

**First Sunday of Advent**  
**December 1, 2019**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**WELCOME TO GRACE**

**Prelude**

**Word of Welcome**



*stand as you are able*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

**C Amen**

P Let us come before the living God in confession.

*silence for reflection*

P As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

**C we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

P Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism, where sin is washed away in the river of life. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth

boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven in the name of the one who is coming and is already here, † Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen**

### **Gathering Hymn**

'O Lord, How Shall I Meet You'

**241**

### **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.**

*please be seated*

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

A Blessed are you, God of Jacob, for you promise to transform weapons of war into implements of planting and harvest and to teach us your way of peace; you promise that our night of sin is far gone and that your day of salvation is dawning. As we light the first candle on this wreath, wake us from our sleep, wrap us in your light, empower us to live honorably, and guide us along your path of peace.

O house of Jacob, come,

**C let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen**

*The first candle is lit.*

### **Hymn**

'Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah' vs 1 **240**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you

live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**First Reading**

Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

**Second Reading**

Romans 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation** 'Alleluia' p. 151

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

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

**Holy Gospel**

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*please be seated*

**Children's Sermon**

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

'Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying'

436

*stand as you are able*

### Apostles' Creed

p. 105

### Prayers of Intercession

*Petitions end:*

A Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

**C Amen**

**Peace** *The people greet one another saying:  
"Peace be with you".*

*please be seated*

### Offering

*stand as you are able*

**Offertory** 'Soon and Very Soon' vs 1 **439**

### Offering Prayer

A Giver of every good thing,

**C we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. Amen**

**Great Thanksgiving**

p. 152 & p. 132

**Lord's Prayer**

p.134

*please be seated*

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*Communion, this morning, will be by intinction. The ushers will direct you to the front, first the pulpit side and then lectern side. Come up using the center aisle and return by the side aisle. Wine will be in the larger portion and grape juice in the smaller portion of the chalice. Gluten free wafers available by request. Children are invited for a blessing. All are welcome who believe Christ is present in this meal for the forgiveness of sins.*

## **Hymns at the Distribution**

'Lamb of God'	p. 154
'Come Now, O Prince of Peace'	<b>247</b>
'He Came Down'	<b>253</b>
'Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus'	<b>254</b>

*stand as you are able*

## **Table Blessing**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**A** God of abundance,

**C** **we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior. Amen**

### **Blessing**

**P** Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

### **Sending Hymn**

'Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!' **246**

## **Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

## **Prayer Huddle**

### **Angels of Hope 2019 Giving Tree**

Select an angel(s) off the tree:

Have fun shopping for this person. Pray for this person.

Return the gift(s) to church **unwrapped** and place it(them) under the tree by December 15. Be sure to include the angel with your gift so the ones who deliver know where it is to go.

We'll also be collecting other items that are needed by all families and individuals such as:

Toilet Paper Paper Towels Toothpaste

Fast Food Gift Cards Laundry Detergent Dish Soap

These items may also be brought to church unwrapped by December 15. They will be distributed among the families and individuals.

### **Christmas Display**

The Altar Guild will be decorating the church during the Advent/Christmas seasons. Garland, trees, wreaths and plants will be part of this and remain in place until Jan. 15, 2020. You are invited to help with the cost by giving a suggested gift of \$12.00 or any amount you choose. You may place your gift in an offering envelope and mark it "Christmas Display". There is a sheet on the desk where you can place your name or fill out the form in the December Newsletter and return it with your gift. Thank you for helping beautify the church during these seasons.

**Worship Assistants: December 1**

**Greeters:** Mason – Robbie Johnson  
East – Ralph Sievert

**Assisting Minister:** Becky Luett

**Lector:** Becky Luett

**Communion:** Dennis Pringnitz

**Ushers:** Marty Grow, Laury Grow, Kathy Lanska,  
Brian Klauer

**Accompanist:** Lois Hilger

**Attendance 11/24/19:** 9:30 – 69

**Grilled Cheese Lunch: 11/21/19:** 91

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
900 N. Mason, Appleton, WI 54914  
920-733-9135  
& [www.gracelutheranappleton.org](http://www.gracelutheranappleton.org)

**Pastor Dan Luett**  
920-594-2015 [pastordanluett@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanluett@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary:** Carey Mackesy

***Welcome to Grace***

*Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today. There is a guest book to sign in the gathering area. If you are looking for a church home, you are welcome here.*

**Please Note:**

**As Trinity transitions to their new location for their offices, access to the building is changing. The Grace office is usually available Tuesday, Wed and Thurs. from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm but it is always best to call ahead 733-9135 if you need access and don't have a key.**

## ***In Prayer this Week***

***For members on the Care List especially Marie Mueller.***

***For Healing*** Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law; Rev. Jennie Johnson Wrege; Valerie Sieg; Marvin Wrege; Margaret Congdon; Mike VerKuilen; Lloyd Learman; Charlotte Endorf; Marian Breitenfeldt; Bev; Jim Marks; Darlene, Linda Grebe's mom; Judy Cross; Tom Muggenthaler; Gene Krull; Ole Olson; Gerry Kerwell; Joyce; Ken and Edna; Paula; Ben Holz.

***For those with cancer especially Ellie; Mark Catlin; Kenny Verdegan; Louie Dumke; Sam Strong.***

***"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."*** Romans 12:12



*If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (422-1090) or Susan Pringnitz (733-7591). Call the church office with requests for prayer to be put in the bulletin and/or to ask for a prayer to be relayed to the Prayer Chain.*

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## **Announcements**

Thank you for **signing the card** each week on the table in the Narthex that are mailed out to the homebound members.

Check out the **Grace Web Site**

[www.gracelutheranappleton.org](http://www.gracelutheranappleton.org) for updated information about our congregation. We also have a feature – Daily Devotions. Every day a new devotion is on our website. Check them out!

If you or a family member are **hospitalized**, please give Pastor Dan a call and let him know. We don't always get a call from the hospital to let the church know.

**Snow shoveling** is upon us once again (yuk). There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex. Can you help? I know we, as a congregation, don't always like to sign up for things, however it really helps for everyone to know it is taken care of. Thank you in advance for all the help.

**The Grace Care Team** want to remember our people on the **Care and Concerned List** again this year. Between now and **December 15**, please collect donations for our more fragile members of Grace, and the care team will assemble **gift bags** for each of them. We will be making up about **14 bags** this year. Please look for the big bin in the narthex right after Thanksgiving and fill it up by Dec. 15. Check the December Newsletter for a list of ideas to be included.

**IMPORTANT: - Contributions for 2019 – Contributions you want recorded for 2019 must be received by December 29. Checks MUST have a December date to be counted for 2019.**

**Envelopes** – New envelopes will be available the middle of December for 2020. If you attend Grace and are not a member you may still receive envelopes so your donations can be recorded and you will receive a statement at the end of the year. The other option is to put your donation in one of the pew envelopes with your name on it and it will also be recorded. If you make your donations through auto pay at your bank just put your new envelope number where they ask for account number starting January 1, 2020. Statements for 2019 will be out by the end of January 2020. Please see Cheryl Muggenthaler if you have questions or request envelopes for 2020.

**Fox Valley Lutheran Homes** is having Advent services on Wednesday, Dec 4, 11 & 18 at 11:30 am. There is a luncheon following the service you are welcome to attend. Grace is hosting the lunch on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> and thank you to all the volunteers for donating items.

**LUETT CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE**

Come and spend an hour or more, visiting with friends, enjoying Christmas goodies, and seeing all three floors of our Christmas 2019 Open House, on Saturday, December 14, from 1 to 5 P.M., at 113 Woodside Court, Neenah.

## GRACE FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday, Dec 1** ..... 9:30 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship
- Monday, Dec 2** .....7:30 pm AA Meeting
- Tuesday, Dec 3** .....8:30 am Quilters  
10:30 am W & M Mtg
- Wednesday, Dec 4** ..... 9:00 am Bible Study  
11:30 am Worship @ FVLH w/lunch  
6:30 pm Worship  
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
- Thursday, Dec 5** .....10:30 am Grilled Cheese
- Friday, Dec 6** ..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Saturday, Dec 7** .....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service
- Sunday, Dec 8** ..... 9:30 a.m. Worship  
10:30 am Sunday School  
6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship

