

Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 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

'On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry'

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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 hope, for you promise to bring forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse who will bring justice to the poor, who will deliver the needy and crush the oppressor, who will stand as a signal of hope for all people. As we light the second candle, turn our wills to bear the fruit of repentance, transform our hearts to live in justice and harmony with one another, and fix our eyes on the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ, the hope of all nations. O people of hope, come,

C let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen

The second candle is lit.

Hymn

'Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah' vs 2 **240**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray
Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit
of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom
and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His
delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not
judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his
ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the
poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the
earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his
mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the
wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his
waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The
wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie
down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the
fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.
⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall
lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like
the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of
the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on
the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all
my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the
knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal
to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and
his dwelling shall be glorious.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written
for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by

the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one

of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

please be seated

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

'Comfort, Comfort Now My People'

256

stand as you are able

Apostles' Creed

p. 105

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions end:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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. 152-153 & p. 132

Lord's Prayer

p. 134

please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion

Come to the communion rail by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. You may kneel or stand. Wine is in the common cup and tray of individual cups. If you prefer grape juice, ask the server. 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
'Blessed Be the God of Israel'	250
'Fling Wide the Door'	259

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, the Glad Sound!' **239**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prayer Huddle

Once again it is the **season of snow**. In case of extreme weather, Grace will announce any closures thru the radio on WHBY 1150 AM and thru the TV on station WBAY (ABC).

Worship Assistants: December 8

Greeters: Mason – Nita Williams
East – Karen & Gene Krull

Assisting Minister: Tom Jensen

Lector: Robbie Johnson

Communion: Deb Werth

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

Accompanist: Becky Luett

Attendance 12/1/19: 9:30 – 25

Grilled Cheese Lunch: 11/28/19: No School

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Dan Luett

920-594-2015 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 Marv Wrege.

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 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!

Snow shoveling is upon us once again (yuk). There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex. Can you help? 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.

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 4th 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.

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.

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.

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Dec 8 9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship

Monday, Dec 97:30 pm AA Meeting

Tuesday, Dec 108:30 am Quilters

Wednesday, Dec 11 9:00 am Bible Study
11:30 am Worship @ FVLH w/lunch
6:30 pm Worship
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, Dec 1210:30 am Grilled Cheese
10:00 -1:00 Salvation Army

Friday, Dec 13 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, Dec 149:00 a.m. Hmong Service

Sunday, Dec 15 9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 am Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship

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.