

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO GRACE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C Amen

P Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P God of all time,

C we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen

P Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C Amen

Gathering Hymn

'Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying'

436

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.

Be seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

A We praise you, O God.

C for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. 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 awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your
presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not
expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your
presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our
iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Second Reading

I Corinthians 1:3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

'Alleluia!'

p. 151

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of

heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

'Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers'

244

Stand as you are able.

Apostles' Creed

p. 105

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions end:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Peace

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

Be seated.

Offering

Stand as you are able.

Offertory 'Fling Wide the Door' vs 1 **259**

Offering Prayer

A Savior of the nation, come.

C Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen

Great Thanksgiving pp. 152-153

Lord's Prayer p. 154

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' **247**

'Awake, O Sleeper' **452**

Stand as you are able.

Table Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A God for whom we wait,

C you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessing

P May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

Sending Hymn *'My Lord, What a Morning'* **438**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Huddle

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Worship Assistants: December 3

Greeters: Mason – Robbie Johnson & Family
East – Carol & Ralph Sievert

Assisting Minister: Mandie Klauer

Lector: Brian Klauer

Communion 8:30: Dennis Pringnitz

Communion 10:30: Deb Werth

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

Organist: Diane Bailey

Attendance 11/126: 8:30 am–54 & 10:30 am-19

H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch: No lunch - Thanksgiving.

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Office Manager: Sarah Bultman

In Prayer this Week

For members on the Care List especially Dorothy Henke and Ellen Holz.

For Healing for Norma Bryant; 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.

For those with cancer especially Ellie; Melissa Heins, Gene and Karen Krull's daughter; Mark Catlin; Roger Schmidt; Marian Breitenfeldt; Enid Andrews.

“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

Advent is here. Join us for the Midweek Advent services at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays in December. These services will be about 30 minutes so you can plan your Wednesday activities. We are inviting Trinity to join us for these services.

Dec. 6 – The Angel Speaks to Zechariah’s Fear

Dec. 13 - The Angel Speaks to Joseph’s Confusion

Dec. 20 – The Angel Speaks to Mary’s Doubt

Congregational Meeting

Grace will hold our Semi- Annual meeting
on December 10
at 11:15 following second service.

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 January 8, 2018. 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 newsletter and return it with your gift. Thank you for helping beautify the church during these seasons.

FVLH Advent Worship and Soup Lunch: Grace will be providing the food for the meal this Wednesday, December 6 at Fox Valley Lutheran Homes. We still need one crock of soup and three trays of bars or cookies. Please let Sharon Meier, 739-4291, know if you can assist.

Thank you for your enthusiastic response to the **Angel of Hope Christmas Tree**. Please return your unwrapped gift(s) by December 10th with your angel attached. Thank you again for your kind generosity that will provide gifts as well as Grace's blessings and a reminder of God's love for them this Christmas.

Advent Bags for Homebound

Between now and December 17, please bring in donations for our more fragile members of Grace, and the care team will assemble gift bags for each of them. Please put items for the Advent Bags in the plastic bin in the narthex. About 20 bags will be taken to members. Suggested items include socks, stamps, Christmas &/or hard candy, small Kleenex, homemade cookies and hand/body lotion. For a complete list see the December newsletter. Thank you on behalf of the many who will receive these thoughtful gift bags.

Linwood Place Apartments has openings: large 2 BR with 1½ bath, large 2 BR, and 1 BR. Our waiting list is empty! Call now to see an apartment or to secure a spot for the future. This is the time to act!!! Call Becky at 920-734-7725 or 920-594-2016, or call Brian at 920-840-3578.

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.*

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 3.....8:30 a.m. Worship
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
9:40 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, Dec. 4.....7:30 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. TLC Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec. 5.....8:30 a.m. Quilting
10:30 a.m. W & M Meeting
6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. FV Chorus

Wednesday, Dec. 6.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Advent Worship
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 7.....10 a.m. Grilled Cheese Lunch
6:30 p.m. Trinity Singers Practice

Friday, Dec. 8.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, Dec. 9.....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service

Sunday, Dec. 10.....8:30 a.m. Worship
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
9:40 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting