

Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24, 2024
4:00 PM

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**-the congregation is invited to stand*

WELCOME TO GRACE

We are glad that you have joined us to herald the birth of Christ on this holy night. We encourage worshippers to follow the service which is projected on the screen. However, printed bulletins are provided to help guide you as well. If you have any difficulty following along, just ask one of your neighbors.

God gathers us in unity.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Isabella Weber – clarinet, Hailey Weber - trumpet

Bring a Torch

Jeanette Isabella

Gabrielle O'Haren – clarinet

The assembly stands as able.

***LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

All God's people:

Come and worship!

Shepherds, Magi, saints, and angels:

Come and worship! Come and worship!

All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort:

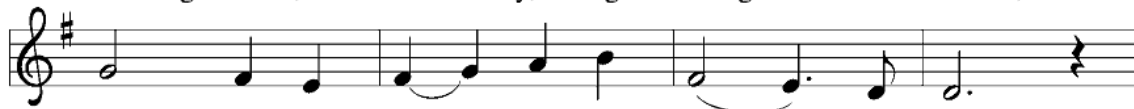
Come and worship,

come and worship Christ, the newborn King!

The Christ candle is lit in the center of the Advent wreath.



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;

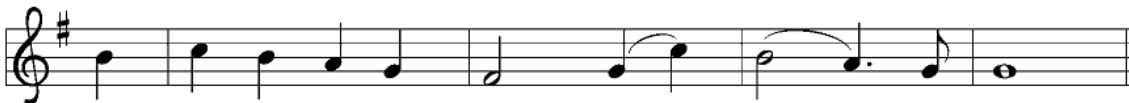


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

***GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER**

May good news of great joy be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

WORD

During the singing of the carol, participants move to their places in the Chancel to prepare for the pageant.

CAROL*O Little Town of Bethlehem*ELW#279
Verses 1 & 2

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The ancient story of old

Please stand as you are able.

CAROLGo Tell It on the Mountain*

ELW#290

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Creator of the Universe.
 You trust us with the earth.

**Teach us to care for your creation,
 and to share its resources with all.**

Blessed are you, Prince of peace.
 You rule the earth with truth and justice.
Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.
Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

**We pray especially for those on our prayer list,
and those known only in our hearts.**

Blessed are you, Resurrected Christ.

You grow up to conquer the grave.

Give hope to all who mourn.

Give peace to those missing a loved one this holiday.

Blessed are you, Son of God.

You come among us as Emmanuel.

**Go with us, all our days, and help us to tell others
of your good news in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***PEACE**

As the angels sing glory to God in the highest and peace to
God's people on earth, may the peace of the Lord be with you
always.

And also with you.

*Share the peace with one another as a sign of forgiveness and
reconciliation.*

*During this ongoing pandemic and flu season, we remind you
that it is appropriate to greet each other and pass the peace
verbally rather than have hand contact, which helps to transmit
viruses. Please remember to use the hand sanitizers that are
available in each pew, upon arrival and throughout the service
as needed.*

The assembly is seated.

THE OFFERING

*We respond to the grace given us by sharing our gifts with
others through the offering, which supports the ongoing
ministries of Grace church.*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Away in a Manger

Claire Pankake - saxophone

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

MEAL

The assembly stands as able.

***OFFERTORY** "What Child Is This?" vs 3 ELW#296



3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. **Amen.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, be near us as we boldly pray:

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**

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

Those communing in their seats and at home are led through each element.

The assembly stands as able.

***BLESSING AND POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

***THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

Following the Litany and Prayer, the light is carried into the midst of the congregation, representing the Light of Christ coming into the world. Light your candle by tilting it towards the lighted candle.

Lighted candles are never tilted to prevent hot wax from dripping.

***LITANY AND PRAYER**

Arise, shine, dear people, for our Light has come!

Christ is the World's true Light, on our paths and in our lives.

Receive the light and let its warmth and glow be in your hearts this night.

The glory of the Lord shines around us on this night.

God of bright and shining stars, may the light of the stars which sparkled in those dark skies so long ago, again illuminate our lives, guiding, healing, leading us to you. As we gather in this time and place, hearing the story of the holy birth, let the Light of Jesus penetrate our darkness of sin, loneliness and turmoil, reminding us again that you are born continually in our lives. In gratitude we offer our praise and our love to you. **Amen.**

***CAROL**

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

ELW#281



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

*BLESSING

The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

Amen.

*Upon the conclusion of the blessing,
please blow out your candle using your hand as a shield.*

Do not tip the candle until the wax has cooled.

*SENDING CAROL *Joy to the World* vs 1 & 2 ELW#267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

*DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace.
Proclaim this good news and Merry Christmas!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Wayne Leupold

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister The Rev. Chad Butz
Assisting Minister.....Jared Weber
Communion Assistants Judy Zeiders, Julie Flook
AcolyteIsabella Weber
Musicians.....Kristopher Hartman, Emily Hartman, Isabella Weber,
Hailey Weber, Jeanette Isabella, Gabrielle O'Haren, Bryce and Ava
Caron, Claire Pankake,

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of the staff and congregation of Grace Lutheran Church, we wish you a very blessed Christmas and a most joyous New Year.

May the peace of Christ assure you of God's steadfast presence.

May the hope of Christ carry you through times of darkness into light.

May the love of Christ fill your heart with abundant gratitude.

May the light of Christ shine brightly in your life to be a beacon of light and hope for those who live in darkness.

Merry Christmas from Pastor Chad Butz

Join us in worship to continue the celebration of the Birth of Jesus in Word and Sacrament. All worship services offer Holy Communion.

- Saturday, December 28, 2024 at 5:00 pm
First Sunday of Christmas, Service of Lessons & Carols
(abbreviated liturgy)
- Sunday, December 29, 2024 at 9:30 am
First Sunday of Christmas, Service of Lessons & Carols
- Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 5:00 pm
Epiphany of Our Lord (abbreviated liturgy)
- Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 9:30 am
Epiphany of Our Lord

After the holidays, our regular worship schedule is:

- Saturdays in the chapel, 5:00 pm, abbreviated liturgy
- Sundays in the main sanctuary, 9:30 am, liturgy with Chancel choir/bells

The Bulletin and Mailing for this service are given by Judy Zeiders in memory of my parents, John & Mary Landis.

Our Story

Matthew 25:35-40: *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’”*

The purpose of Grace Lutheran Church is to make a difference by serving others through God’s love and our faith

Grace Church Staff

Senior Pastor The Rev. Chad Butz
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To contact the church office: 717.737.0439; office@gracecamphill.org
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

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