

Service Of Holy Communion for December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

11:00am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P God loves you all the time.

C All the time God loves you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Light the third candle.

P Joy-Giving One,
Thank you for the ways you accept and
celebrate all of who we are.
Thank you for the many, many ways
you live among us.
Teach us to recognize you
and to share our joy.

C Amen.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v 5, 6



5 O come, O Key of Da- vid, come, and op- en wide our
6 O come, O Day- spring, come and cheer, O Son of jus- tice,



heav'nly home; make safe the way that le- ads on high,
now draw near. Dis- perse the gloo- my clouds of night,



and close the path to mis- er- y
and death's dark sha- dow put to flight. Re-joice! Re-joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C God of life,
you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.
We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.
We nurture conflict and build barriers.
We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.
Have mercy on us.
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.
Renew us with your grace
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.
Amen.

P Hear the good news:
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
In ✠ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

C **Amen.**

HYMN

A Voice Cries Out

Joncas

Verse 1



1. Con-sole my peo-ple, the ones dear to me: speak to the



heart of Je - ru-sa-lem: the time of your mourn-ing is



end-ed now, the Lord of life will come.

Refrain



A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: Pre - pare a




way for the Lord! A voice cries out in the wil - der -




ness: Make straight a high-way for God!


Verse 2



2. Ev - 'ry val - ley is made a plain, ev - 'ry



moun-tain is lev - eled the glo - ry of God shall



then be re - vealed, and the na-tions will sing in praise.

D.S.

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Verse 3

3. A voice shouts: "Cry!" O what shall I cry? All flesh is like
grass and its flow - ers: the grass may with - er, the
flow - er may fade, but the Word of the Lord is for - ev - er. **D.S.**

Verse 4

4. Zi - on, shout from the moun - tain top, lift up your
voice O Je - ru - sa - lem, and say to the peo - ple of
God's own land, "Be - hold, be - hold your God!" **D.S.**

Verse 5

5. The Lord will ap - pear as a shep - herd, hold - ing his
lambs in his arms, keep - ing his flock so
close to his heart lead - ing them all, old and young. **D.S.**

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

A In the beginning was the Word,

C **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

A In the Word was life,

C **and the life was the light of all people.**

A The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C **and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P` Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 146:5-10

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

The holy gospel of Matthew the eleventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

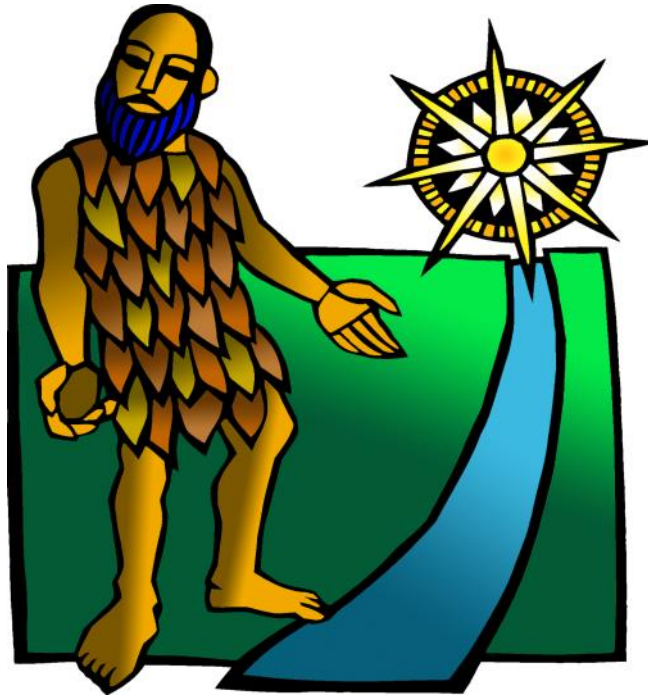
The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Tara Magoon

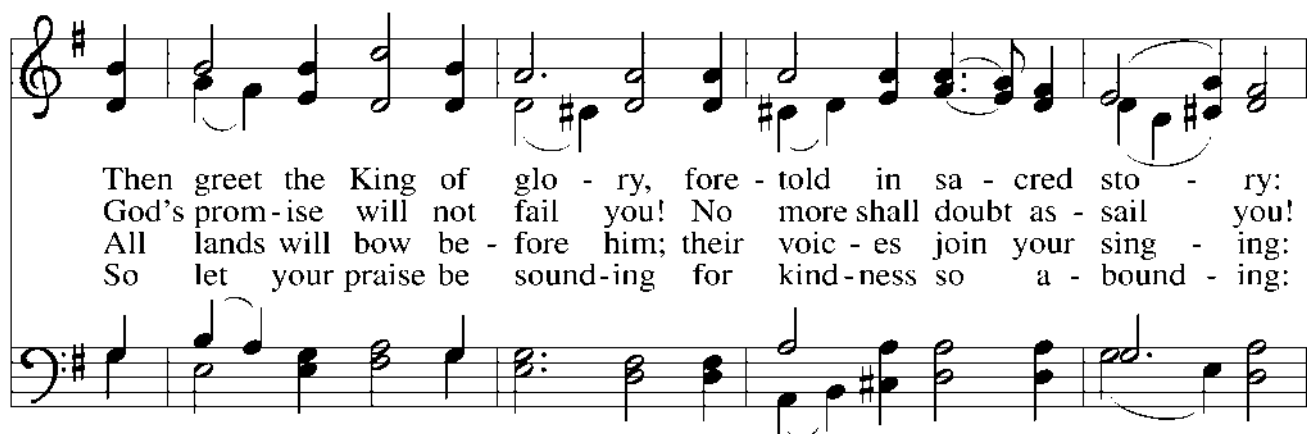


Please stand as you are able at the last verse.


1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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 into hell.

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.

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. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict (*regions in turmoil may be named*). Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss (*especially*). Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Thank you so much for your support of Grace ministry through your worship.

If you wish to make a donation to Grace, you can follow this link www.glcde.org or scan the QR code to make a donation on our website through the "GIVE" button in the upper right corner. You can also make a donation by placing your gift in our offering plates located inside both sanctuary doors.



ANTHEM

Savior Of the Nations, Come

Traditional

Please stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

WOV 759 v.1&3



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

P 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 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-er 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 -

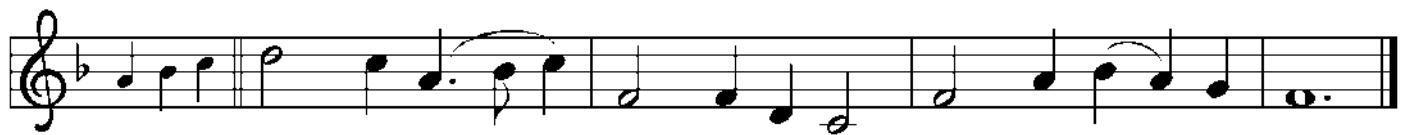


san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

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 - men, a - men, a - men.

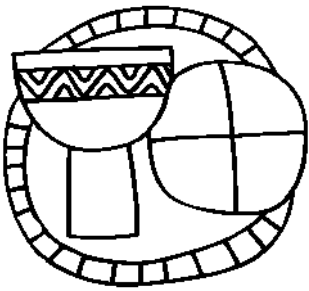
THE LORD'S PRAYER

P 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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.
All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

(Please be seated)



COMMUNION

Communion will be received at the head of the Sanctuary. Starting with the section closest to the sound room and worshippers may make their way to Pastor at the head of the Sanctuary and receive the communion elements.

Elements at worship are red wine and white grape juice.

Please let Pastor know if you require gluten-free bread.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Please be seated.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Here is Bread ELW 483



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.
We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Refrain



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Seed, Scattered and Sown W&P 121

Refrain

C G Am F G C C⁷

Seed, scat-tered and sown; wheat, gath-ered and grown;

F G C C/B Am Dm⁷ Gsus G

bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the Liv-ing Bread of God.

C G Am F G C C⁷ F G

Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is

C C/B Am Dm⁷ C/E Dm⁷ G C (G) G

shared by all; the Liv-ing Cup, the Liv-ing Bread of God.

Am G F C

1 Is not the bread we break a
2 The seed which falls on rock will
3 As wheat up - on the hills was

Dm G C E

shar - ing in our Lord? Is not the
with - er and our will die. The seed with -
gath - ered and was grown, so may the

Am F G G⁷ *Refrain*

cup we bless the blood of Christ out - poured?
in good ground the will flow - er and have life.
church of God be gath - ered in - to one.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Wait for the Lord ELW 262

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Wait for the Lord" (ELW 262). It is written for a two-part setting, likely Soprano and Alto, using a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 8/8, indicated by a large '8' at the end of the first line. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!". The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The score is presented in a clean, black-and-white format.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P God bless you and keep you,
✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.
C Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS FOR DECEMBER 11, 2022

TODAY we pray:

- *Karl Wagenfuhr (son of Vera)*
- *Itamar and sister Irama (relative of Vera Wagonfuhr)*
- *Phedon Jones*
- *John Keating*
- *Pam Hyde (friend of Merrily Schiavone)*
- *Jennifer Wolf (niece of Brian and Sandy Wolf)*
- *Rich DiRocco (neighbor of Kathy Long)*
- *Midge (friend of Vera Wagenfuhr)*
- *Jeff Dandoy (Audrey Day's father)*
- *Kendall, Aimee & Scott Oller (Lynda Martinez)*
- * *Maria Santopietro (friend of Beth Fenner)*

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Judy & Paul Freys (aunt and uncle of Beth Fenner); Krista Wacker; Val; Ben Epstein; Lynne Luettgen; Pam Wasgatt Montecalvo; Richard McBride; Debbie Anderson; Laurie Spears; John Boguki; Terri Dickson Rigglesman, Lois Nordby (sister of Gerry Teig)

Joanne Deaton; Dorothy Dzuris, Nancy Goyda, Joan Snyder; Ed and Erika Burke; Angie Wasgatt; Bob & Louise Ench; Vera Wagenfuhr; Polly Gillis; Kathy Long; Gener Ernst; Lis Verbeck; Lois Snyder; John Deaton; Gretchen Platz; Nanci Hunsinger; Chuck Loomis

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl.

For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Pastor Paige Evers.

For our staff; Pastor Tara Magoon, Susan Wells Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones.

For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference of the Delaware-Maryland

Synod—Hope Lutheran Church New Castle, Pastor Amy Jensen Wright,; St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Dover, Pastor Anne Strickert

For all pastors and church leaders

For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.

**To request or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)
office@glcde.org.**



Calling All Bakers: We Need
 **COOKIES** 
 & Other Treats for the Live Nativity
 Sign up in the narthex or contact Audrey Day

THE 2022 ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET!

Help bring about a little Peace on Earth this holiday season by supporting our shared human. Please check out the bulletin insert or Grace's website for more information.

NOISY OFFERING total to go to Lutheran Disaster Relief is \$338.80! Thank you!

Advent Words Study with Pastor Tara

Hope, Peace, Joy, Love Studies will be Monday mornings at 10:30 am Tuesday evenings at 7 via Zoom.



Memories of Grace's Annual Live Nativity

It's December 22, 2000. The forecast is for snow and temperatures in the teens. The threat of canceling Grace's 1st Live Nativity is looming. But this Chicago-born girl said "the show must go on!" Yes, I recall it was 9 degrees, as our simple live nativity took place in the grass near the memorial garden, with a small open canopy tent practically blowing away, the cast of nativity characters bundled up with lots of warm coats under their thin costumes, along with one donkey, and 1 goat (the other goat died the night before!). About 100 people still showed up on that freezing cold night to hear the traditional nativity story and sing beloved Christmas carols.

For years to come, this became a family tradition for many in the Hockessin and surrounding communities. With improvements each year, our recreated Bethlehem scene moved to the parking lot adorned with a larger 3-sided canopy provided by Boy Scout Troop 959, luminary, palm trees, twinkle lights, hay bales for seating, microphones and speakers, a wooden stable, and propane heaters.

Many members of Grace, young and old, have fond memories acting all the roles. And it took the work of many assisting with set up, costumes, refreshments, crafts, greeters, clean-up crew, etc. Nancy Goyda was instrumental for years handling the many costumes and props for narrators, Mary, Joseph, 3 kings, shepherds, and angels. One year, we even had three wise women! Some of my family members always had to pitch in, including a real live baby Jesus played by my 4-month-old great niece in 2007. When a live baby wasn't available, the Hylands baby doll worked just fine swaddled in cloth.

The children attending always loved visiting with the animals. Rented animals over the years included a cow, donkey, miniature pony, llama, goats, sheep, and rabbits. One year, the tip of the llama's tail was smoldering a bit as it swished into the propane heater, quickly extinguished without injury to anyone but caused a bit of excitement among the shepherds that year.

After standing in the cold outdoors for the narrations, I have fond memories of moving indoors to hear Grace's many talented musicians. Entertainment over the years included the brass band, children's choir, adult choir, women's choir and solo musicians adding to the ambiance of the evening.

After directing this program for about 10 years, it was passed on to our youth directors, Ed Kay then Josh Kelly. And big thanks to Kim Taylor and friends, and currently Audrey Day and family for continuing the tradition. With the willingness and support of our congregation, the annual Live Nativity continues to focus on "the reason for the season," the birth of our Savior, our King, and Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas
 Karen Baumbach



Sunday Worship & Education

8:30am Service of Holy Communion

9:45am Sunday School for all ages!

Advent Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

11:00am Service of Holy Communion

The chancel flowers are presented today to the glory of God
by the Howle family
in honor of Children's birthdays..

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

11:00am

Assisting Minister: Sandy Betley

Greeter/Usher: Pam Zunino

Usher: Jay Snyder

Reader: Pam Adams

Sound: Rolf Eriksen

Nursery: Laura Mackiewicz, Kevin Mackiewicz

Counters: Bill Brizendine, Sue Eriksen

Refreshments: Pat Kizuka, Jane Foskett

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian

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