

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 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 Come, O Come, Emmanuel' vs 1-4 **257**

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 hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin. As we light the fourth candle, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life that we may be saved.

O house of David, come,

C let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen

The fourth candle is lit.

Hymn

'Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah' vs 4 **240**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and

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

C Amen

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?

¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

please be seated

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

'Savior of the Nations, Come'

263

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 received and presented

Hymn at the Offering

'Soon and Very Soon'

vs 1-3

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

stand as you are able

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

p. 154

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

'Wait for the Lord' (*sing twice*) **262**

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' vs 5-8 **257**

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

The Special Baby

please be seated

Entrance Hymn

'O Come, All Ye Faithful'

vs 1-3

283

(Sunday School enters)

Welcome

Special Music

'Infant Holy, Infant Lowly'

Instrumental

Responsive Reading

A The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.

C Mary was found to be with child.

A The angel told Joseph,

C "The child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

A The angel also told Joseph,

C "Mary will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

A Jesus is Emmanuel,

C God who is with us.

Story

'The Special Baby' *from the Rhyme Bible*

Hymn

'Away in a Manger'

277

Responsive Reading

A That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable,

C a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

A What shall we call him, child of the manger?

C What name is given in Bethlehem?

A His name is Jesus, God ever with us.

C His name is Jesus, Emmanuel!

Special Music

'Emmanuel' by B McGee Sunday School
'Praise Him with Cymbals' by J Vogt Cantor
& Sunday School

Prayer

P We pray

C Father in heaven, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ – a special child. As we receive Jesus, you give us the power to become children of God. As your children, grant us grace to live our lives in faithfulness and gratitude until that day when you call us home to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Blessing

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

C Amen

Sending Hymn 'Go Tell It on the Mountain' 290

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Jesus, Emmanuel, God is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Huddle

Other Music

Postlude

'Joy to the World' by Chip Davis,
piano arrangement by Becky Luett

Devotional Books for 1st quarter 2020 are on the table in the narthex. Please take one if interested.

Worship Assistants: December 22

Greeters: Mason – Marty Grow
East – Cheryl Muggenthaler

Assisting Minister: Ron Williams

Lector: Ron Williams

Communion: Marty Grow

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

Accompanist: Becky Luett

Attendance 12/15/19: 9:30 – 75

Grilled Cheese Lunch: 12/12/19: 89

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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 Dorothy Henke.

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.

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 – are available now. 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.

Grace will be having **worship** services on **Christmas Eve** 12/24/19 at 6:30 pm and **Christmas Day** 12/25/19 at 9:30 am. Come and celebrate with us.

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Dec 22	9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship
Monday, Dec 23	7:30 pm AA Meeting
Tuesday, Dec 24	6:30 pm Worship
Wednesday, Dec 25	9:30 am Worship 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
Thursday, Dec 26	
Friday, Dec 27	9:00 a.m. Bible Study
Saturday, Dec 28	9:00 a.m. Hmong Service
Sunday, Dec 29	9:30 a.m. Worship No Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Potter's House Worship

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).

The **Semi Annual Congregational Meeting** will be January 5th after the 9:30 am worship service at approximately 10:30 am. At this meeting, the 2020 budget will be presented for approval.

