

Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310



Luke 3:16, NRSV

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2012

10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion Service and Christmas Program

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.*

Prelude Chorale prelude "In dulci jubilo" by J.S. Bach
(Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation)

Welcome

Hymn "Fling Wide the Door" #259

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

8:15 – Amy and Ardis Schmelzer

10:45 - Joyce Lewis, Catherine, Elizabeth, and Rebecca Lewis

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 Verse 1-3 this week

Come and Fill Our Hearts



Come and fill our hearts with your love. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Come and fill our hearts with your joy. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Come and fill our hearts with your hope. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.



Come and fill our hearts with your love. Al-le-lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your joy. Al-le-lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your hope. Al-le-lu - ia!



P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



2012 Christmas program

“Tree-mendous Love... From the Manger to the Cross”

*Sunday School Program: “Tree-mendous Love... From the Manger to the Cross” Copyright © 2007 by Ellen S. Bunnell, Bradford, PA, www.cemlife.com
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Introduction – Readers

Procession

“Oh Come All Ye Faithful”

played by Kayleigh Medhurst and Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg

Church Janitor introduction

Babes in Joyland

Parents and young children

Chapel Chimers

“Ding Dong Merrily on High”, “Christmas Fantasy”

arr. By Thomas Fischer

Gingerbread Christmas – preschool class

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

(joined by grades K/1)

The Gift – Kindergarten/grade 1

Youth Choir

"Sing We Now of Christmas", arr. by Becky Slagle Mayo

The Janitor Speaks

Cherub Choir

"He Came Down"

Candy Canes – grades 2 and 3

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (#289)

children sing verse 1, congregation sings vs. 2-3

Star Over Bethlehem – grades 4 and 5

"Away in a Manger" (#277)

children sing vs. 1-2, congregation sings vs. 3

The Janitor and the Kid

"Away in a Manger" by John R. Murray

played by Sarah Voelker on piano

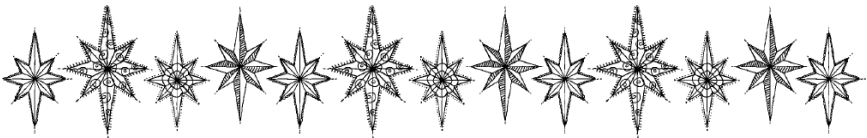
Candle Light – Readers

"This Little Light of Mine" – entire cast

The Janitor and the Kid Return

Recession – "Go Tell It On the Mountain" (#290)

children sing vs. 1, congregation sings vs. 2-3



Please stand as you are able

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 "For Children at Christmas (Prelude on an American Carol)"

by James Southbridge

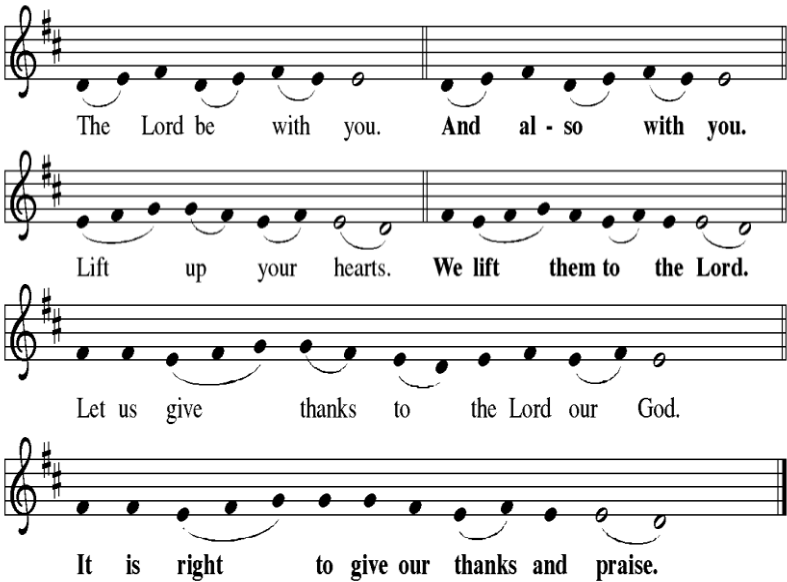
Please stand as you are able

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 -
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymns: 488, 595, 483

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

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

#244

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Hail to the Lord's Anointed” by Henry Balcombe



Many thanks go out to the pageant volunteers and Sunday School teachers who have made the program possible: Joyce Lewis, Ashley Lund, Kate Schaller, Susanne Carney, MeLissa Lawson, Tammy Denton, Angela Ringgenberg, Kristina Hutton, Chuck Denton, Brian Barks, Paul Nelson, Shirley Shiffler, Valerie Culp, Beth Flannery, and the Youth Education Team: Kara Jordahl, Mary Freimuth Helt, Jenny Huisman, Kristin Medhurst, Leslie Denton. A special thank you goes out to Beth Flannery for her coordination of numerous details, and to families of children in the program for their support of their children's growth in the faith. Advent and Christmas blessings to all!

Cast:

Readers: Courtney Brandsfield, McKenzie Carney, Payton Lawson, Ben Wonderlin

Tree assistants: Leslie Denton, Natasha Voelker

Janitor: Mary Freimuth Helt

The Kid: Kyler Medhurst

Parents and young children: Stacie and Joel Holst with Declan, Kristina and Sonny Hutton with Piper, Kara and Matt Jordahl with Henry, Josh and Ashley Lund with Elijah, Stephen Bloomberg and Vanessa

Preschool: Alexander Gutmann, Finn Holst, Kiernan Hutton, Ava Lund, Alex Mulvihill, Allison Olson, Carleigh Ridnour

Kindergarten/Grade 1: Brianna Huisman, Catherine Lewis, Charla Preston, Max Ringgenberg, Layne Weber

Grades 2/3: Kiley Brandsfield, Jamie Briggs, Drake Carney, Ivy Lawson, Eryn Lenhart, Kyra Lenhart, Maya Lenhart, Elizabeth Lewis, Maya Lint, Gumaro Marquez, Mira Voelker

Grades 4/5: Emma Ashton, Zoe Lawson, Rebecca Lewis, Lydia McCleary, Kayleigh Medhurst, Laria Preston, Kaylee Ringgenberg, Samuel Speck

Chapel Chimers led by Carol Woodruff: Kayleigh Medhurst, Kaylee Ringgenberg and Rich Snyder.

Youth Choir led by Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg , accompanied by Bev Anderson: Kayleigh Medhurst, Sarah Voelker, Laria Preston, Rebecca Lewis.

Cherub Choir led by Pastor Mike and Jenie Schmidt, accompanied by Barb Powers: Jamie Briggs, Catherine Lewis, Allison Olson, Charla Preston, and Mira Voelker.

Pianist: Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg



Announcements and Calendar

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

Quarters placed in the offering plate this and every third Sunday are for the Food pantry.

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 16** – Story Teller
December 23 – Coffee and Fellowship in the
Gathering Hall

Adult Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings from 8:45–10:15a.m. in Grace Hall II. Tuesday evening Bible Study will resume on January 8.

Super Wednesday: We're almost there! Just 3 dates remaining to fill! Thank you for signing up!

December 19: Open

January 16: Open

February 6: Open

Please sign up in the kitchen or give Jane a call at 277-6838.

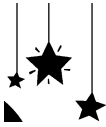


Happy Birthday to Helen Fanning, Paul Weaver, Payton Lawson, Katja Rahjes, John Farver, Richard Naney, Shirley Shiffler, Nathan Bickel, John Rudisill, Chris Janson, Donald Moon, Harold Mann, Quinci Chapman, Elizabeth Lewis

Altar Flowers: Thank you to everyone who has helped provide flowers on the altar this past year with a donation of \$38.00. Each donation helps adorn the altar and also helps our church wide budget. This past year, each Sunday that flowers were requested, someone donated funds to cover the cost. Thank you! The new flower chart for 2013 is in the Gathering Hall on the west brick wall. Please consider choosing a Sunday in January to start the year.

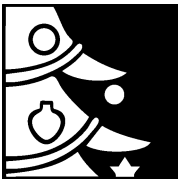


Grace Kids' Care Christmas Program will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening, December 18th. If you are not able to attend you are invited to the dress rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday December 18th in Grace Hall following the morning Bible Study.



The Star Tree has just 3 lonely stars remaining. Won't you help make someone's Christmas just a little brighter? The deadline is Tuesday.

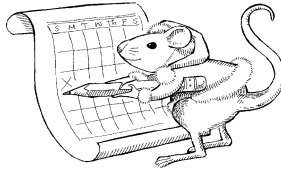
Hope for the Hungry follow-up meeting - All those who are interested in learning more about the goals that were established as a result of the Hope for the Hungry conference this fall, and how you might get involved locally, are invited to come to a follow-up meeting on Tuesday, December 18 at 10:30am in the Gathering Hall. Interested but can't come? Contact Stephanie Johnson at stephaniejohnson@q.com.



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!



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!



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

This Week at Grace

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

MONDAY, December 17

- 10:00 a.m. – Staff meeting
- 11:30 a.m. – Staff Christmas Lunch, office closed
- 4:00 p.m. – TOPS
- 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. – AA in Grace Hall

TUESDAY, December 18, *Star Tree Deadline*

No evening bible study

- 8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
- 8:45 – 10:15 a.m. – Bible Study in Grace Hall
- 10:30 a.m. – Hope for the Hungry follow-up – Gathering Hall
- 6:00 p.m. – TOPS
- 6:00 p.m. – Companion Congregation Committee
- 6:00 p.m. – Good and Beautiful God book discussion – Café
- 7:00 p.m. – Council Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. – Grace Kids Care Christmas Program

WEDNESDAY, December 19

- 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 – 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 20

- 9:00 a.m. – Quilters
- 6:30 p.m. – Holy Communion Evening Worship

FRIDAY, December 21, *First day of Winter*

SATURDAY, December 22

- 2:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Ringgenberg Family Gathering – Gym, Grace Hall, Kitchen

SUNDAY, December 23, *no Stephen Minister available*

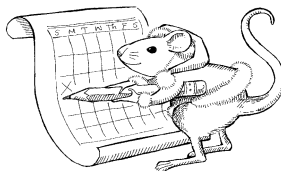
- 8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion
- 9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship – Gathering Hall
- 10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion

Monday, December 24, *Christmas Eve*

- 5:00 p.m. – Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – AA Groups
- 11:00 p.m. – Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 25, *Christmas Day, Office closed*

- 10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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 – Paul Kallenbach

Lector – 8:15 – Karen Taylor 10:45 – Carol Woodruff

Communion servers – 8:15 -The Rissman Family

Acolytes – 8:15 Matt Farrell, Haley Dostalik 10:45 Sarah Voelker,
Sierra Carney

Altar Guild – Michelle Voelker, Sue Anderson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – 8:15 Mike Peterman, Chuck Denton 10:45 – Jeff Farrell,
Mike Carney

Coffee – Karen Taylor



Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Pastor Michael Schmidt

515-276-6873

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www.gracedm.org