

# Third Sunday of Advent



**December 13, 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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## Third Sunday of Advent

**Cover Image:** Adoration of the Child Jesus by St. John the Baptist (c.1530-1540)  
Oil on Panel

Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472-1553, Wittenberg, Germany)

A young John the Baptist, who leapt in his mother Elizabeth's womb when her cousin Mary approached with Christ in her womb (Luke 1:41), points to the Christ child. John pets a lamb because he said of Christ, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29)." The Christ child holds his cross while crushing the serpent (Satan) and death (skeleton) and the serpent bites his heel, just as God had promised Eve (Genesis 3:15).

### PRELUDE

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" - *arr. Michael Burkhardt*

"Hark, the Glad Sound!" - *arr. Lynn L. Petersen*

**Linda Hoch**

*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

## "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing night.  
Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.

The musical score consists of five systems, each with 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 printed below the vocal lines.

## 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     Heavenly Father,  
C     **teach us to believe the words of your prophet, John the Baptist, that we look to your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, as the lamb of God, who takes away our sins and gives us his righteousness in return. Send your Holy Spirit to create this faith, who lives and reigns with you and your Son, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

8:15 am     **Pastor, Mary, Solveig, Inga and Tove Hopman**  
11:00 am     **Eric, Cheryl, Andrea and Heather Bush**

Leader     Shepherds heard the message of the angel. They rejoiced at the good news that a Savior was born, and they were the first to tell others the Good News of Jesus. Like the shepherds, we are called to be witnesses to Christ. We pray that God would give us the boldness to speak.

In joy, we light the third candle in the Advent wreath, the Shepherd Candle. We read in Luke, Chapter 2:  
*[The shepherds] went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.*  
(Luke 2: 16-17 ESV)

*Light the third candle*

### CAROL FOR LIGHTING THE SHEPHERD CANDLE: A verse from "The First Noel"

The first Noel the angel did say,  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the king of Israel!

### PARISH CONCERNS

### HYMN OF PRAISE

**Larry Seifert - piano**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/ Prepare the Royal Highway" - *arr. Larry Seifert*

## The Word

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

*The words spoken by Isaiah were the same words Jesus spoke when he stood before his people and proclaimed the coming kingdom (Luke 4:18). Sent to the brokenhearted and captive, both Isaiah and Jesus were given God's commission to free people and remind them of God's covenantal love and mercy.*

- <sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.  
<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

L The word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### Luke 1:47-55

Refrain



You, Lord, have lift-ed up the low - ly.

Psalm Tone



L <sup>46b</sup>My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,  
C <sup>47</sup>my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,  
C <sup>48</sup>**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will | call me blessed:**  
L <sup>49</sup>you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me  
and holy | is your name.  
C <sup>50</sup>**You have mercy on | those who fear you,  
from generation to | generation. Refrain**  
L <sup>51</sup>You have shown strength | with your arm  
and scattered the proud in | their conceit,  
C <sup>52</sup>**casting down the mighty | from their thrones  
and lifting | up the lowly.**  
L <sup>53</sup>You have filled the hungry | with good things  
and sent the rich | away empty.  
C <sup>54</sup>**You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel,  
to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,**  
L <sup>55</sup>the promise made | to our forbears,  
to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever. **Refrain**

### SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

*Saint Paul proclaimed to the Christians in Thessalonica that God's will for them in Christ was that they would give thanks in everything, rejoice always, and pray unceasingly.*

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup>abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

L The word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

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

**HOLY GOSPEL    John 1:6-8, 19-28**

*The arrival of John the Baptist, who was not the light, but the one who was sent to bear witness to the light, had come. The goal of John's witness was that all would come to believe in the Messiah of Israel. The light, Jesus, was coming into the world and this was a call to prepare our hearts to receive him.*

**P**     The Holy Gospel according to John.  
**C**     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"  
as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

**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

## "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.

"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system of music is for the first line of the hymn, and the second system is for the second line. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

## 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 God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly  
to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

*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**

**Linda Hoch**

*"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" - arr. Anne Krentz Organ*

*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" - arr. John Carter*

*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

## "Hark! The Glad Sound!"

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.

The musical score is written for a soprano voice and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide" - arr. Walther Haffner

**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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**Remember in our prayers...** *The Family of Ellen Riddle, Connie Caldwell, 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.

**2021 Giving Envelopes** have been placed on tables in the Gathering Space and are ready to be picked up.

**Christmas Eve Services:** This year 3 Christmas Eve services will be offered in the sanctuary at Grace: 4pm (Registration FULL), 6:30pm (FULL) 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.



**Christmas Program Registration** is now open at the Grace website or by calling the church office. The Program will be at 4:00pm, Sunday, December 20. This Program is built around the familiar carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful." The Christmas Program for Sunday School this year will not be a Worship Service. Registration is required as seating will be limited to allow for social distancing; we will not be able to accommodate walk-ins. If you have questions contact Molly King, [m.king@grace43081.org](mailto:m.king@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 closed until further notice. If you have any question see Molly King.**



**Decorating for Christmas:** We always look forward to the holiday season. This year more than ever we need to experience the colors and sounds of the season, be comforted by God's great love for us and celebrate the birth of His son.

The Art and Environment Team will be decorating the church again this year, but scaling way back. We will be working in twos or threes, wearing masks and keeping our distance. Additional help would be much appreciated. We will meet on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 and again on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00. Please join us if you are able.

With all the uncertainty we face this year we want Grace to see the light that comes out of darkness and experience God's love for us whether they worship in our church or on-line. Joy to the World!

## **Holiday Office Hours:**

Thursday, December 24th: 9AM-12Noon

Friday, December 25th: Closed

Monday, December 28th: Closed

Friday, January 1st: Closed

## ***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 Practices:** The practices will be during the Sunday school hour Today, with Dress Rehearsal December 19 at 9:00 am. If you have questions contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org

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

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**The Women's Bible Study:** On Wednesday, December 16th the Women's Bible study will start a new study from the Lifeguide series. Advent Of The Savior is a six week study helping us get the most out of Advent and prepare for Christmas. For more information contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org.

**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.

**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:** ALL 75 tags were fulfilled and then some! Thank you for your help putting smiles on so many faces Christmas morning!

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

**December Grocery List:**

*Boxed Pasta, Potato, Pasta, Rice Sides, Instant Potatoes, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Condiments, Canned Chicken, Tuna, Sloppy Joe Mix, Canned Chili, Beef Stew, Chicken & Dumplings, Canned Soups, Canned Fruit, Personal Care Items - Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Deodorant, Bar Soap, Tooth Paste & Brushes, Laundry & Dish 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.

MONTHLY FOOD/HYGIENE= 279 lbs.; YEAR TO DATE FOOD/HYGIENE= 2,111.5 lbs.

MONTHLY MONETARY= \$1003.48 ; YEAR TO DATE MONETARY= \$10,162.85

## **PROGRESSIVE CHRISTMAS CONCERT: ONLINE**

This annual event was virtual this year and posted

<https://westervillehabitat.com/> on December 11th. Each of the five partner churches— Church of the Master, Church of the Messiah, College Corner Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, and First Presbyterian Church provided 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 completion 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.

## ***MUSIC NOTES***

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### **“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” – arr. Michael Burkhardt**

Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722) 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, which was the gospel for the 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, though it is usually included in the Advent season. The tune HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG is a Swedish folk melody that was paired with Sarah Borthwick Findlander’s translation of the hymn in the Augustina Synod’s *Hymnal and Order of Service for Churches and Sunday Schools* (1901).

### **“Hark the Glad Sound!” – arr. Lynn L. Petersen**

Philip Doddridge (1702-1751) wrote over 400 hymns, none of which were published during his lifetime. His hymns were written mainly for use in his parish and given out freely, and were first published in 1755 by Job Orton in *Hymns, Founded on Various Texts in the Holy Scriptures*, a volume arranging the hymns as they relate to and express various Scripture texts from Genesis to Revelation. There this hymn was included under “Christ’s Message,” Luke 4:18-19 (“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor...”).

### **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel / Prepare the Royal Highway” – arr. Larry Seifert**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” comes from the seven antiphons sung in the medieval Roman Church at Vespers before and after the *Magnificat* (Mary’s Song), just prior to Christmas. Sometime in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, five of these antiphons were selected for a hymn and the “Rejoice, rejoice” refrain added. Biblical references to the Great “O’s” are: Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14), Root

of Jesse (Isaiah 11:10), Dayspring (Malachi 4:2), Key of David (Isaiah 22:22), and O Lord (Adonai) (Exodus 3:15). The verses point us toward the purpose of Advent – to prepare for Christmas, just as Lent prepares for Easter.

The hymn “Prepare the Royal Highway” by Frans Mikael Franzén (1772-1847) begins with allusions to Isaiah 40:3-5, where a highway for the King of kings is made straight. By the third stanza the King is welcomed with gates flung open as in Psalm 24:7-10. Palms strew the way with hosannas as at Christ’s entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:19, Mark 11:1-10, and Luke 19:28-38), and peace, freedom, justice, truth, and love with sounding praise reflect Isaiah 40 and the following chapters.

### **“Come Now, O Prince of Peace” – arr. Anne Krentz Organ**

This Korean hymn by I-to Loh (b. 1936) was first published in 1990 in his book *Sound the Bamboo*. There the biblical text listed with it is 2 Corinthians 5:17-20, where Paul explains that in Christ, we are a new creation, reconciled to God. The author of the text, Geonyong Lee (b. 1947), wrote this hymn for the opening worship service of the world conference for the peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, held in Incheon on April 25, 1988. The tune OSOSÖ takes its name from the first word of the Korean hymn, “Ososö, ososö, pyonghwaüi imgüm”.

### **“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” – arr. John Carter**

This ancient prayer at the opening of the Eucharist is one of the oldest liturgies of the Christian Church, traditionally ascribed to St. James, the brother of Jesus. Its first written form exists in the mid fourth century in both Greek and Syriac, and is still sung in Jerusalem on the Sunday after Christmas. It is appropriate for both communion services and the celebration of the Incarnation.

### **“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide” – arr. Walther Haffner**

This German hymn, “O Heiland, reiss die Himmel auf”, first appeared in *Ausserlesene Catholische Geistliche Krichengesäng* printed by Peter von Brachel in Cologne, 1623. The translation by Martin L. Seltz was included in the *Worship Supplement* (1969) to *The Lutheran Hymnal*. When the hymn first appeared in 1623, it was sung to another tune. The present anonymous tune appeared in 1666. Johannes Brahms has written a set of variations for choir based on this hymn.



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**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**

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 6:** 8:15 am: 54, 11:00 am: 92, Total: 146

## The Voice

Find the 36 **bold** words from John 1:19b-28 (ESV)

A K W A T E R P T E I T N U A  
R M N O C Z R J D E U H A I N  
U O O I R I C O E O H W C S S  
T D O N E T A H S J A P R S W  
M V D S G P H N S S T M O T E  
S E T T D A C Y E T Y N S R R  
D S L R M B Q E F Y N A S A P  
N H O A F S S E N R E D L I W  
A L A P S I U A O U D R U G J  
T Y E I R U H S C E Y O O H N  
S N A A A T R M W C L J Y T M  
O U H W E S W E S E T I V E L  
I P W B S A I D J Y J Z J O Q  
B A P T I Z I N G S A N D A L  
C H R I S T G N I Y R C C E H

The **Jews** sent **priests** and **Levites** from **Jerusalem** to ask him, “Who are you?” He **confessed**, and did not **deny**, but confessed, “I am **not** the **Christ**.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you **Elijah**?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the **Prophet**?” And he answered, “No.” So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an **answer** to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the **voice** of one **crying** out in the **wilderness**, ‘Make **straight** the **way** of the **Lord**,’ as the prophet **Isaiah** said.” (Now they had been sent from the **Pharisees**.) They asked him, “Then why are you **baptizing**, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” **John** answered them, “I **baptize** with **water**, but **among you stands one** you do not know, even he who comes after me, the **strap** of whose **sandal** I am not **worthy** to **untie**.” These things took place in **Bethany** across the **Jordan**, where John was baptizing.

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# Serving Today

PRESIDER/PREACHER	Pastor Nicholas Hopman
ASSISTING MINISTER	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
CANTOR	Stephanie Foos
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
LECTOR	8:15 Allie Kotik      11:00 Karen Holmes
ALTAR GUILD	Jodie Arreguin, Lois Bernhardt, Dorotha Fuhrman, Verna Kreachbaum, Amy Quinn, Linda Reasoner
USHERS	8:15 John Hartman, Steve Young, Bob Andrews, Don Slemmer
SOUND TECHNICIANS	11:00 Mike Grubb, Barb Moser, Tom Moser, Bev Grubb Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush



## This Week at Grace: December 13-20, 2020

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### Dec. 13 **THIRD 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
- 12:30 pm Council Meeting

MON 1:00 pm Ruth Circle (Rose Garden 2 & 3)

TUES. 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

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

THURS 10:00 am A&E Decorating (Sanctuary)  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Online Meeting)

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

SAT 8:00 am Men Of Grace  
9:00 am Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
9:30 am AA Meeting (Online Meeting)  
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Online Meeting)

### Dec. 20 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

PASTOR NICHOLAS HOPMAN

- 8:15 am Worship Service
- 9:30 am TBD: Christmas Program Practice (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 am Adult Learning (Rose Garden 2 & 3 and Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 4:00 pm Youth Christmas Program: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Sanctuary)  
Registration Required

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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“Come Now, O Prince of Peace” – arr. Anne Krentz Organ, from *Global Piano Reflections for Advent* by Anne Krentz Organ, Augsburg Fortress, ©2003

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence/ PICARDY” – arr. John Carter, from *Contemplative Folk Tunes for Piano* by John Carter, Augsburg Fortress, ©2001

“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide/ O HEILAND, REISS DIE HIMMEL AUF” – arr. Walther Haffner, from *Augsburg Organ Library: Advent*, Augsburg Fortress, ©2000



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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.