

Keep awake

MARK 13:37

First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2017 — 10:30 a.m.



Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor: Chris Repp

Welcome!

We are glad that you have joined us as we gather in the presence of God to be encountered by God in Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament. God's Holy Spirit is at work in these Means of Grace to create and sustain faith in God's promises of life for Jesus' sake so that we may be empowered to be agents of God's grace in the world around us. This stands at the center of all we do as a community of faith. Find out more about us at gracelutherancu.org.

If you are visiting us for the first time, the following information may make your visit easier:

- **Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.**
- Restrooms are down the hall to the left of the entrance, on the right across from the elevator.
- A staffed nursery is available for children 4 and younger, on the right past the restrooms.
- Clipboards with crayons and activity sheets are available from the Narthex (Lobby) table.
- Our pastor enjoys meeting visitors. Please introduce yourself.

Please sign the Friendship Register located on the pew, next to the center aisle, and pass it to the person next to you during the Offering portion of the service.

We provide Name Tags for frequent visitors as well as members. If you would like one, please place a note in the Office Assistant's mailbox in the workroom on the left past the elevator.

As We Gather

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Key to the order of service:

Regular type: spoken by a leader

Bold type: spoken by the people

Regular Italics: sung or chanted by a leader

Bold Italics: sung or chanted by the people

Small Red Italics: liturgical directions

✙ indicates that the sign of the cross may be made

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

Gathering

Prelude

The assembly stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

The assembly kneels or is seated. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

The assembly stands.

Gathering Hymn

Fling Wide the Door

ELW 259

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

Children's Sermon

Pastor Chris Repp

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

You call all nations to walk in your light

and to seek your ways of justice and peace,

for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.

Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.

Rouse us from sleep,

that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes

and welcome him into our hearts and homes,

for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

Amen.

Advent Lighting Hymn

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (v. 1)

ELW 240

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

- 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Refrain (R):

Let your face shine up - on us and
we shall be saved, and we shall be saved.

Tone:

¹*Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.*

²***In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.***

³*Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.*

⁴***O LORD| God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R***

⁵*You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.*

⁶***You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.***

⁷*Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.*

¹⁷***Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. R***

¹⁸*And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.*

¹⁹***Restore us, O LORD| God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R***

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation *Come Now, Prince of Peace* (v. 1)

ELW 247

1. Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bo - dy.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Chris Repp

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

Affirmation of Baptism and Reception of New Members

PRESENTATION

Those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font.

A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly:

I present Caitlyn Reinders, Linda Chappell, Rob Chappell, and Elizabeth and Peter Mazurak, one with us in the body of Christ, who wish to make public affirmation of their baptism. Elizabeth will speak on behalf of Peter, who is unable to be with us today.

The presiding minister may continue with prayer.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin,
and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the ✝ resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

AFFIRMATION

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in Caitlyn, Linda, Rob, Elizabeth, and Peter the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Prayers of Intercession

Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

The assembly kneels or is seated. Each petition concludes:

... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. After the Peace, the assembly is seated.

Meal

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

At this time, please fill out the Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you if you have not already done so. When all have signed the Register, please return it to the center aisle for later collection.

Choir Anthem *Creator alme siderum*

Richard Burchard

Text:

*Creator alme siderum,
aeterna lux credentium,
Iesu, Redemptor omnium,
intende votis supplicum.*

*Qui daemonis ne fraudibus
periret orbis, impetu
amoris actus, languidi,
mundi medela factus es.*

*Commune qui mundi nefas
ut expiaries, ad crucem
e Virginis sacrario
intacta prodis victima.*

*Cuius potestas gloriae,
Nomenque cum primum sonat,
et caelites et inferi
tremante curvantur genu.*

*Te, deprecamur ultimae
magnum diei Iudicem,
armis supernae gratiae
defende nos ab hostibus.*

*Virtus, honor, laus, gloria
Deo Patri cum Filio,
Sancto simul Paraclito,
in saeculorum saecula.*

Translation:

*Kindly creator of the stars,
eternal light of believers,
Jesus, redeemer of all,
listen to the prayers of us who call.*

*To prevent the world perishing
from the deceits of Satan,
He, moved by the impulse of love,
was made the cure for a feeble world.*

*To atone for the sin of all
He appears, a sinless victim,
going to the cross
from the Virgin's shrine.*

*When first his glorious power
And his name rings out,
both heaven's dwellers and those below
bend down on trembling knee.*

*You we implore,
great judge of the last day,
defend us from our enemies
by the weapons of your grace from above.*

*Power, honor, praise, glory
to God the Father with the Son
likewise the holy Paraclete
to all the ages.*

The assembly stands as the offering is brought forward.

Offering Verse

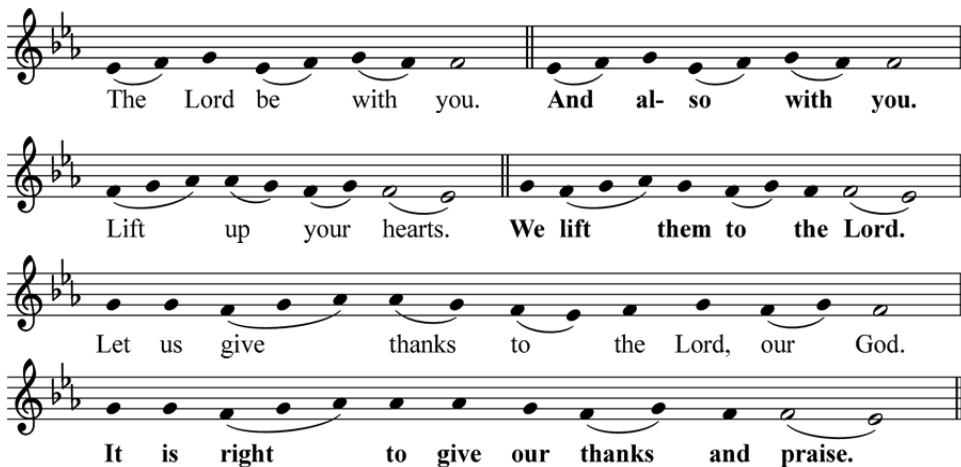
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Savior of the nations, come. 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



The Lord be with you. And al- so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

† Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

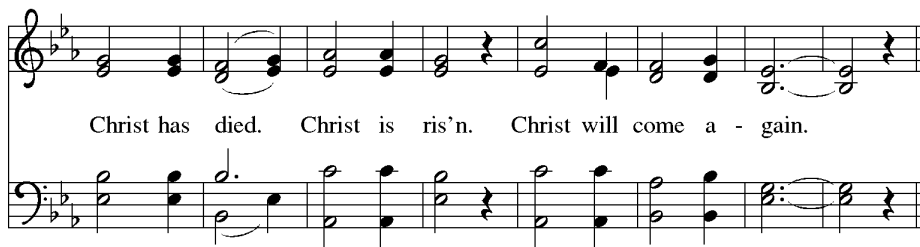
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris'n. Christ will come a - gain.

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

A musical score for the hymn 'Amen, amen, amen'. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the vocal line and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.' are written below the vocal staff. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady accompaniment.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present for us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, forming us into his body for the sake of the world. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized Christians. Those who are not baptized we invite to explore with us the Christian faith and consider baptism. Those who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please hold this bulletin in your hands as a sign to the pastor that you would like a blessing.

To receive communion, please join the line on your side of the aisle. Take a glass from the tray in the center aisle and proceed to the next available spot at the altar rail on your side. (Pre-poured glasses of grape juice also are available from the acolytes at the altar rail.) After receiving the bread, the wine is received in your glass from a pouring chalice. Place your used glass in the basket near the stairs on the side you leave. Note: gluten-free, dairy-free, wheat-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor. Please notify an usher if you need to have communion brought to you.

Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

The first system of music for 'Lamb of God' consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, then a dotted quarter note C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody includes a dotted quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes E5 and F#5, then a dotted quarter note G5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

The third system of music concludes the phrase. The treble staff melody features a dotted quarter note G5, followed by quarter notes A5 and B5, then a dotted quarter note C6. The bass staff accompaniment concludes with a final chord.

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

ELW 241

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

ELW 246

When all have communed the assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. God for whom we wait, 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.

Sending

(Sending Of Communion)

A prayer may be said for the sending of communion to those who are absent.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

The King Shall Come

ELW 260

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Support

The ministry of the church is carried out by all of its people, and Christian worship is a communal activity of the whole assembly. We give thanks to the following for their worship leadership and support today.

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Chris Repp	GLO Choir Leader:	Michelle Kozlowski
Assisting Minister:	Cindy Grigorescu	GPS Choir Leader:	Sara Anderson
Reader:	Kathy Eckstein	Sound Technician:	Kevin Vail
Deacon:	Dena Bagger	Ushers:	George & Bev Kieffer
Acolyte:	Stephanie Kozlowski	Greeters:	Kim & Julie Johnson
Director of Youth and Congregational Life:	Caitlyn Reinders	Counters:	Carol Larson Julie Johnson
Director of Music:	Jon Arnold	Communion Bread:	Susan Monte
Organist:	Dana Robinson	Nursery Coordinator:	Paula Miller
Communications Specialist:	Virginia Lehmann	Nursery Assistants:	Melissa Goldman Jillian Devine Jonlyn Miller
Office Assistant:	Chris Alcorn	Coffee Hour:	Bagger Family

☞ Chancel flowers are given by **Jim & Ruth Anderson** ☞
in honor of our parents.

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