangerin

Liturgist - 8:15 Mary Freimuth Helt 10:45 Alex Davik

Lighting the Advent Wreaths – 8:15 - Bev Anderson

10:45 - Don and Gloria Moon

Lector – 8:15 – Ro Zimany 10:45 Jeff Farrell

Communion Assistants – 10:45 Norm and Lenora Iverson, Susanne and McKenzie Carney

Acolytes - 8:15 – Paul Weaver

10:45 – Matt Farrell, Payton Lawson

Altar Guild - Sue Anderson, Gail Peterson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – 8:15 Angela Hansen and Tammy Hagerty

10:45 Alex Davick and Mark Stumme

Coffee Servers – Karen Taylor

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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