

**Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Day
December 25, 2016
8:30 & 10:30 A.M.**

WELCOME TO GRACE

A blessed Christmas to all.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, † one God, now and forever.

C Amen

P Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.
silence for reflection and self-examination

P Gracious God,

C in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen

P I bring you good news of great joy for all the people:

To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord.
Your sins are forgiven in † Jesus name.

C Amen

Gathering Hymn

'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'

270

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God sent from heaven above, be
with you all.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray
Incarnate God, on this Christmas Day we give
you thanks for sending your Son to bring light
to our darkness. Grant that we, like the angels
over Bethlehem, may sing your praises in our
hearts and lives. Amen

Be seated.

Call to Worship (*Psalm 98*)

A Sing to God something brand new!

C God has done wonderful things!

A God has not forgotten to love us all!

C Even the ends of the earth have heard!

A Make a joyful noise!

C Break forth in song!

A With strings and horns,

C sing praise to the Holy One!

A With the roaring sea and everything in it!

C With all the land and everything in it!

A The floods clap their hands.

C The hills sing for joy.

A Thank God! God is coming to set everything
right:

C Justice for everyone, everything fair.

A Sing to god something brand new!

C God has done wonderful things!

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Who Are these Angels Who Come to Earth?

Reading Luke 2:8-14

L Glory to God in highest heaven,
C who unto us the Son has given.

**Meditation
Hymn**

'Angels, We Have Heard on High' vs 1 & 3 **289**



Who Are These Shepherds Who Run to See?

Reading Luke 2:15-20

L Glory to God in highest heaven,
C who unto us the Son has given.

Meditation

Hymn *'Go Tell It on the Mountain'* vs 1 & 2 **290**



Who Is This Child, So Small, So Slight?

Reading Hebrews 1:1-4

L Glory to God in highest heaven,
C who unto us the Son has given.

Meditation

Hymn *'What Child is This'* vs 1 & 2 **296**



Who Is This King, a Manger His Throne?

Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

L Glory to God in highest heaven,
C who unto us the Son has given.

Meditation

Hymn *'Joy to the World'* vs 1 & 2 **267**



Who Is This God, Who Sends a Son?

Reading John 1:1-14

L Glory to God in highest heaven,
C who unto us the Son has given.

Meditation

Hymn *'Infant Holy, Infant Lowly'* **276**

Stand as you are able.

Christmas Creed

**C We believe in one God, who is Creator,
Ruler of the universe, Maker of all we see
and all we don't see: Source of all
creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Jesus
Christ, God from God, Light from light,
true God and true human. He is one with
the Creator; the Word made flesh, our
Messiah: Savior of all creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit,
Breath of God moving among us. Who is
one with the Creator; one with the Christ;
our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of
all creation! Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions end:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Hear the prayers of your people, glorious God,
for the sake of the one who took on our nature
and form to redeem the whole world, Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Peace

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

Be seated.

Offering

Stand as you are able.

Offertory *'What Child Is This' vs 3*

296

Offering Prayer

A God with us:

**C You came as a baby to a manger. You
slept on straw and greeted shepherds.
You come again in bread and wine.
Remind us how good you are at blessing
ordinary things. And then, through these
gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in
the strength of your holy name. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P Wonderful Counselor!

C Mighty God!

P Everlasting Father!

C Prince of Peace!

P We bless your Name forever!

C Light of Light!

P Lord of Lords!

C King of Kings!

P Emmanuel, God with us!

C We bless your Name forever!

P True God, Giver of Life, Word of our Creator,
Spirit of Counsel and Might; God of our
essence, be with us now as we join in the
celebration of your love.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

p 145

Be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

8:30 a.m. 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.

10:30 a.m. Come forward to receive the bread and dip it in the grape juice in the chalice.

Hymns at the Distribution

'O Little Town of Bethlehem' **279**

'Love Has Come' **292**

Stand as you are able.

Table Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A On this day, O God,

C you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Benediction

P May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always.

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

C Amen

Closing Hymn

'Good Christian Friends, Rejoice'

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Dismissal

A Go in peace. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Worship Assistants: December 25

Assisting Minister: Lois Hilger

Lectors: Lois Hilger & Gene Krull

8:30 Communion: Marty Grow

10:30 Communion: Deb Werth

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

Organist / Pianist: Diane Bailey

Preacher / Presider: Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege

Attendance 12/18 8:30 a.m. 46

10:30 a.m. 66

H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch 12/15: 118

Welcome to Grace

Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today. Fill out one of the cards in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate to share your contact information and any needs. There is also a guest book to sign in the gathering area. If you are looking for a church home, you are welcome here.

Grace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

*By grace, through faith, we follow God's Word, share the gospel of Jesus Christ and bring hope to others through **worship, education and outreach.***

In Prayer this Week

For members on the Care List especially Selma Torbeck and Rose Zinck.

For those in Hospice Care especially Earl Breitenfeldt.

For Healing for Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law.

For those with cancer especially Melissa Heins, Gene and Karen Krull's daughter; Mark Catlin; Robyn Messenger, Deb Baumbach's sister; and Roger Schmidt.

In Thanksgiving for Christ Jesus, God with us!

“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

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 8th at 9:30 a.m.

The Council has approved the recommendation of the Call Committee to extend a half-time call to Pastor Dan Luett. This special meeting will be an opportunity for discussion and a congregational vote.

During cold and flu season, many people prefer to not shake hands. If you wish, you may share God's Peace using a healthful alternative, such as patting a shoulder, bumping fists or elbows, or placing your hand over your heart.

Council News

The Council Minutes will be posted each month on the bulletin board above the magazine rack in the Gathering Area. The minutes will also be available by email. Contact Sarah (Grace54914@gmail.com) to be included on the distribution list each month.

A reminder that any **contributions** you want included for 2016 giving must be given by December 31. If you cannot get your final offering in by December 31, make sure your check is dated in December. Giving statements will be completed by mid-January and available in the Gathering Area. If you are unable to pick up your statement, please let the office know and we will mail it to you.

Thank you. Cheryl Muggenthaler

Hospitality Volunteers are needed. Please sign up on the table in the gathering area if you are willing to provide treats between services.

Piano Recital You are invited for a fantastic piano recital January 4 at 7:00 p.m. Tammy Li, a piano performance major at Lawrence University, will present a program which will last about an hour. Free admission.

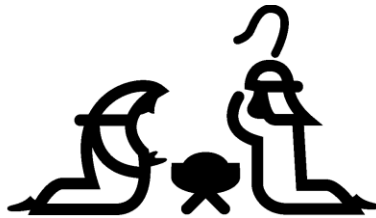
The Preschool from Lincoln Elementary will continue to meet at Grace through the school year! A person to do light cleaning Monday - Thursday for one hour each day is needed. Contact Dave Lease (843-1364).

Grace Lutheran Church
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Pastor Vicki Fink
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Office Manager: Sarah Bultman

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday, Dec. 25**.....8:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:30 p.m. Appleton Pentecostal Assembly (APA)
- Monday, Dec. 26**.....Office Closed
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
- Tuesday, Dec. 27**.....Office Closed
- Wed., Dec. 28**.....Office Closed
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. APA Bible Study
- Thursday, Dec. 29**.....Office Closed
- Friday, Dec. 30**.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Saturday, Dec. 31**.....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service
- Sunday, Jan. 1**8:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:30 p.m. Appleton Pentecostal Assembly (APA)



MERRY CHRISTMAS
