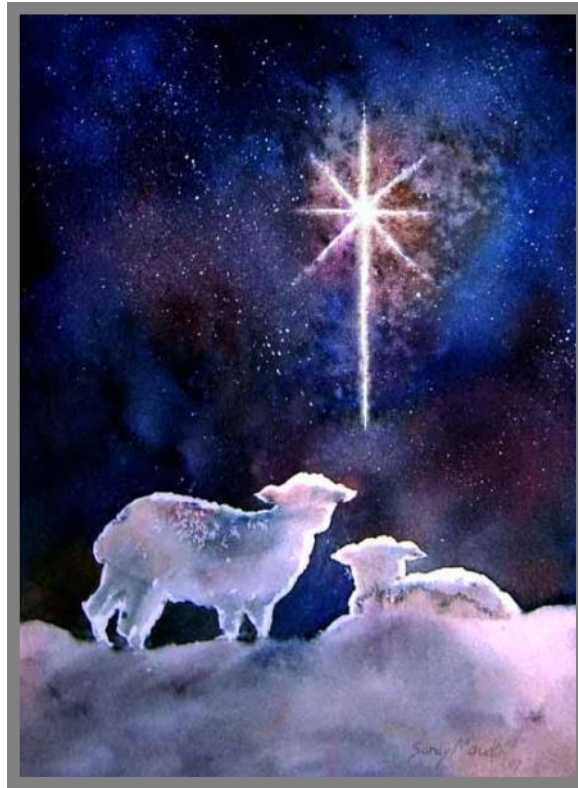


December 24, 2022
Nativity of Our Lord
10:00am



CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

A long time ago when God created the heavens and the earth
and God made humankind in God's own image.

Long after the great flood in which Noah was saved
and God made the rainbow as a sign of God's promise.

After the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah
that they would be the descendants of many nations.

After Moses led the people of Israel into the promised land
and Miriam, his sister danced in freedom.

After while after the time of Ruth and the judges
and still after David was anointed as king.

At just the right time, in just the right place,
while the world was at peace, Jesus Christ was born
to make the world a holy place and be God with us.

This is the night of Jesus birth, Emmanuel, God is with us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P God loves you all the time.
All the time God loves you.

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.

God of life,

C **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.**

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num,
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

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.**

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.

Almighty God, you made this holy day shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96

Read responsively.

- ¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
- ³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
- ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- ¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity."**
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**
- ¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

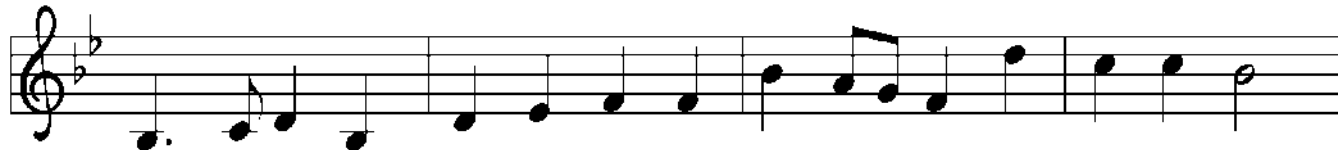
¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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: Luke 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

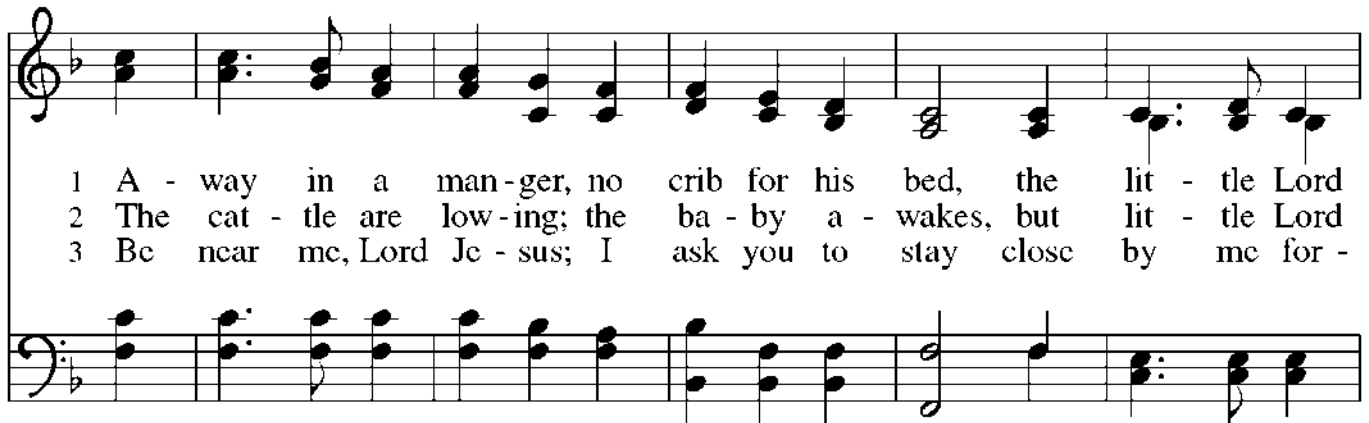
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Tara Magoon



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed

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 INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Your infinite love is born to us this day. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children, and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain (*especially*). Shelter refugee families and those who have no home. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

All share a sign of peace and reconciliation.

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

Christmas Offering

Baloche

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY



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

A God of abundance,
Receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace.
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C **Amen.**

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.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-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.

P 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.



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



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.
All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

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;

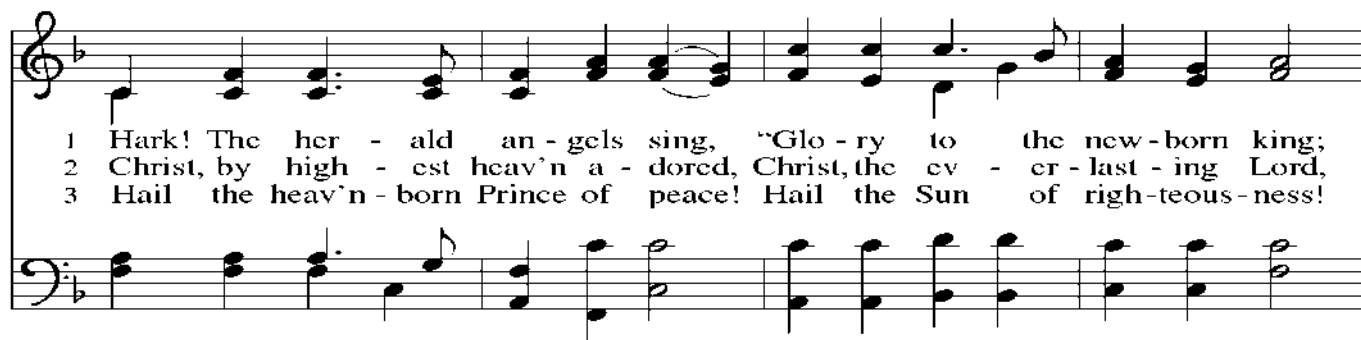
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Angels From the Realms of Glory ELW 275

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are arranged in four stanzas, with the first three lines of each stanza corresponding to the four voices. The piano accompaniment is written in the right hand of the grand staff. The score includes a refrain section at the bottom, marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

What Child Is This? ELW 296

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Please stand as you are able.

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.

Amen.

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

DISMISSAL

P Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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*The congregation of Grace Lutheran Church is moved by many parts of the ministry but especially by the worship of God in community. The congregation may take picture or videos of the front of our worship space (pulpit, altar area, choir, etc...) for use in congregational publications, website or social media. No names are used in such photos or videos without express permission.

PRAYERS FOR DECEMBER 24, 2022

TODAY we pray:

- *Karl Wagenfuhr (son of Vera Waganfuhr)*
- *Itamar and sister Irama (relative of Vera Waganfuhr)*
- *Phedon Jones*
- *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 Riggleman, Lois Nordby (sister of Gerry Teig;)*John Keating*

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.**



The chancel flowers and decorations are presented today to the glory of God

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Beth Fenner

Greeter/Usher: Jane Teasley

Usher: Mark Teasley

Reader: Lynne Luetngen

Sound: Joe Luetngen

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, Delaware 19707

(302) 239-6481 office@glcde.org www.glcde.org

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The people of Grace Lutheran Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian