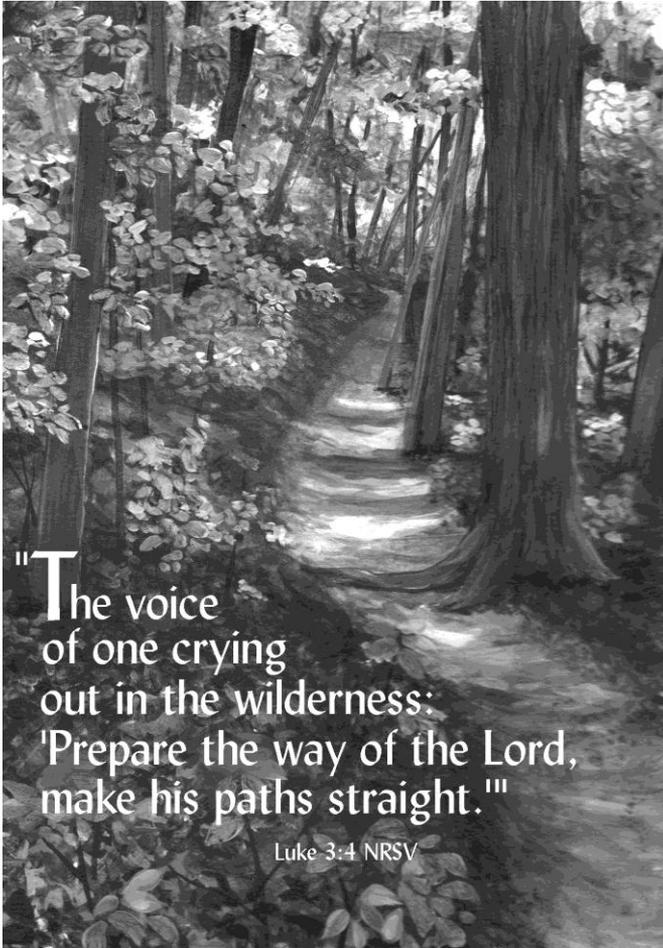


Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310



"The voice
of one crying
out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Luke 3:4 NRSV

The First Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2012

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

***Welcome!** 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. If there is no one in the nursery, check in the daycare office. The service is also broadcast in the in the Gathering Hall.*

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

***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.*

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

Prayer of the Day

C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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

First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight — indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79

R:

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God
the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel, you have come to your
people and | set them free.

⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior, born of the house of
your | servant David. R**

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our
enemies, ⁷¹from the hands of | all who hate us,

⁷²**to show mercy | to our forebears, and to remember your | holy
covenant.**

⁷³This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham: ⁷⁴to set us free
from the hands of our | enemies,

**free to worship you | without fear, ⁷⁵holy and righteous before you,
all the days | of our life. R**

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High, for you
will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge | of salvation by the forgiveness | of
their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion | of our God the dawn from on high shall |
break upon us,

⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shad- | ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R**

Anthem:

10:45

Every Valley
Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck

Children's Sermon

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3–11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's

grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



C: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



L: Prepare the way¹ of the Lord.* All flesh shall see the salva-¹tion of God. (*Luke 3:4, 6*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Third Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:1–6

John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry"

#249

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 the People

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and in your mercy grant us all we need, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

All: God of love, have mercy on us. Pour out your Spirit upon us. Center us in worship. Hold us in grace. Strengthen us in love. Send us forth in mission. 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 "What is This Lovely Fragrance" arr. by Alice Jordan

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

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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 -



Distribution Hymns: 262, 247, 666

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

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.

Hymn "Prepare the Royal Highway" #264

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
by Edward Broughton

Announcements and Calendar

In our prayers: LeRoi Beers, Lyle Black, Dennis Farver (John Farver's father), Nayeli Jacobo, Diane Jessen, Karla Swanson, the family of the Rev. Erwin Swanson, and the others we name before you...

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

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 join us!

Adult Forum **December 9** – Mosaic, with speakers Carol Mau and Laura Holtman

December 16 – Storyteller

Adult Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings from 8:45–10:15a.m. in Grace Hall II. Tuesday evening Bible Study meets Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Hall. Pastor Mike leads both studies.



The next New Member Class will meet this afternoon, from 1-2 p.m. in the Gathering Hall with Pastor Mike.

Super Wednesday:

December 12: The Rissmans will be preparing dinner.

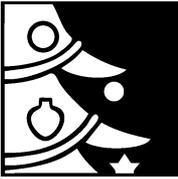
December 19: open

January: *the Ridnours will NOT be in town to cook/serve for us!*

Please consider volunteering to prepare and serve a dinner. Jane Ridnour has plenty of ideas to make it easy for you! Please sign up in the kitchen or give Jane a call at 277-6838

Happy Anniversary to Gregory and Darlis Honnold!

Happy Birthday to Joy Averill, Rosemary Randolph, Salvador Rodriguez, Steve Young, Burke Shiffler, Kari Dostalick, Jack Frost, Dorothy Singh, Sherry Brindley, Bradley Ashton, Thomas Garcia, Stacie Holst, Anthony Garcia, Mo Grotheer, Norman Iverson, Matt Ziska



Be a part of Grace's Festival of Trees! Thanks to the Willing Workers, Grace Hall has several trees set up, and individuals and committees are invited to bring in ornaments which can be reclaimed at the end of the season. Does your committee want to adopt its own tree and maybe decorate it thematically? Go for it! You are

also welcome to bring in your own tree if others are already taken or filled up. We encourage your creativity in this process!



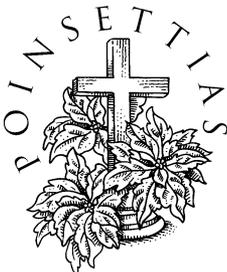
*Sounds
of the
Season*

Bells & Brass Concert

Come hear our own Grace Bells, Grace Brass, and Chancel Choir perform in a lovely concert this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Cookies and cocoa will follow.



The Star Tree can be found in the Gathering Hall full of Gold Stars! Each star contains the name of a resident at LSI or Mosaic, along with their age and wish for a toy or a game. Spending limits are \$25 for each star. Please consider taking a star, and return the unwrapped gift with Star attached to the Star tree by the date listed. Thank you for making someone's Christmas!



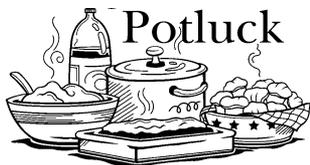
There is a sign-up sheet at Volunteer Central for volunteers who would like to deliver poinsettias to our homebound members. Please wait to pick up the poinsettia until after the Christmas Day service at 10 am but before December 30. Thank you for being a part of this valuable ministry to our members!



Children's Christmas Program

The program will take place at the 10:45 service on Sunday December 16.

Dress rehearsal will be Saturday December 15 from 10 a.m. – noon and during the Sunday school hour on December 16. The 2nd and 3rd graders will be in costume, all other children will wear their own clothes.



Potluck

Congregational Potluck - you're invited!

What better way to enjoy the holiday season than with good conversation and tasty eats? The Youth Education Committee is sponsoring a congregational potluck on

Sunday, December 16 in Grace Hall after the Sunday School Christmas program. Ham, turkey, rolls and drinks will be provided; please bring a dish to share. If you'd like to assist with decorations, setup, serving or cleanup, please go to

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C4FACAF2AA75-2ndannual

or contact Kristin Medhurst (medhurstk@msn.com or 987-7521).

Otherwise, just join us for tasty eats, fellowship and fun!

This Week at Grace

SUNDAY, December 9

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship – Grace Hall

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

9:30 a.m. – Good and Beautiful God Book Discussion - Chapel

9:30 a.m. – Stephen Minister in Upper Room

10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion

1:00 p.m. – New Member Class

1:00 – 4:00 p.m. MICSS Christmas Celebration - Cafe

4:00 p.m. – Bells & Brass Concert with special appearance by the Chancel Choir, followed by cookies and hot cocoa served by the Grace Women.

MONDAY, December 10

10:00 a.m. – Staff meeting

4:00 p.m. – TOPS

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. – AA in Grace Hall

TUESDAY, December 11

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. – Bible Study in Grace Hall

6:00 p.m. – TOPS

6:00 p.m. – Companion Congregation Committee

6:00 p.m. – Evening Bible Study in the Gathering Hall

6:00 p.m. – Good and Beautiful God book discussion – Café

7:00 p.m. – Committee Night: Evangelism, Finance, Property, Lay Ministry, Social Ministry, Worship and Music, Youth Ed.

8:00 p.m. - Stewardship

WEDNESDAY, December 12

9:00 a.m. – Willing Workers

4:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Cherub Choir

4:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Supper

5:30 p.m. – Book Discussion

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. – Chapel Chimers (grade 3-5)

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Kids Hour

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Lectionary Study

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. – Youth Bells (grades 6-12)

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. – High School Hangout, high school room

6:30 p.m. – Brass Practice

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Confirmation

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Grace Bells

7:45 – 8:45 p.m. – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, December 13 *Newsletter deadline*

9:00 a.m. – Quilters

1:30 p.m. – Calvin Community Communion

6:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Embroidery Guild Holiday party GH I & II

6:30 p.m. – Holy Communion Evening Worship

7:30 p.m. – Adult Musicians Christmas party at the Rutters' home

FRIDAY, December 14**SATURDAY, December 15**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Christmas Program Rehearsal

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Youth/Young Adult Visioning Task Team mtg.

SUNDAY, December 16

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship – Grace Hall

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

9:30 a.m. – Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. – Good and Beautiful God Book Discussion - Chapel
9:30 a.m. – Stephen Minister in Upper Room
10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion – Christmas Program
12:00 p.m. –Congregational Christmastime Potluck – Grace Hall I&II

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor - Michael Schmidt

Director of Laity Ministries - Stephanie Johnson

Director of Music Ministries - Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg

Ensemble Director – Sherry Kocek

Grace Kids Care Director - Heather Nelson

Office Administrator - Jacquelyn Holmes

Building/Grounds - Luis Reaza

Receptionist - Diana Johnson

Office Assistant - Michelle Voelker

Ushers – 8:15 Linda Biegger, Dee Hummel, Tim Nelson, Larry Nordeen 10:45 Mark Stumme, Jay Wangerin, Tom McCleary

Liturgist – 8:15 – Matt Jordahl 10:45 – Janet Habick

Lector – 8:15 – Julie Honsey 10:45 – Rev. Ro Zimany

Children’s Sermon – Carol Woodruff

Communion servers – 10:45am: Alex Davik, Kathy Bowermaster, Aaron Brandsfield, Kristin Medhurst

Acolytes – 8:15 Haley Dostalick 10:45 Courtney Brandsfield, Sierra Carney

Altar Guild – Michelle Voelker, Sue Anderson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – 8:15 Mike Peterman, Jon Rissman 10:45 –Chris Lawson, Mike Carney

Coffee – Kathleen Uehling, Brad Lint, and Maya



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