

# Grace Lutheran Church



**Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7th, 2025**

# Service Notes—Second Sunday of Advent

## Welcome Visitors

Service usually lasts 60 to 70 minutes. We invite you to worship with us again soon and to make Grace your church home. Please sign Connection Cards and welcome!

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## Children

Children of all ages are welcome in worship services and will learn to participate at a very young age if present. A nursery is available if a part-of-the-service nursery stay might be helpful. Activity bags for children aged 8 and younger are available near the doors to the sanctuary. Ask an usher for one if you're not sure where they are.

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## Preparing for Worship | Second Sunday of Advent

Several proverbs speak about acquiring skill or knowledge through practice. Perhaps you've heard someone say, "Practice makes perfect," or "Repetition is the mother of learning." These sayings are good as far as they go, but they are incomplete. Practice and repetition only work if they are the right kind of practice and repetition. Perhaps these proverbs need an update. "Perfect practice makes perfect," or "Proper repetition is the mother of learning." The fact of the matter is that you can create some really wretched habits if you practice or repeat the wrong thing. Whenever we gather information, it is probably wise to remember another proverb about learning the wrong thing. If you tell a lie often enough and loud enough, most people will believe it is the truth.

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## Serving the Assembly

Preacher .....	Pastor Dehning
Organist .....	Cindy Gribble
Director of Music.....	Sarah Kavanagh
Musicians .....	(8:30 a.m.) & (10:30 a.m.) Tenor Brass Ensemble and Bell Choir
Cantors.....	(8:30 a.m.), (10:30 a.m.) Sarah Kavanagh
Elders .....	(8 a.m.) Kent Bahler & Marvin Wiederhold
.....	(10:30 a.m.) LeRoy Carey & Jeff Gilles
Altar Guild .....	(8 a.m.) Marilyn Miatke
.....	(10:30 a.m.) Nadine Cline
Bread Baker .....	Kim Reneau
Acolyte .....	(8 a.m.), (10:30 a.m.) Kenna Clawson
Reader .....	(8 a.m.) Ronald Logan, (10:30 a.m.) Brad Smith

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# Gathering

## *Prelude*

“Arise, O Christian People” arr. Zipp/Walther/J.C. Bach (8 a.m.)  
“Now Come, Redeemer of Us All” by Praetorius (10:30 a.m.)

## *Welcome*

*We invite you to record your attendance with us, either by filling out a connection card in the pew in front of you and placing it in the offering basket or by utilizing our Church Center app.*

## *Gathering Song*

“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” | LSB 348

## *Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Face the cross for the procession.*

## Kyrie

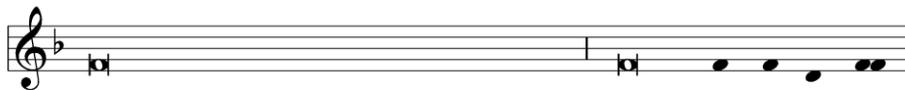
| LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### *Greeting and Prayer of the Day*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

# Word

## *Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

### *First Reading*

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.  
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>1</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## *Second Reading*

**Romans 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

*Gospel*

**Matthew 3:1-12**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

*Sermon*

*Stand*

*Nicene Creed*

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose  
kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

### *Prayers of Intercession*

*The assembly responds to each petition:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,      **C** **hear our prayer.**

### *Sharing the Peace of Christ*

*Sit*

## **Meal**

### *Offering*

“Arise, O Christian People” arr. Zipp/Walther/J.C. Bach (8 a.m.)

“Advent Promise” by Anna Laura Page (10:30 a.m.)

*Stand*

### *Offertory*

“What Shall I Render” | *LSB* 159

### *The 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 Him thanks and praise**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

| LSB 161



**C** 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.

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgement. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

*Agnus Dei*

| *LSB 163*

**G** 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.

Sit

## ***Distribution***

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*Holy Communion is celebrated every week at Grace Lutheran Church in the confidence of receiving from our Lord all that He promises. In Holy Communion, we eat and drink His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Christ and with one another. With such celebration goes the pastoral concern that all the baptized trust Christ's words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. Because Holy Communion is a confession of faith, worshippers who are in doubt or hold a differing confession of faith and yet desire to receive Holy Communion are encouraged to speak with the pastor.*

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## ***Distribution Hymns***

LSB 340 | “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

ELW 262 | “Wait for the Lord” (Bell Choir)

“Hark the Glad Sound” by Susan Geschke (Bell Choir)

**CWP 72B | “A King on High is Reigning”**

1. A King on high is reigning whom endless ages bless,  
From sea to sea sustaining his rule of righteousness.  
Beneath his strong defending his people stand secure,  
Whose justice knows no ending while sun and moon endure.
2. As rains that gently nourish and bring the seed to birth,  
His righteousness shall flourish, his peace possess the earth  
Her sceptered kings acclaim him, before his feet they fall,  
The nations kneel to name him the sov'reign Lord of all.
3. The poor are in his keeping, he hears their bitter cry,  
His watchfulness unsleeping to answer ev'ry sigh;  
The lonely and neglected, the outcast and in need,  
Forsaken and rejected, to him are dear indeed.
4. His name endures for ever who formed the fertile land;  
The fruits of our endeavor shall prosper in his hand.  
With prayer and song and story his praises sound again,  
In all the earth his glory; so be it, Lord! Amen!

**LSB 344 | “On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”**

**LSB 359 | “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”**

*Stand*

**Song After Communion**

**“Lord, Now You Let Your Servant Go In Peace” | LSB 165**



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -  
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Prayer after Communion*

LSB 166

**P** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

## Sending

*Blessing*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

*Sending Song*

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” | LSB 345

*Dismissal*

**P** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude*

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” arr. James Brauer

*Acknowledgments*

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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### **About Grace Lutheran Church**

Established in 1975, Grace Lutheran Church has faithfully served our community, spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and extending a hand of fellowship and service to all.

#### **Our Vision**

Inviting Community in Christ

#### **Our Mission**

Inviting all people to grow in faith toward God and in love toward one another.

#### **Stay Connected**

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