

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COME TO RECEIVE – GO TO SHARE
December 3, 2023

First Sunday in Advent

Pre-Service Music: "Light One Candle for Waiting"

© Michael Bedford

Grace Choir

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341 sts. 1–3

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Invocation

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

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Exhortation

LSB 167

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution

LSB 167

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Declaration of Grace

LSB 167

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. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

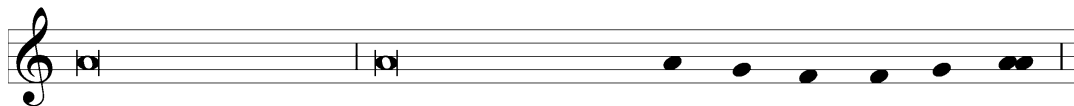
Kyrie

The first staff of music is in treble clef and contains the following notes: a half note G4, a half note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4.

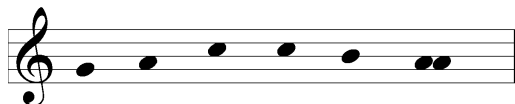
2



G Lord, have mer - cy.



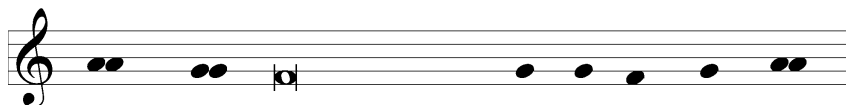
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G A - men.


Kyrie Eleison
LORD, HAVE MERCY

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Advent 1

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1–9

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.

Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

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

⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1–7

- A** ¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
C You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
- A** ²Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
stir up your might
C and come to save us!
- A** ³Restore us, O God;
C let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- A** ⁴O Lord God of hosts,
C how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
- A** ⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears
C and given them tears to drink in full measure.
- A** ⁶You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
C and our enemies laugh among themselves.
- A** ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
C let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Epistle

1 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 was given you in Christ Jesus,
⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24–37

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, 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. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then 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 out 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 say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. 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 servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \pm everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

A With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence

A Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

- A** All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A** Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A** Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief (*especially...*). Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A** Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A** You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence (*especially* Pastor Kassouf, Elsie Feuerstein...). Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A** Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory: 955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

LSB 955

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were

sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the

hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we

of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and

give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010

Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005358

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

LSB 177

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also 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 Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

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

G **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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

G 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.

Sit

Distribution of Holy Communion

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION AT GRACE LUTHERAN

We believe, teach and confess that those who commune receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord---in, with and under the bread and wine---for forgiveness of sins and strengthening in faith and life. All baptized, believing Christian guests are invited to examine themselves, as exhorted by St. Paul. Those who are in agreement with this statement are invited to join us at the Altar. If you have a question regarding this, please ask to speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders.

Both individual and common cups are available. Also, if you would prefer to receive non-alcoholic white grape juice, there are individual cups in the center of the tray.

Please hand your completed family attendance card to the usher on your way to receive communion.

Distribution Hymn: 350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

LSB 350

Distribution Hymn: 331 The Advent of Our King

LSB 331

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

LSB 181

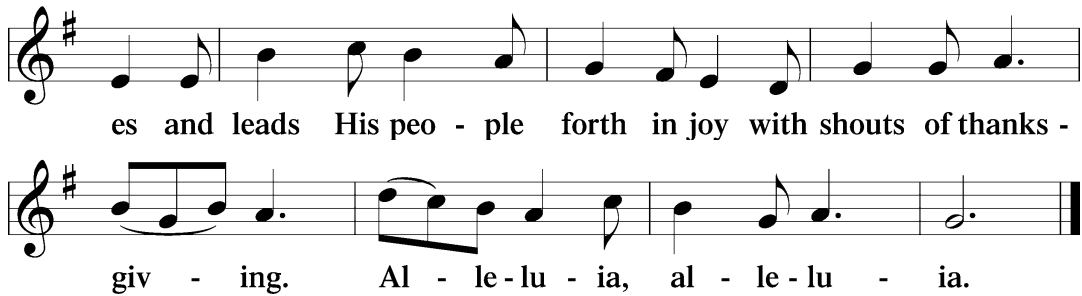
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

G Amen.

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

LSB 183

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Hymn to Depart: 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341 sts. 4–5

Closing Response

- P** Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgments

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Advent Services

*Wednesday Midweek Services
December 6, 13, & 20 at 7:00pm*

*Children's Christmas Program
Sunday, December 17th at 10:00am*

*4th Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 24th at 10:00am*

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sunday, December 24th at 7:00pm*

*Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 31st at 10:00am*

