



Welcome to

## Grace Lutheran Church and School

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



### Visitors

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

Read more about worship on the inside  
cover of this worship folder.

Fill out the form on the back cover to tell us  
more about you.

### Worship at Grace

The service is printed in this worship folder.

Hymns are ordinarily in the green LBW and  
blue WOV hymnals.

Information is printed on the next page about  
additional resources for worship.

### Learn More

Today's insert contains announcements  
about ministries of Grace Church and School.

Learn more about Grace by visiting us online  
at [graceriverforest.org](http://graceriverforest.org).

### The Holy Communion

First Sunday of Advent  
November 30, 2025

10:00 a.m.

## Welcome to Grace

Welcome 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.

## Children's Resources

Activity bags, worship bulletins, and booster seats are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

## Nursery Care

The nursery is open and staffed at most 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.

## Holy Communion

The crucified and risen Christ is present in the bread and wine of Communion, 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.

## Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated. 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.

## Electronic Devices

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

## 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.

## **We Gather**

We long for the coming of Christ. We yearn for the reign of God to break into our lives. Enough with the preparing and the waiting. Can't we just get there already? Our world robs us of peace and safety in a thousand different ways. Its patterns are predictable at this point. The tired old ways of sin and death are exhausting. We live in the murky midnight more than we would care to. The good news is that today, not tomorrow, or the next day, Jesus insists on finding his way to you. Yes, he will come again and set everything right, and yes, he joins you right now. In the in-between. Apart from your own effort, striving, or even wakefulness, Jesus draws near to you. God is with us. This God is persistent with promise and presence. Jesus wraps you up in his arms even while he gives his own life for you. Especially in these shadowy days and nights.



## ✠ GATHERING ✠

**PRELUDE:** Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying, BWV 645

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** 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.

**C Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

**P** Gracious God,

**C 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.**

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

*We face the cross in procession.*

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** Wake, Awake, for Night Is flying

*(green)* **LBW #31**

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and in her  
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore you, and saints and  
on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.  
heart new joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom,  
an - gels sing be - fore you. The harps and cym-bals all u - nite.  
Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the  
for her Lord comes down all glo - rious, the strong in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, where, dwell - ing  
thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.  
grace, in truth vic - to - rious. Her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
with the choir im - mor - tal, we gath - er round your daz - zling light.  
The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"  
Oh, come, you Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.  
No eye has seen, no ear has yet been trained to hear,  
Al - le - lu - ia! Pre - pare your - selves to meet the  
Sing ho - san - na! We go un - til the halls we  
what joy is ours! Cre - scen - dos rise; your halls re -  
Lord, whose light has stirred the wait - ing guard.  
view where you have bid us dine with you.  
sound; ho - san - nas blend in cos - mic sound.

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

**G And also with you.**

## KYRIE



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



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



**G Lord, have mer - cy.**



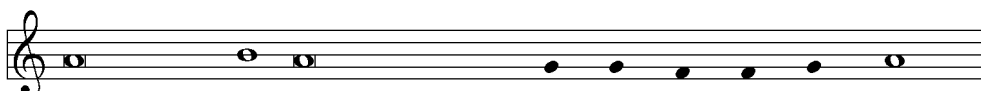
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



**G 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. **G Lord, have mer - cy.**



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Ⓐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

Ⓐ Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins,  
and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation,  
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

*We sit.*



## ✝ WORD ✝

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1–5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON: I was glad when they said to me,  
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

℣ I was glad when they | said to me,\*  
 "Let us go to the house | of the Lord."

☞ **Now our | feet are standing\*  
 within your gates, | O Jerusalem.**

℣ Jerusalem is built | as a city\*  
 that is at unity | with itself;

☞ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord,\*  
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord.**

℣ For there are the | thrones of judgment,\*  
 the thrones of the | house of David.

☞ **Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:\***  
**"May they pros- | per who love you.**

℣ Peace be with- | in your walls\*  
 and quietness with- | in your towers.

☞ **For my brethren and com- | panions' sake,\*  
 I pray for | your prosperity.**

℣ Because of the house of the | Lord our God,\*  
 I will seek to | do you good."

**SECOND READING:** Romans 13:11–14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL VERSE:** Psalm 85:7

John Helgen

📖 Alleluia, alleluia.

🎵 **REFRAIN** (*below*)



📖 Show us your steadfast love, Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.

🎵 **REFRAIN**

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 24:36–44

📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

🎵 **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup> “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SERMON:** Awake with Promise

Pastor Troy E. Medlin

Isaiah 2:1–5; Romans 13:11–14; Matthew 24:36–44

*We stand.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

(green) **LBW #23**



- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
Choir 2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore you green boughs and fair - est palms;  
3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.  
Choir 4 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
and I, too, will a - dore you with joy - ous songs and psalms.  
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.  
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast  
My heart shall bloom for - ev - er for you with prais - es new  
A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high  
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
and from your name shall nev - er with - hold the hon - or due.  
that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.  
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.

- 5 Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted,  
who sit in deepest gloom,  
who mourn your joys departed  
and tremble at your doom.  
Despair not; he is near you,  
there, standing at the door,  
who best can help and cheer you  
and bids you weep no more.

- 6 He comes to judge the nations,  
a terror to his foes,  
a light of consolations  
and blessed hope to those  
who love the Lord's appearing.  
O glorious Sun, now come,  
send forth your beams so cheering  
and guide us safely home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. composite  
Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN. Johan Crüger, 1598–1662

## NICENE CREED

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

☒ **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.**

*We stand.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each petition concludes:*

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

**G** **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.

**G** **Amen.**

## **✠ MEAL ✠**

### **PEACE OF CHRIST**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**OFFERING/VOLUNTARY:** Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Paul Manz

*We stand as the gifts are presented.*

**OFFERTORY VERSE:** Ezekiel 37:26–27

Robert Wetzler

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.  
Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.  
Righteousness will go before them and make their footsteps a way.

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**G** **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** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.*

*We receive communion at the head of the center aisle, receiving the consecrated bread  
and then drinking directly from the chalice or dipping the bread into the wine (intinction).*

*Those choosing individual cups will find non-alcoholic wine in the center of the tray.  
Those with a gluten allergy may ask the pastor for a gluten-free host.*

## MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

**ANTHEM:** Keep Your Lamps!

Spiritual  
arr. Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.  
Children don't get weary, 'til your work is done.  
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.





1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
 2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for  
 3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
 4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
 5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
 war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
 death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
 north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
 pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
 scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
 we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
 kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
 new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
 Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay, b. 1925  
 Text and music © 1971 United Church Press.

*We stand.*

### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

**G Amen.**

**A** Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord,  
 and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**G Amen.**

# ✠ SENDING ✠

## BENEDICTION

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

☒ Amen.

## SENDING HYMN: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

(green) LBW #25



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE:** Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Michael D. Costello

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. David R. Lyle, presiding minister

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, preaching minister

Elyssa Salinas Lazarski, assisting minister

Dan Lehman, deacon

Grace Parish Choir, choir

The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor

Janel Dennen, percussion

Al Swanson, Ruth Nelson, lectors

Collin Kuipers, Angelina Guzman, crucifer/Book bearer

Julie Lehmann, Julie Modrich, gift bearers

Thomas Ewert, Paul Koester, Mary Rasmusson, ushers

Liz Hansen, Donna Serpico, altar guild

Neal Armstrong, Mary Jane Keitel, Julie Lehmann, greeters

Tom Swanson, George Hogenson, livestream audio/video

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## LET US PRAY...

Joe Anderson	Louis Elia	Mark Lucht	Linda Schwab
Ann Bresnen	Susan Franzone	Joe Modrich	Bonnie Shaner
Aron Bresnen	Susan Hammon	Katarina Modrich	Rhea Sprecher
Miriam Bretscher	Bob Hale	Chris Morgan	<b>Madison Staples</b>
MaryBeth Buschmann	Catherine Hegarty	Mike Rollheiser	Virginia Walker
Larry Caponigri	Phyllis Kersten	Ron Rott	Linda Webb
Dan Cattau	<b>Karen Kress</b>	Marge Sanger	
Yvonne Daniels	Mary Beth Logas	Gick Schmidt	

Coletta and Ty Ali ( <i>friends of Pat Anderson</i> )	Diane Larsen ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )
Mary Baker ( <i>friend of Karen Eckstein</i> )	Bill Lowry ( <i>friend of Bonnie and Bob Shaner</i> )
Bill Batte ( <i>friends of Deb and Tom Maxwell</i> )	Sarah Marohl ( <i>friend of Bob and Bonnie Shaner and Art Gustafson</i> )
Fran Benson ( <i>sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat</i> )	Lauren Marshall ( <i>friend of Carol Ewald</i> )
Jack Berg ( <i>friend of Art Gustafson</i> )	Drake Martinez ( <i>student of Deb Maxwell</i> )
Karen Berglund ( <i>friend of Carol Stanger</i> )	John McGinness ( <i>cousin of Cathy Schnittker</i> )
Stan Birnbaum ( <i>friend of Sandy and David Lentz</i> )	Connie Melvin ( <i>cousin of Stephanie Wilkening</i> )
Khadija Boudim ( <i>friend of Pat Anderson</i> )	Linda Muraski ( <i>relative of John and Carol Stanger</i> )
Russ Bradley ( <i>son-in-law of Robert and Bonnie Shaner</i> )	Monika Nash ( <i>daughter of Verna Offermann</i> )
Lois Cornils ( <i>friend of many at Grace</i> )	Dwight and Betty Nelson ( <i>parents of Annalise Nelson Balock</i> )
James Crawford ( <i>nephew of Eunice Spurgat</i> )	Karen Nelson ( <i>niece of Eunice Spurgat</i> )
Laurel Marie D. ( <i>neighbor of Pat Anderson</i> )	Carolyn Newberg ( <i>sister of Kathryn Jandeska</i> )
David De Jong ( <i>brother-in-law of Mary Beth Logas</i> )	Bill Nicholas ( <i>friend of many at Grace</i> )
Patti Enslin ( <i>friend of Marilyn Heppner</i> )	Gloria Nuechterlein ( <i>sister-in-law of Eunice Spurgat</i> )
Randy Ernst ( <i>friend of Valerie Spiller</i> )	Martin Ottomanelli ( <i>friend of Deb and Tom Maxwell</i> )
Julia Friend ( <i>friend of Susan Franzone</i> )	James Powers ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )
<b>Dan Gaspar</b> ( <i>brother of Susan Hickey</i> )	Susan Prather ( <i>cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott</i> )
Barbara Gehring ( <i>mother of Stephanie Wilkening</i> )	Diane Raschal ( <i>cousin of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Linda Allen Gotsch ( <i>friend of Roberta Gillespie</i> )	Leona Riley ( <i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i> )
Peter H. ( <i>friend of Barbara Hofmaier and David Heim</i> )	Sue Sommerfeld ( <i>relative of Bob and Kathryn Jandeska</i> )
Elizabeth Hammon ( <i>daughter-in-law of Susan Hammon</i> )	Stacy and Mark ( <i>friends of Case and Pat Hoogendoorn</i> )
Joe Hammon ( <i>husband of Susan Hammon</i> )	Nancy Stelling ( <i>friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten</i> )
Tim Haylett ( <i>relative of Larry and Carolyn Garber</i> )	Randy Stueve ( <i>friend of Lance Wilkening</i> )
Sara Heiserman ( <i>relative of Carol Prinz</i> )	Jennifer Sylvester ( <i>daughter of Janet Sylvester</i> )
Charlene Helmer ( <i>sister of Carol Stanger</i> )	Eleanor Teglia ( <i>granddaughter Art Gustafson</i> )
Harry Heppner ( <i>brother-in-law of Marilyn Heppner</i> )	Chris Thannum ( <i>cousin of Chrissy Nelson</i> )
Jose Hernandez ( <i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i> )	Gaylord Thomas ( <i>friend of Ruth and Karl Reko</i> )
Ruth M. Hughes ( <i>mother of Ruth Hughes-McElravey</i> )	Al Toepfer ( <i>friend of Larry and Carolyn Garber</i> )
Maureen Jordan ( <i>friend of Al Swanson</i> )	Mary Lou Wagoner ( <i>sister-in-law of Stan Reddel</i> )
Paula Kersten ( <i>niece of Phyllis Kersten</i> )	Bob Weaver ( <i>husband of Gretchen Weaver</i> )
Garrett Klein ( <i>friend of Janet Sylvester</i> )	Linda West ( <i>relative of John and Carol Stanger</i> )
Lenard Kling ( <i>friend of Paul Eichwedel</i> )	Dave Wick ( <i>friend of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Elizabeth Kottle ( <i>friend of Bonnie and Bob Shaner</i> )	Michael Wilson ( <i>friend of Larry and Carolyn Garber</i> )
Arnold Krubsack ( <i>brother of Irmgard Swanson</i> )	Tara Zinger ( <i>friend of Jennifer Staples</i> )
Kathryn Krubsack ( <i>niece of Irmgard Swanson</i> )	
Elaine Kruse ( <i>sister of Margaret Kruse and Roberta Gillespie</i> )	

## Benevolence ministries

Pangea Educational Development Group

## In thanksgiving for

**The 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Bruce and Barbara Van Heukelem**

## For those who mourn

**Gordon Vogel** (*uncle of Jennifer Staples*)

## Those serving in the armed services

Kevin Buss (*nephew of Christa Krout*)

Josh Espinosa (*cousin of Jenny Luebbe*)

Matthew Garmatz (*grandson of Margaret Garmatz*)

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

Zachary Larsen (*grandson of Karen and Richard McMahon*)

Joshua Nelson (*son-in-law of Ted and Maja Anton*)

Miles Powell (*grandson of Bob and Bonnie Shaner*)

Sonny Putman (*nephew of Susan Franzone*)

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

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

## Those studying abroad

Hannah Schubkegel (*Sweden*)

Isabella Staples (*The Netherlands*)

## Those who are homebound

Jayne Chilton

David Franzone

Karen McMahon

Carol Prinz

Bruce Cordes

Patricia Herendeen

Susan Messerli

Tim Sandvoss

Christopher Davis

Joan Koerber

Dave Moeller

Kathleen Wrobel

## Those who need encouragement

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

*Prayer requests can be made through the church office. Contact Esther Armstrong ([earmstrong@graceriverforest.org](mailto:earmstrong@graceriverforest.org)) to be included in the weekly prayers. For more private prayer concerns, please contact Kathy Lucht ([kathy.lucht@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.lucht@gmail.com)) to be added to the confidential prayer chain.*

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## Electronic giving

*Your financial gifts support the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church and School.*

**On Venmo** Search for Grace Lutheran Church/School or @graceriverforest.

**By text** Text a dollar amount to 833-471-1346. If you're a first-time text giver, you'll receive a link with instructions about how to complete your donation.

**Online donation** Go to [GraceRiverForest.org](http://GraceRiverForest.org) and look for Donate on the home page menu.

**Or use the QR code.**



# THIS WEEK AT GRACE

## TODAY, NOVEMBER 30

Library Open (self-service)..... **9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**  
Thanksgiving Break – No Sunday School/Confirmation  
**Worship – Holy Communion**..... **10:00 a.m.**

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Property Committee Meeting (Conference Room) ..... **7:00 p.m.**

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Cornerstones Bible Study (Church Library) ..... **10:00 a.m.**  
**Advent Worship – Morning Prayer** (Sanctuary) ..... **11:30 a.m.**  
Cornerstones Lunch (Fellowship Hall)..... **12:00 p.m.**  
Advent Supper (Fellowship Hall) ..... **6:00 p.m.**  
Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Bell Room) ..... **5:30 p.m.**  
**Advent Worship – Evening Prayer** (Sanctuary)..... **7:00 p.m.**  
Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)..... **7:45 p.m.**

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

Grief Share (Church Library)..... **10:00 a.m.**  
Moms of Littles (Youth Center)..... **6:30 p.m.**  
Yoga (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Commons) ..... **6:30 p.m.**  
Scout Meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Commons)..... **7:30 p.m.**  
Social Ministry Meeting (Conference Room)..... **7:30 p.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. If you prefer a digital form, you can scan the QR code instead.



**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.**
- ☐ **I would like one of the pastors to contact me**  
**via (check one) ☐ Phone or ☐ E-mail**

**GRACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
& SCHOOL**

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Fax: (708) 366-0966  
[www.graceriverforest.org](http://www.graceriverforest.org)  
[gracechurch@graceriverforest.org](mailto: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  
**Taylor-Imani Gates**, Principal  
**Julie Modrich**, Ministry Engagement Coordinator  
**Amanda Smith**, Communications Coordinator  
**Jim McClanahan**, Director of Administration & Finance  
**David Pfeiffer**, Facilities Manager  
**José Meza**, Technology Manager