

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023—10am**



Grace Lutheran Church

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www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

Our Mission Statement:

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.
+ Please stand as you are able.

+ Gathering +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude "Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted"" arr. by G. F. Handel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath ELW #247 v.1-2

+ Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God, **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

+ Gathering Song ELW #255

+ Greeting ELW p.98

+ Kyrie ELW p.98

+ Prayer of the Day ELW p.19

+Word+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 ELW #85

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a

+ Gospel Acclamation ELW p.102

+ Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8

Young at Heart Message & Sermon The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

+ Song of the Day "Build Up"

Refrain: Build up, prepare the way.
Remove obstructions from my people's way.
Build up, prepare the way.
God is near, God is here today.

Break the chains of injustice. Let the oppressed go free.
Share our homes with the homeless, and our bread with the hungry.

God sees all our destruction; how we get in love's way.
Still God comes and meets us, with a steady healing embrace.

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will break
into song.

Hans Peterson and Larry Olson
© 1996 Dakota Road Music

+ Nicene Creed ELW p.104

+ Prayers of Intercession sung refrain: ELW #262

+ Peace

+Meal+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able!

Electronic donations can be made at

<https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=622d08be-6865-11ee-90fc-1260ab546d11>.



+ Offering Prayer

+ Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.107

+ Proper Preface

+ Sanctus

ELW p.108

+ Thanksgiving at the Table

+ Lord's Prayer *(sung)*

ELW p.163

+ Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei

ELW p.112

Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace

When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.

Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors.

If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.

Distribution Song

TFF #45

Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el,

his name is called Em-man-u-el;

God with us, re-vealed in us;

his name is called Em-man-u-el.

Text: Rob McGee, b. 1944

+ Table Blessing

+ Post Communion Canticle

ELW p.113

+ Prayer after Communion

+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

+ Blessing

Announcements

+ Sending Song

“A Story for All People”

As people wait in darkness, in fear of endless night, send forth your word of comfort, a message of great light. The world stands proud before you, conflicted, hungry, poor. Come, scatter pride and foolishness, and mend all souls with Savior love once more.

Refrain: A story for all people, old story new today.
A song of love and healing, a light to show the way.

We come into your presence, in hope and joy restored. With eager hearts we listen, and gather 'round your word. We watch and wait your coming and pray for greater trust, to know that while we wait for you, Emmanuel, you watch and wait with us.

A time of preparation: the guest is drawing near, as mountain places crumble and straightened paths appear. Prepare a humble welcome in ev'ry heart and home, and celebrate the promise of our God who is, and was, and is to come.

You call us to repentance, to turn and start again. You send your Holy Spirit to drown the pow'r of sin. We wonder in your mercy, your singing festal voice; and in your meal of bread and wine we join the invitation to rejoice!

Renewed by this encounter, we'll go out and proclaim. We'll tell of your salvation, and magnify your name. The servant words of Mary will swell the faithful soul, and you will bring your children home that day when all creation will be whole.

Dori Erwin Collins

+ Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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