

Grace Lutheran Church – 12.20.20

Our Mission: "Grace Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community called to gather, grow, and give together in Grace.

P: A Light shines in the darkness,

C: **And the darkness will not overcome it.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger one God, the Lord who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come before God in confession.

P: To you, O God,

C: **we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

P: Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of \dagger Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With you abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, so that we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, and forever.

C: Amen.

Luke 1:26-38

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."^[a] ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"^[b] ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

Sermon – Pastor Andy Tyrrell

Hymn of the Day – In the Day of the Lord

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: 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 again 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 Intercession

P: Lord in Your Mercy.

C: Hear our Prayer.

Sharing the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

The Offering – If you are able to continue to support the church financially during this difficult time, we would be grateful. Options for electronic giving are on our website (gracelutheran1.org). If you need help using the online giving tools please contact Pastor Andy (pastor@gracelutheran1.org). Another option is to mail your offering directly to the church.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. God of abundance,

C: we bring before you the fruits of our work, 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. Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Post Communion Blessing

**P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, bless you and
keep you in everlasting life.
C: Amen.**

Prayer After Communion

**P: Let us pray. Holy one, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have
experienced your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives,
that we may be messengers to prepare your way of justice. We ask this through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.**

Blessing

**P: May God direct your ways in peace, make you live in love for one another and for
all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty
God, Father, \dagger Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn – Soon and Very Soon

**P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C: Thanks be to God.**

*catholic means universal/all Christians