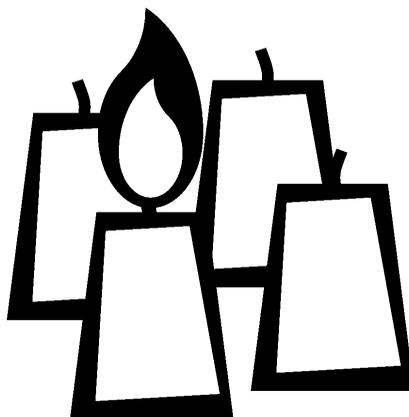


# **First Sunday of Advent**



**November 29, 2020**

## Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to Grace to worship in God's house.

To our guests — We invite you to worship with us often and consider our family of faith yours.

Everything you need for worship is printed in this bulletin. Large Print Bulletins and Quiet Books (for our very young worshipers) are available from the ushers.

Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician for a receiver.

Please turn off or silence your personal communication device.

We also ask that you not bring food or drink into our worship space.

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The NALC embraces four core values: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused. The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe. We invite you to learn more about our congregation and the NALC.

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## First Sunday of Advent

### PRELUDE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" -arr. David Cherwien

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" -arr. Paul Manz

**Dennis Crill**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

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

C **Amen.**

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

C **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Merciful Father,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

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

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

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Fling Wide the Door"

1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry  
comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the  
Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion  
to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and  
praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.

## The Gathering

### GREETING

- A 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 Kyrie eleison.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
A Christe eleison.  
C **Christ, have mercy.**  
A Kyrie eleison.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- A Stir up your power, O Lord,  
C **and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the  
threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

- 8:15 am Kirsten, John, and Lily Hicks  
11:00 am Joe and Shirley Moleno and Brice Graves

Leader Centuries before the birth of Jesus, the people of God longed and waited for the Messiah. Prophets foretold His coming. We, too, wait in trust for His advent among us. We pray for the same Holy Spirit that moved the prophets to stir our hearts to faith in God's Word.

In hope, we light the first candel in the Advent wreath, the Prophecy Candle. We read in Hebrews, Chapter 1:

*Long ago, at many times in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things.*  
(Hebrews 1:1-2a ESV)

*Light the first candle*

### CAROL FOR LIGHTING THE PROPHECY CANDLE:

**A verse from "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"**

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

## PARISH CONCERNS

### HYMN OF PRAISE

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"-arr. Anne Krentz-Organ

Dennis Crill- piano

### The Word

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

*Israel was cut off from the Lord because of their iniquity. Sin had separated them from God, but a cry went out for God not to forget them, even though they were unclean.*

- <sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

### Refrain



Let your face shine up - on us and  
we shall be saved, and we shall be saved.

### Psalm Tone



- L <sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
- C <sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**
- L <sup>3</sup>Restore | us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- C <sup>4</sup>**O LORD | God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?**
- Refrain**
- L <sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the | bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- C <sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**
- L <sup>7</sup>Restore us, O | God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- C <sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. Refrain**
- L <sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn a- | way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- C <sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. Refrain**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*Paul wrote to the church in Corinth giving thanks for them and the fact that they were enriched by the Spirit, possessing all good gifts for the sake of the ministry of the Gospel.*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing



of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.*

### **HOLY GOSPEL Mark 13:24-37**

*Jesus explained to his followers that a time of distress would come but they would see the signs in the sun, stars and heavens that would clue them in to the time when the Son of Man would return to earth in great power and glory. Angels would be sent from the ends of the earth to gather God's elect. Jesus assured his friends that even though heaven and earth would pass away, his Word will last forever.*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>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.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

### **MESSAGE**

**Pastor Nicholas Hopman**

*Please stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,

Once for fa - vored sin - ners slain; Thou - sand thou -

sand saints at - tend - ing Swell the tri - umph of

his... train: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.

## APOSTLES' CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*A brief silence*

*After each petition:*

A Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A O heavenly Father, give us all such things through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and savior, in whose name we thus pray:

**C Our Father,  
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## PREFACE

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.**

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

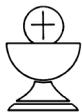
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he also took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and said, "Take and drink it all of you.

This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*Please be seated.*



*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,  
is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of  
sins, life and salvation.*

*All baptized persons are welcomed to the Lord's Table.*

*Children who do not commune are invited forward to receive a blessing.*

*You may receive the Communion Wine by taking a communion glass from the tray as it  
is offered to you.*

*Grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray.*

***After you have received, please place the empty communion glass in the basket provided***

*(Gluten-free hosts are available by telling the person giving the host)*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*"As the Grains of Wheat"-arr. Gregory Hamilton*

*"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"-arr. Charles Callahan*

**Dennis Crill**

*After communion is finished, please stand.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C **Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

C **Amen.**

## The Sending

### BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ grant you peace.

C **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### "The King Shall Come"

1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "The King Shall Come". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks, when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes." The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

### DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

**Dennis Crill**

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" -arr. John Leavitt

**Dismissal:** *Ushers will release rows from the back of the church to the front. Please keep your bulletin.*

**Offering:** A basket will be placed by the baptismal font for offering. Offerings can be placed in the basket before or after the service

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**Today's flowers are given by...**

XXXXX

**Remember in our prayers...** Grace Sima, Randy Cashman, Marilyn Braatz, Tom Phillips, Manjula Kothuru, Mary Ross, Mary Ulrich, Clarence Clapham, Rosemarie Litzinger, Shirley Wortman, Janice Hardick, Joan Hassler, Eileen Damm, Shawn Turnbull

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## Notes & News

**WELCOME, GUESTS!** We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us.

**An updated directory** has been printed and is available for pick up at the Welcome Center Desk or can be mailed by calling (614-882-3062) or emailing (office@grace43081.org) the church office.

**Christmas Eve Services:** This year 3 Christmas Eve services will be offered in the sanctuary at Grace: 4pm, 6:30pm and 9pm. The 4pm Christmas Eve Service will be recorded and posted to our website. Each worship service will include communion and special music. Seating for the Christmas Eve services will be limited this year to allow for social distancing and advance registration is required. There are two ways to sign-up to attend the Christmas Eve Services at [www.grace43081.org](http://www.grace43081.org), click on the sign-up link (registration through Sign-up Genius) or by calling the church office (614-882-3026) with your name, phone number, and number attending. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. We will not be able to accommodate walk-ins on Christmas Eve.



**Giving Envelopes:** It is a time-honored tradition to receive a new box of Giving Envelopes at the end of every year, but with changing technology we know some members do not use them. If you no longer require a box of Giving Envelopes please contact  Kathy Wahlenmaier by calling the church office or email at [k.wahlenmaier@grace43081.org](mailto:k.wahlenmaier@grace43081.org).

**Service Recording:** The recorded 8:15am service will be available at [www.grace43081.org](http://www.grace43081.org) around 11am.

**NURSERY will be open Sunday!** Staffed with trained professional sitters for infants to 5-years-old from 8:00am to 12:15pm. A professional company called Sitters Unlimited is staffing the nursery with a professional who will wear masks and follow our deep cleaning guidelines posted in the Nursery.



### **Christmas Poinsettia Orders      Due December 6**

Orders and donations for Poinsettias to be used to decorate our Worship Space for Christmas Eve are now being taken. Additional order forms are available at the Welcome Center desk. Please fill out the order form and place it in the Offering Plate or return it to the church office. You may also order and pay online by going to our church's website: [www.grace43081.org](http://www.grace43081.org).

The cost of each plant is \$8.00, due when order is placed. Plants may be picked up after the 9:00 Christmas Eve service or during office hours the week after Christmas. Plants donated or not picked up will continue to decorate the church during the Christmas season.

**Support your Grace when you shop by going through AmazonSmile.** When you shop, Amazon donates .5% of qualifying purchases! It is so simple. When you shop just log into Amazon using the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church unique charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0813288>. Just beneath the search box you will see: Supporting: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. Then shop as usual—it's that easy!

**Do you shop at Kroger?** If you do and haven't already, please **enroll** in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** and choose **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (org. #: PV731)** as your non-profit organization. It's a Win-Win for everyone! Of your Kroger purchases 0.5% will be credited to Grace! It adds up quick and is easy to do. If you are already signed up, you no longer need to re-enroll. Enroll at: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). This quarter (August—October, 2020) Grace received \$203.51.



## ***MUSIC NOTES***

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### **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” – arr. David Cherwien**

Charles Wesley wrote this Advent hymn in the eighteenth century which has stood the test of time and remains unaltered in today's hymnal. Wesley is one of the most important English hymn writers, maybe among the most important in any language. He wrote nine thousand or more hymns and poems in at least one hundred different meters. Wesley was ordained an Anglican priest in 1735 and was buried in an Anglican churchyard, though with his brother John he became a leader of the Methodists.

### **“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” - arr. Paul Manz**

The text of this hymn was written by Paul Gerhardt in 1653 and first published in ten German stanzas. Johann Cruger was the musical editor and created the hymn tune WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN. Unlike the hymn above, it has experienced substantial alterations. His writing of about 130 hymn texts demonstrate why he is considered one of the most important Lutheran hymn writers. He had the rare capacity to express the depth of the Christian faith in understandable yet durable ways.

### **“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” – arr. Anne Krentz Organ**

Laurentius Laurenti wrote this hymn of rejoicing at the bridegroom’s coming to go with Matthew 25:1-13, the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. It first appeared in German with ten stanzas. This text was then merged with a Swedish folk tune (HAF TRONES LAMPA FARDIG) to create this hymn. The musical structure of this hymn makes it almost too easy for congregations, but its jubilant bounce matches the rejoicing of the hymn and keeps it alive.

### **“As the Grains of Wheat – arr. Gregory Hamilton**

The text for this hymn comes from a catechetical manual from the late first or early second century called *The Didache*. Chapter 9 gives instructions about the eucharist. In the thanksgiving connected to the bread, it uses the imagery of grain scattered on the mountains that is harvested, ground and baked into one loaf. The prayer is that the church likewise may be gathered together from the corners of the world into God’s kingdom. The melody, in Marty Haugen’s typically tuneful and congregational way, is gently syncopated and sets the text nicely and sings well even without accompaniment.

### **“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” – arr. Charles Callahan**

Percy Dearmer penned the words for this communion hymn and published it in *The English Hymnal*. Dearmer’s text is less a narrative about the Paschal Lamb than it is a celebration of Christ’s presence among those who are tethered by the Spirit at the Lord’s table and who pray that as disciples they may make their meals and living “as sacraments” by “caring, helping and giving.” The hymn tune UNION SEMINARY was written in 1957 by Harold Friedell as an anthem named for the School of Sacred Music at Union Seminary in New York City. He utilized Dearmer’s words to create this hymn.

### **“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” – arr. John Leavitt**

Now comes the cry of John the Baptist, announcing that the Lord is at hand. Charles Coffin wrote the hymn in Latin for Lauds in Advent in 1736. Coffin was one of France’s finest Latin authors and wrote over one hundred hymns.. Michael Praetorius set the tune he found in a fifteenth century manuscript and named it PUER NOBIS. He was the son of a Lutheran pastor who at Torgau was a colleague of Martin Luther’s chief musical helper, Johann Walter.

## ***YOUTH & FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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**Vision Statement:** To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

**Christmas Program:** The Christmas Program for Sunday School this year will not be a Worship Service. The Program will be at 4:00pm, Sunday, December 20. This Program is built around the familiar carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful." For all practices and the Program we will be wearing masks and social distancing. The practices will be during the Sunday school hour and resume next week Dec. 6, 13, Dress Rehearsal

December 19 at 9:00 am. If you have questions contact Molly King, [m.king@grace43081.org](mailto:m.king@grace43081.org)



## **TEACHING THE FAITH... ENCOURAGING DISCIPLESHIP**

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**The Women's Bible Study** is studying "The Women of Christmas" by Liz Curtis Higgs on Wednesdays at 10:30am. A sacred season is about to unfold for three women whose hearts belong to God. Elizabeth is barren, yet her trust in God remains fertile. Mary is betrothed in marriage, yet she is willing to bear God's Son. Anna is a widow full of years, yet she waits patiently, prayerfully for the Messiah to appear in the temple courts. Liz Curtis Higgs explores the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary and Anna, unwrapping each verse with tender care and introducing you afresh to "The Women of Christmas."

**AN ADULT BIBLE STUDY EXPERIENCE:** The adult class led by John Westenhaver meets in the fellowship hall at 9:45 a.m. For more information contact John at [jwestenhaver@gmail.com](mailto:jwestenhaver@gmail.com).

**Adult Learning:** The adult education class lead by Bill Kulju is studying Jonah. At the end of the day, God is less concerned with what we do for Him than who we are in Him. No one illustrates that truth better than Jonah. Focused on the prophet rather than his prophecy, the story of Jonah gives us a picture of a man on the run due to his own selfish desires. Instead of showing mercy to his enemies, he determined to keep God's grace to himself rather than share it with those he considered undeserving. The study offers a profound glimpse into the conflict that occurs when God calls resistant believers to His mission. More importantly, it underscores the depths of His compassion not only in redeeming the lost, but redeeming those He has called to participate in His reconciling work. Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:45 for this 8 week adult study of the book of Jonah. This study is facilitated by Bill Kulju.

## **REACHING OUT TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY**

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**Christmas Angel Tree:** Please note that we have on display in the Gathering Space the annual Angel Tree to benefit the Salvation Army. Each year Grace helps disadvantaged children by buying gifts for them. This is done by selecting a tag or two for a boy or girl, purchasing a gift (suggestion on the tag), and placing it unwrapped under the tree with the tag attached to the gift. The Salvation Army will collect the gifts after our last service next Sunday, **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. After the gifts will be wrapped and distributed to the kids. With your help, the goal is to have all 75 tags taken and returned so that a smile can be put on many faces this Christmas morning!



**FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS** *Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

### **November Grocery List:**

*Peanut Butter, spaghetti sauce; jelly, canned soups; canned chicken and tuna; canned vegetables; canned pasta; condiments, salad dressing; potato, rice and pasta sides; laundry and dish soap; deodorant, shampoo, conditioner; body wash, bath soap; toilet paper, paper towels; and fresh produce is always welcome, especially early in the week. We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. WHILE THE CHURCH IS CLOSED TO SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES PLEASE TAKE ALL ITEMS DIRECTLY TO W.A.R.M. along with any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products directly to WARM. Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.*

## PROGRESSIVE CHRISTMAS CONCERT



This annual event will be virtual this year. Each of the five partner churches—Church of the Master, Church of the Messiah, College Corner Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, and First Presbyterian Church will provide a concert. There are NO tickets this year, but you are encouraged to make a generous donation to the Westerville habitat Partnership. Habitat home building has continued through the pandemic, 5 houses was the goal for this year and they are all under roof. The funding for their competition is what we are working toward. This concert is still a great way to get into the holiday spirit and hear great music provided by the musicians of our five member churches. All proceeds go to Westerville Habitat Partnership which is helping to build affordable, safe and energy efficient homes with structured mortgages. For more information visit: [westervillehabitat.org](http://westervillehabitat.org) or contact Joanne Figge or Lois Rumph.

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### Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address.

Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to *Simply Give* today.

**Financial Update:** If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Melissa Hodek, at [melissa.hodek@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.hodek@gmail.com) and it will be emailed to you.

October 2020	Estimated Giving	Collected	Excess/ (Deficit)
MTD	\$ 36,667	\$ 45,447	\$ 8,780
YTD	\$366,670	\$ 360,996	\$ ( 5,674)

### Weekly Worship Attendance

Christ the King Sunday, November 22: 8:15 am: 44, 11:00 am: 94, Total: 138

## Serving Today

PRESIDER/PREACHER	Pastor Nicholas Hopman
ASSISTING MINISTER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
CANTOR	Larry Schaller
ORGANIST	Dennis Crill
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
LECTOR	8:15 Lisa Kuhar 11:00 Sue Mahrt
ALTAR GUILD	Cheryl Bush, Andrea Bush, Dorothy Crain, Twyla Ridder, Linda Seamon, Lou Swanson
USHERS	8:15 Randy Stoll, Katie Singleton, Katherine Stoll, Will Stoll 11:00 Jim Claflin, Craig Robinette, Mike Grubb, Beverly Grubb
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	Samantha Walker
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush



## This Week at Grace: November 29– December 6, 2020

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### Nov. 29 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

PASTOR NICHOLAS HOPMAN

- 8:15 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Adult Learning (Rose Garden 2 & 3 and Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 am Worship Service

### MON

- TUES. 7:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:15 pm Katharine Circle

- WED. 10:30 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

- THURS 7:00 am Grace Ringers (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm Arts and Environment (Rose Garden 2 & 3)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

- FRI. 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

- SAT 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Zoom meeting)

### Dec. 6 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

PASTOR NICHOLAS HOPMAN

- 8:15 am Worship Service
- 9:30 am Christmas Program Practice (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 am Adult Learning (Rose Garden 2 & 3 and Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- Angel Tree Gifts Due

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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GRACE EVANGELICAL  
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<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church** has been serving the Westerville community for more than 108 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly meeting space for Boy Scout Troop 007 and three AA groups.

**Vision Statement:** We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.