



GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The Holy Communion
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 2021
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence, just as you are. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome God's people of all races, social statuses, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve. Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Grace. We encourage you to fill out the perforated page on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate. Welcome!

Children's resources, including activity bags, worship bulletins and booster seats, are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery care is provided at both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services for children ages 4 and under. The nursery is located across from Fellowship Hall. From the atrium, go through the Lamb Door by the elevator, up half a flight of stairs and turn right. From the sanctuary, go through the door by the stone baptismal font, up the stairs and turn left. A silent paging system allows the nursery staff to contact parents when needed.

Altar Flowers are sponsored by the Nolan family in memory of Evelyn and Pete Haase and of Carol and Russ Lewis.

Assistance in Worship: For those who find it difficult to stand during any part of the service, please remain seated and contact an usher if you would like Holy Communion to be brought to you. Sound enhancement units are available in the back of the church. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers in the back of the church and at the Division Street door.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you.

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to one of the pastors.

Educational opportunities occur between worship services at 9:45. Topics and locations for classes are listed at the end of this bulletin under "This Week at Grace."

Grace Council Statement on Racism: Racism, manifested in individual acts and present throughout systems, continues to prevent us from being the beloved community that God intends. Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ compels us to speak. We speak against the sin of racism. We speak in solidarity with Black people and all people of color, each of whom is precious to God. We stand with and for Black people within our church and school and in the larger community.

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ into the world in the hope that, by the Spirit's power, God's Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. We look with hope and anticipation to a season of growth and change as Grace becomes a more faithful witness to God's wide welcome in Christ. We see this as the beginning, not the end, of the conversation. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us, and for the courage to follow.

As We Gather

While many people will return to larger Christmas gatherings this year, Luke invites us into a most intimate familial scene. Not even the men are invited. Young Mary visits her older relative Elizabeth, and both are carrying children of promise. John, in the dark embrace of his mother's womb, recognizes the power and grace that has come near in Jesus. Elizabeth recognizes Mary for who she is: The Mother of God. In this intimate moment, far from prying eyes and gossiping tongues, Mary and Elizabeth see God's future stretch out before them. It is a future so certain that Mary sees it as already accomplished. She does what the women of her faith have always done when deliverance comes near. She sings. She sings of a world in which everything wrong will be righted and the powers that be will become the powers that were. Mary sings of the upside-downing that will come when God, the same God growing in her womb, arrives in glory and peace.



Photo by Jonathan Hillert

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE: Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us
and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

We face the cross in procession.

ENTRANCE HYMN: Savior of the Nations, Come

(green) **LBW #28**

(8:30) Stanzas three and six are sung by the choir in a harmonization by J. S. Bach.



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; show the glo - ry of the Son!
2 Not of hu - man seed or worth, but from God's own mys - tic breath,
3 Won-drous birth! Oh, won-drous child of the vir - gin un - de - filed!
4 God the Fa - ther is his source, back to God he runs his course;



Ev - 'ry peo - ple, stand in awe; praise the per - fect Son of God.
fruit in Mar - y's womb be - gun when God breathed the Word, his Son.
Might-y God and man in one, ea - ger now his race to run!
down to death and hell de - scends, God's high throne he re - as - cends.

- 5 He leaves heaven to return;
trav'ling where dull hellfires burn;
riding out, returning home
as the Savior who has come.
- 6 God the Father's precious Son
girds himself in flesh to run
for the trophies of our souls,
longer than this round earth rolls.
- 7 Shining stable in the night,
breathing vict'ry with your light;
darkness cannot hide your flame,
shining bright as Jesus' name.

Text: attr. St. Ambrose, 340–397; tr. composite

Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

Text sts. 3–4 © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

APOSTOLIC 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.**

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a- bove, and for our sal- vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



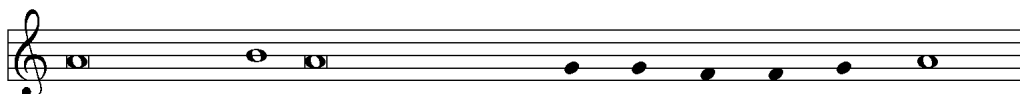
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

With your abundant grace and might,

free us from the sin that binds us,

that we may receive you in joy and serve you always,

for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

We sit.

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2–5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

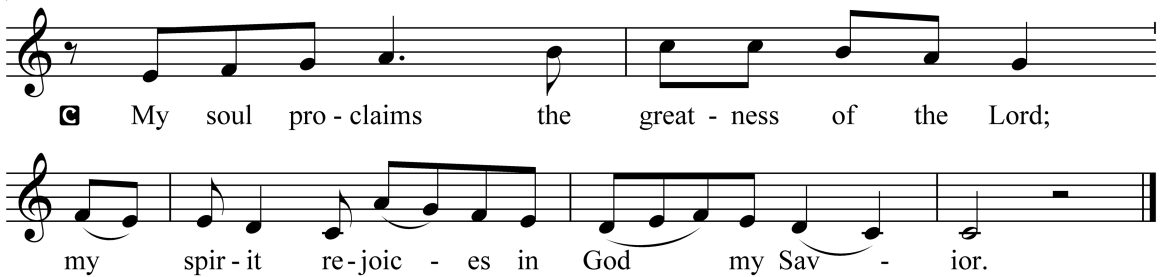
L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: A Parish Magnificat

Carl F. Schalk

The soloist/choir sings this refrain once through; we join in singing each time thereafter.



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Choir For he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed.
The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

C REFRAIN

Choir He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away.

C REFRAIN

Choir He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
For he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

C REFRAIN

Choir Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

C REFRAIN



SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5–10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL VERSE: Luke 1:38

Choir Alleluia. Alleluia.

G REFRAIN (*below*)



Choir Here I am, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word.

G REFRAIN

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:39–55

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

G Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: A Song Sung Upside Down

Pastor David R. Lyle

Luke 1:39–55

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: The Only Son from Heaven

(green) **LBW #86**

(8:30) Stanza two is sung by the choir in a harmonization by J. S. Bach.



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, oh, bright and ho - ly morn!
3 A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it to know and love you more,
4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost,

by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O pride of an - gel - host:

No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so bright - ly
grim death to van - quish for us, to o - pen heav'n be -
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of heav - en
be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,

shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us and bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text: Elizabeth Cruciger, 1500–1535; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.
Music: HERR CHRIST, DER EINIG GOTTS SOHN, *Enchiridion*, Erfurt, 1524

NICENE CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

PEACE OF CHRIST

☞ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☞ And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We sit.

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY: The Only Son from Heaven, BuxWV 192 Dieterich Buxtehude

Giving is one of the ways we participate in all that God is doing through Grace.

Visit GraceRiverForest.org to give online.

We stand and sing as the gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY VERSE: Zephaniah 3:14, 17

Richard Hillert

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all you heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord, your God, is in your midst; he will renew you with his love;

He will exult over you with loud singing, as on a festival day.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

☞ Let us pray. Merciful Father,

☞ we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.

Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. 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 again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

☐ Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

☐ **Amen.**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

AGNUS DEI



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

*Please remove your mask as you approach the head of the aisle,
where we receive the consecrated wafer and then drink from one of the individual cups.*

Non-alcoholic wine is in the center of the tray.

Those with a gluten allergy may pick up a gluten-free host from the table at the head of the aisle.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

HYMN: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

(blue) WOV #632



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

(8:30) **ANTHEM:** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. Heinrich von Herzogenberg

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As seers of old have sung.
It came a flower so bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it,
The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

C **Amen.**

A We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life;
and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

BENEDICTION

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

C **Amen.**



SENDING HYMN: All Earth is Hopeful

(blue) WOV #629



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra_al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y_el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, presiding minister
The Rev. David R. Lyle, preaching minister
Irmgard Swanson, assisting minister
The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor

8:30

Paulette Reddel
Eileen Maggio and Paul Eichwedel
Elliot Engebretsen and Zack Morgan
John Lochner and Donna Serpico
Thomas Ewert and Dan Lehman
Susie and Dick Calhoun
Anne Claud and Julie Hinz
Parish Choir

Deacon
Lectors

Crucifer/Bible Bearer Magdalena Keberlein and Julia Henderson
Altar Guild Roberta Gillespie and Marilyn Moehlenkamp
Ushers Marcia Nolan and Paul Koester
Gift Bearers Al Swanson
Livestream Audio/Video
Choir

11:00

Valerie Stefanic
Kathy and Bob Hale

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LET US PRAY. . .

Those who are sick and recovering from illness

Betty Albain
Diane Amati
Annalise Balock
Cathy Barker
Larry Caponigri
Rosemary Cheatem
Hans Dumpys
Louis Elia
David Gruendler
Don Heimbürger
Patricia Herendeen
Virginia Hillert
Amy Juel
Phyllis Kersten

Karla Koehne
Jerry Koenig
Scott Krueger
Karen Lemke
Carolyn Martin
Karen McMahon
Dave Moeller

Jennifer Murtoff
Don Offermann
Marnie Rourke
Pat Scala
Jim Scherer
Cameron Valencia

Felipe Altamirano (*friend of Cathy and Paul Schnittker*)
Kay Armstrong (*mother of Neal Armstrong*)
Pat B. (*friend of Pat Anderson*)
Javed Bachew (*relative of Susan Franzone*)
Frances Benson (*sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat*)
Karen Berglund (*friend of Carol Stanger*)
Jamie Carpenter (*cousin of Jay and Scott Christopher*)
Elena Davis (*friend of Sue and Pat Allen*)
Stella Dillberg (*mother of Gretchen Weaver*)
Clara Dorsey (*mother of Jo-Ellyn Dorsey*)
Patti and Neal Enslin (*friends of Marilyn Heppner*)
James Flutch (*nephew of Valerie Spiller*)
Benjamin Galihier (*nephew of Paul May*)
Chandramma Gantepalli (*mother of Hena Gantepalli*)
Luke Gawencka (*friend of Eunice Spurgat*)
Michael Granato (*grandson of Virginia Walker*)
Mike Guss (*friend of Lance and Stephanie Wilkening*)
Jerry Haase (*friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke*)
Jill Hanssen (*niece of Ann Mason*)
Carol Hartung (*mother of Justin Hartung*)
Allison Heppner (*daughter-in-law of Kenneth and Marilyn Heppner*)
Harry Heppner (*brother of Ken Heppner*)
Margaret Hofmaier (*mother of Barbara Hofmaier*)
Alice Hollis (*friend of Marge Sanger*)
June Hostetler (*aunt of Larry Garber*)
Judy Johnson (*Grace School alum*)
Ellen Kanik (*friend of Eileen Maggio*)
Derek Kaufman (*son of Nancy Kaufman*)
Doug Kelter (*friend of Irmgard and Al Swanson*)
Patrick Kennedy (*friend of Grace Church*)
David Kopp (*friend of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)
Arnold Krubsack (*brother of Irmgard Swanson*)
Kathryn Krubsack (*niece of Irmgard Swanson*)
Maxx Kuser (*friend of Deb Maxwell*)
Beth Luebbe and family (*sister of Jenny Luebbe*)
Ken Lukes (*friend of George and Nancy Wohlford*)

Joyce and John Lunde (*friends of Susan Messerli*)
Ellen MacGregor (*friend of Chrissy Nelson*)
Tom Maggio (*brother of Joe Maggio*)
Jane Martin (*mother of Justin Martin*)
Esther Martz (*friend of Susie Calhoun*)
Neal Mast (*relative of Susan and David Franzone*)
Leone, Gracie, and Brian Maxwell (*cousins of Tom and Deb Maxwell*)
Duncan McEachern (*brother-in-law of John Reynolds*)
Dolores Pelz (*cousin of Evelyn Grams*)
Elaine Pierce (*friend of Al and Irmgard Swanson*)
Sarah Ponder (*friend of Hans and Donna Dumpys*)
James Powers (*friend of Al Swanson*)
Susan Prather (*cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott*)
Mark Redheffer (*son of Virginia Walker*)
Paula Rosenberger (*friend of Janet Sylvester*)
Florence Saeger (*friend of Karl and Ruth Reko*)
Ed Schulz (*father of Liz Rudy*)
Mary Lu Shipstad (*friend of Marilyn Heppner*)
Huxley Shoup and family (*friends of Marilyn and Ken Heppner*)
Peggy Smith (*mother of Johanna Johnson*)
Nancy Stelling (*friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten*)
Lee Stephens (*brother of Tony*)
Pastor Steve Swanson (*friend of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)
Jennifer Sylvester (*daughter of Janet Sylvester*)
Donald Tegeler (*friend of Debbie Conley*)
Martin A. Thieme (*brother of Susan Franzone*)
Ilene Thompson (*sister of Marilyn Heppner*)
Mary Lou and Ron Wagoner (*sister and brother-in-law of Stan Reddel*)
Verna Walsh (*aunt of Dan and Deanna Marotz*)
Bob Weaver (*husband of Gretchen*)
Nola Williams (*Grace student*)
Karen Wischhusen (*sister of Ann Mason*)
Nancy & Dick Woodka (*friends of Susan & David Franzone*)
Randi Woodworth (*sister of Tammy Bretscher*)
Veronica Zurowski (*mother of Tom*)

Benevolence ministries

Valparaiso University

For those who mourn

Peter Becker (*friend of Bill and Karla Koehne*)

Anthony Bohlmann (*brother of Chad Bohlmann*)

Florence Breed (*cousin of Irmgard Swanson*)

Jose “Pepe” Flores (*friend of Randy and Ellie Schmack*)

Those serving in the armed services

Kevin Buss (*nephew of Christa Kront*)

Reid Beveridge (*son-in-law of the Schnacks*)

Kellyn Daly (*niece of Heidi and Chad Bohlmann*)

E. Michael Garcia Goetting (*son of Mary Goetting*)

Matthew Garmatz (*grandson of Margaret Garmatz*)

Matthew Grosz (*nephew of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)

Zachery Grosz (*great-nephew of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)

Bradley Larson (*cousin of Rhea Sprecher*)

Sonny Putman (*nephew of Susan Franzone*)

Rusty Robb (*grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/ Roberta Gillespie*)

Matthew Shinkwin (*friend of Eunice Spurgat*)

Christopher W. Sylvester (*grandson of Janet Sylvester*)

Those in the foreign service

Julie Kmet (*friend of Ed and Susan Schumacher*)

Those studying abroad

Colleen Lattyak (*Germany*)

Drew Krueger (*England*)

Those who are homebound

Jayne Chilton

Carolyn Martin

Christopher Davis

Barbara Rinnan

Gloria Hillert

Kathleen Wrobel

Joan Koerber

Those who need encouragement

Bruce Burnside (*friend of Bob and Margaret Burke*) in Oakhill Correctional Center

Cheryl Luchetta (*friend of Joan Koerber*) in Logan Correctional Center

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY, DECEMBER 19

Library Open for Self-Service 8:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Worship Services – Holy Communion.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Adult Education (Seminar room)9:45 a.m.
Sunday School 3–5-Year-olds (Nursery)9:45 a.m.
Sunday School 1st–6th Grades (3rd Floor Commons)9:45 a.m.
Confirmation (Fellowship Hall).....9:45 a.m.
(No Teen Talk)9:45 a.m.
Youth Gathering Information Meeting.....12:15 p.m.
High School Youth Christmas Bonfire 4:00 p.m.
Chicago Choral Artists Concert..... 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Evangelism Committee (Online) 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

GriefShare (Church Library) 7:00 p.m.
Church Council (Online) 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

School Chapel.....8:25 a.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Building Closedafter 12:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Children’s Christmas Eve Service 4:15 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Alumni meet up (entrance to gym)**Between Children’s services**
Christmas Eve Service – Communion 8:00 p.m. & 10:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day Service – Holy Communion10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

NAME(S) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Check all that apply:

- ☐ I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace Church.
- ☐ I am interested in a path toward membership.
- ☐ I would like to know more about Grace School.
- ☐ I would like to receive Grace’s weekly e-mail,
Sunday Is Coming.
- ☐ I would like one of the pastors to contact me
via (check one) ☐ Phone or ☐ E-mail.

GRACE
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CHURCH
& SCHOOL

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Fax: (708) 366-0966

www.graceriverforest.org
gracechurch@graceriverforest.org

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ

David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor
Troy E. Medlin, Associate Pastor
F. Dean Lueking, Pastor Emeritus
Michael D. Costello, Cantor
Jeremy Zimmer, Assistant Cantor
William Koehne, Principal
Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus
Pat Gulik, Parish Nurse
Julie Modrich, Children’s Ministry Coordinator
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance
Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager
José Meza, Technology Manager