

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 16, 2018**  
**8:30 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 Lord of Israel 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.  
*silence for reflection and self-examination*

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**

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 † 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** 'Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers' **244**

**Greeting**

P From the one who was and who is and who is to come: Grace and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

A We praise you, O God,

C **for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light this candle on the wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen**

*The third candle is lit.*

**Hymn**

'Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah' vs 3 **240**

**Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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**

Zephaniah 3:14-20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the

judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup>I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

### **Second Reading**

Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation**

'Alleluia'

p. 142

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

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

**Holy Gospel**

Luke 3:7-18

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. <sup>9</sup>Even 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."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

## **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 Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us,  
we bring to you these prayers and those  
unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior  
and Lord.

C **Amen**

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

*please be seated*

## **Special Music at the Offering**

'What Child Is This' Oboe Solo

*stand as you are able*

## **Offertory**

'O Lord, How Shall I Meet You' vs 1 **241**

## **Offering Prayer**

A God of abundance,

C **we bring before you the precious fruits of  
your creation, 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**

**Great Thanksgiving**

p. 144 & 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. 146
'What Feast of Love'	<b>487</b>
'All Earth Is Hopeful'	<b>266</b>

*stand as you are able*

**Table Blessing**

**Post Communion Prayer**

A Holy One,

**C we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen**

**What Child Is This?**

**Entrance Hymn** 'O Come, All Ye Faithful'  
*(Sunday School enters)*

**283**

**Welcome**

## Responsive Reading

P What Child is this? A babe is born.

**C An infant in a stall forlorn.**

P Who can this Son of promise be?

**C We marvel at the mystery.**

## The Story of Jesus' Birth

### Oh, Who Is This?

#### Special Music

'Angels We Have Heard on High' Instrumental

## Responsive Reading

P What Child is this? A babe is born.

**C An infant in a stall forlorn.**

P Who can this son of promise be?

**C We marvel at the mystery.**

P What Child is this? He came as King.

**C The nations shout; His praises ring.**

P What Child is this? He came to die.

**C Forgiven, we can live on high.**

P What Child is this? He came in love.

**C One day, He'll bring us home above.**

P What Child is this? Oh, go and tell.

**C Christ Jesus is Immanuel!**

**Special Music** 'Away in a Manger' Sunday School

## Prayer

P We pray:

**C Father in heaven, You sent Your Son – a special Child. As our King, may He rule in our heart. As our Redeemer, may the Word made flesh ever guide us. As our loving Savior, may He bring us to You on the Last Day. What Child is this? He is Your Son. In His name we pray. Amen**

## **Blessing**

P May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen**

**Sending Hymn** 'Joy to the World' **267**

## **Dismissal**

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

## **Prayer Huddle**

Please join us in the PAC for a time of fellowship and birthday celebration!! Happy Birthday Jesus!

**\*\*This is the last week for donors to be listed\*\***

**Christmas Display-** You can sign up today on the sheet on the desk to give a gift for the Christmas display. A gift of \$12.00 or any amount you choose is appreciated. Checks are payable to Grace Lutheran Church and can be placed in your regular offering envelope and marked "Christmas Display". Thank you for your gift. Donors will be listed.

## **Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home**

devotional booklets for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2019 are available on the table in the narthex.

**Worship Assistants: December 16**

**Greeters:** Mason – Mary & Ray Hubers  
East – Mandie Klauer

**Assisting Minister:** Tom Jensen

**Lector:** Gene Krull

**Communion 8:30:** Gene Krull

**Communion 10:30:** Luann Seidl/Ethan Kraft

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

**Organist:** Diane Bailey

**Oboist:** Molly Kubica

**Attendance 12/09/18:** 8:30 - 65 10:30 – 25

**Grilled Cheese Lunch: 12/06/18 – 133**

**Grace Lutheran Church**

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**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.*

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

***For members on the Care List*** especially Marie Mueller and 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; Sharon Meier; Margaret Congdon; Jerry Wilharms; Mike VerKuilen; Rylene Houterman; Lloyd Learman; Charlotte Endorf; Kay Elliott; Bernie Hobbs; Marian Breitenfeldt; Bev.

***For those with cancer*** especially Ellie; Mark Catlin; Kenny Verdegan; Carol Baumbach; Dottie Frankie; Kristi Meier.

***For Comfort*** to the family of Gladys Prahel who passed away on Tuesday December 11, 2018.

***For Comfort*** to the family of Ron Krull, brother of Gene Krull, who passed away Monday December 10, 2018.

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



*If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (731-1428) 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.*

## **Announcements**

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

There is a **sign up sheet** on the table in the narthex to sign up to **bring treats** for hospitality time between services. Please help and sign up today.

### **Flowers in Church**

The Altar Guild has a Flower Chart by the Nursery door near the East stairway in the narthex for those who may want to donate an arrangement of live flowers for worship on any Sunday. Please put your name next to the date you would like and contact Karen Krull, 739-3880 or Diane Bailey, 734-9076 to get the details.

### **FUN \$ FACT**

We are current on all our bills with a little money in the bank. Thank you.

Please pick up your **2019 Offering envelopes today** in the narthex. Do **NOT** start using them until Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 as the envelope numbers change. We must have your offering for 2018, no later than December 30, 2018 for it to be recorded for this year.

Are you looking for a creative outlet? Are you willing to lend a hand? **Grace Sunday School** can use additional helpers and teachers. We have a great group of students to work with. Please contact Lois Hilger 920-850-0111 or Pastor Dan if you have any questions. We will be happy to have your participation to help share the responsibility of teaching our young people. God bless you for considering this!

## GRACE FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, December 16**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School Program w/ Fellowship after  
10:30 am Worship

**Monday, December 17** .....7:30 pm AA Meeting

**Tuesday, December 18** .....6:00 pm Confirmation

**Wednesday, December 19**.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study  
11:30 am Worship @ FVLH  
6:30 p.m. Worship  
6:30 pm Council  
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting

**Thursday, December 20** ..... 10:00 am Grilled Cheese

**Friday, December 21**..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

**Saturday, December 22** .....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service  
7:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship

**Sunday, December 23**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:25 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship



**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**9:00 am WORSHIP**

