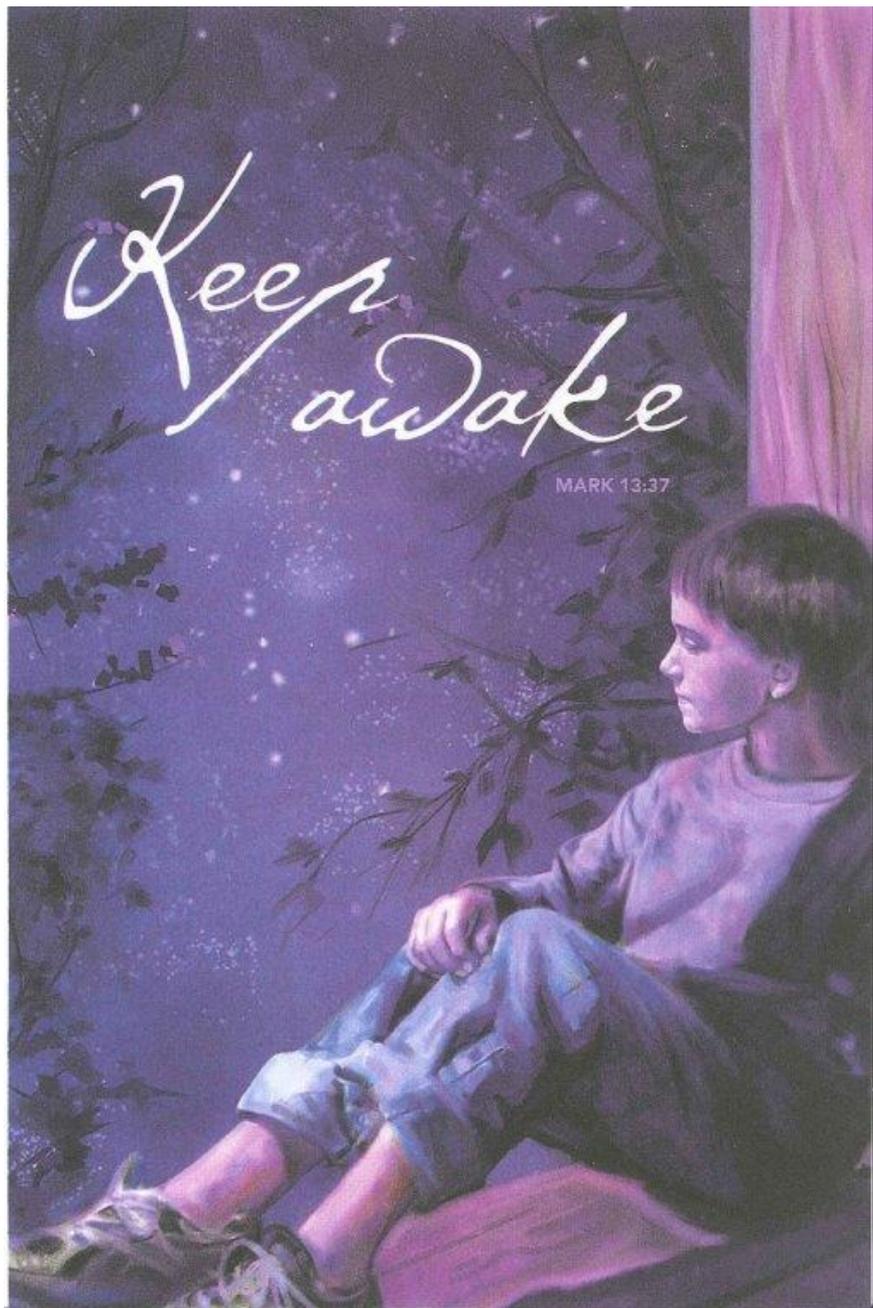


# Keep awake

MARK 13:37



# **Welcome to Worship**

*at*

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

**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! Please sign the Attendance Registrations sheets, which are found in each pew. Visitors, please 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.*

*The nursery is available for newborns - age 3. The nursery is staffed by Grace Kids Care staff members for children who become restless during the service. If there is no one in the nursery, check in the daycare office. The service is broadcast in the Gathering Hall. To entertain your children during the service there are purple busy-bags with books and coloring materials for children just outside the sanctuary.*

***Communion** – We welcome all people to the Lord's table to receive Holy Communion. Children ages 3 and above are welcome at the parents' discretion, after meeting for instruction with the pastor. 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 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. Communion bread is gluten free.*

***Stephen Ministry** is a one-to-one caregiving ministry for those experiencing personal problems such as grieving or crisis situations. If you would like to be connected to a Stephen Minister, please contact the office for assistance.*

# The First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2014

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

## Prelude

8:15

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

by Cindy Berry

10:45

“It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”

by David W. Moore

*Bruce Anderson, Clarinet*

## Welcome

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**C: Amen.**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#257 vs. 1

*(Light the first candle.)*

**Opening Hymn** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#631

### Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

**C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**First Reading: Isaiah 64:1–9**

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — <sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

L: the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Children’s Sermon** Junior Grace Players

*Jamie Briggs, Drake Carney, Maya Lint, Catherine Lewis, Brad Lint*

**Psalm: Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19**



Let your face shine up - on us and

**R:**



we shall be saved, and we shall be saved.

<sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

<sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

<sup>3</sup>Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray? R**

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself. R**

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

<sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. R**

### **Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3–9**

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the Thirteenth Chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Gospel: Mark 13:24–37

*In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

<sup>24</sup>But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**          Advent Survival Guide — Into the Woods

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn of the Day**          “You Are Mine”

#581

**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:** Hear us, O God.

**C:** Your mercy is great.

**P:** Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in 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

8:15 "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear" by David W. Moore  
*Bruce Anderson, Clarinet*

10:45 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" by Cindy Berry

*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'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed 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. The reign of God is at hand. Come, taste the joy prepared for you.

*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.

**Distribution Hymns:** 243, 262, 770

**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**

**Sending of Communion**

Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation: As Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her son, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and

brothers. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion, that through the body and blood of your Son we may all know the hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ our 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:** "This Little Light of Mine"

#677

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Rowland H. Pritchard  
arr. by Jeff Bennett

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**Good Morning and Welcome to Grace!**

**In our prayers:** Bill Jensen, Betty Hirschauer, Dorothy Singh, the family of Paul Knudsen (Carol Woodruff's brother), the family of Norman Ullestad, and the others we name before you...

*Praying for one another is an important part of the life of a community of faith. In order to do this it is important that the prayer list be as current as possible. If you or a relative would like to be included in the prayers please contact the church office. Thank you.*

**Flowers on the altar** glorify God and are given by Jeanne and Kevin Drury in memory of loved ones.

**Happy Anniversary to:** Ross and Cindy Peeler

**Happy Birthday to:** Joshua Cline, Sarah Williamson, Deanna Weber, Josh Lund, Beverly Anderson, Sean Calhoun, Christopher Barks,

Martha Page, Ami Bradwell, Carter Woodruff, Anna Marie Peterson,  
Duane Ulrick, Darlis Honnold, Aaron Brandsfield

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## Announcements

**Sunday School classes** meet at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. Preschool and elementary both start in room 101, with preschool ending in room 105.

**Adult Bible Study** meets Tuesday mornings from 8:45–10:15 a.m. in Grace Hall II. Pastor Mike leads.

**Paper copies of the Advent devotions** are now available at Volunteer Central for those who aren't on the email distribution list. If you'd like to receive devotions by email, contact the church office at [worship@gracedm.org](mailto:worship@gracedm.org). Thanks to our writers for enriching our season with your reflections.

### **Starting Today: *Under Wraps***

This Advent, join your fellow Grace members in discovering the depths of God's love in anticipation of Jesus' birth. The new four-part series, *Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected*, explores the character of God described in the Old Testament and revealed through Jesus Christ.

- Nov. 30 – God is Expectant
- Dec. 7 – God is Dangerous
- Dec. 14 – God is Jealous
- Dec. 21 God is Faithful

Attend any or all Sunday sessions in Grace Hall II, 9:30-10:30 a.m.



### **Advent Sermon Series**

Does life make you feel like you are in the wilderness without a GPS?  
Let the Advent Survival Guide sermon series lead you to Gods path.

**November 30:** Advent Survival Guide- Into the Woods

**December 7:** Advent Survival Guide- Building a Shelter

**December 14:** Advent Survival Guide- Starting a Fire

**December 21:** Advent Survival Guide- Signs of Life

## Grace Fellowship Turkey and Ham Balls Dinner

**When: December 7 at 5 p.m.**

Cost: \$11

Entertainment: Classified Quartet (Members of  
Harmony Central Sweet Adelines Chorus)

**Final reservations and payment due today.**



### Poinsettias

The altar is decorated each Christmas by the donation of poinsettias from members at Grace. This year the poinsettias will be pink, white and red. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the church, complete the order form and place in the offering plate along with payment or turn into the church office. Cost is \$10.60 per plant and payment is due with the order. ***The last day to order poinsettias will be Tuesday, December 2nd.*** You will be able to pick up your poinsettia after Sunday worship services on **Christmas Day.**



**The Second Annual Bake Sale held by the Companion Congregation Committee will be December 14.**

Please donate samples of your favorite holiday and Christmas goodies to share. Items can be brought to the kitchen Saturday, December 13 or the morning of December 14. We will sell goodies in honor of our relationship with Msindo and Mararo and to support the scholarship fund for needy students.

**Everyone come to share and buy Christmas goodies !**



**There is still one opening on the Flower Chart for 2014.** The date is December 14. If you would like to help provide flowers for the altar please sign up. Cost is \$38.00.

## Grace Kids Care Christmas Program

Tuesday December 18

7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

All are invited to hear our Little Angels sing.

For your convenience, the current and updated calendar can be found online at [www.gracedm.org](http://www.gracedm.org), in the entry hall and in the hallway just outside of Grace Hall near the Fair Trade coffee display.

### Welcome to Grace!

**Ministers** – The People of God

**Pastor** – The Rev. Michael Schmidt

**Director of Laity Ministries** - Stephanie Johnson

**Director of Music Ministries** – Emma Stammer

**Organist** - Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg

**Grace Kids Care Director** - Heather Nelson

**Office Administrator** - Jacquelyn Holmes

**Office Assistant** - Michelle Voelker

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Ushers** – 8:15 – Carol Krause, Jerry Westercamp, Mike Peterman, Kevin Drury  
10:45 – Jay Wangerin, Mike Carney, Rick Fry, Gary Nelson

**Acolytes** – 8:15 Jamie Briggs 10:45 Yaritza Marquez, Laria Preston

**Liturgist** – 8:15 Stephanie Johnson 10:45 Denny Rehder

**Lector** – 8:15 Karen Taylor 10:45 Kate Schaller

**Children's sermon** – Pastor Mike and the Junior Grace Players: Jamie Briggs, Drake Carney, Maya Lint, Catherine Lewis, Brad Lint

**Communion servers** – 8:15 Karen Taylor, Julie Honsey, Tammy Denton, Amy Schmelzer; 10:45 Susanne Carney, Stephanie Johnson, McKenzie Carney, Kate Schaller

**Altar Guild** – Jane Ridnour and Loree Nelson

**Counters** – 8:15 Chuck Denton and Jon Rissman  
10:45 Bill Jensen and Tom McCleary

**Coffee** – Karen Taylor



### Grace Lutheran Church

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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

515-276-6873

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