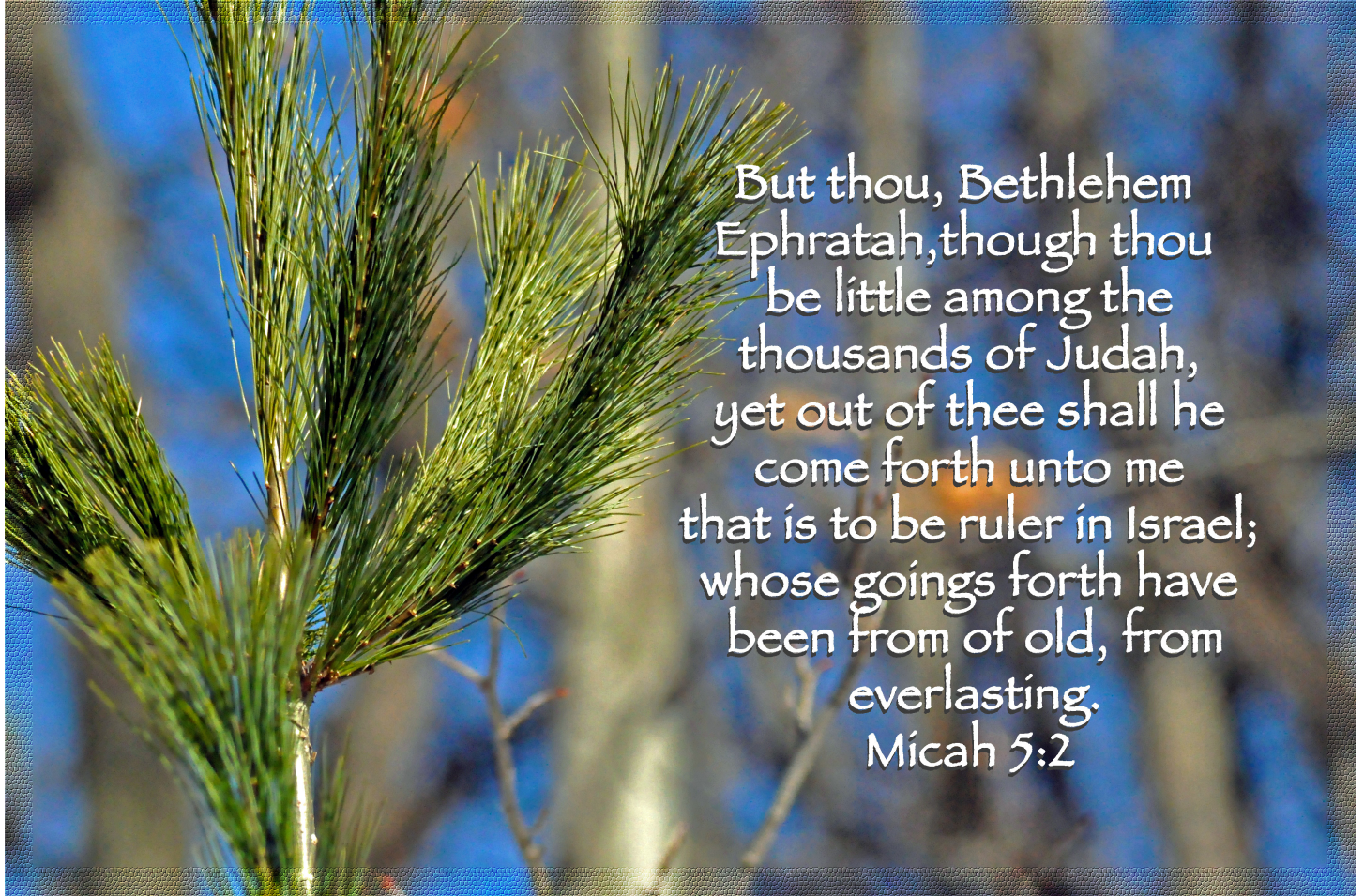


Fourth Sunday in Advent



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 23, 2012





**830 N. First Ave
Tucson, AZ 85719**

Worshiping Sunday Morning
at 7:45 & 10:00

Welcome to Grace!

Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

www.GraceTucsonWELS.com



**9950 E. Rees Loop
Tucson, AZ 85747**

Worshiping Sunday Morning
at 10:00

As We Gather

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord and the Savior of all mankind. We are delighted that you have chosen to spend this hour of worship with us and pray that your faith will be strengthened and your spirit lifted as we exalt the Lord our God.

A Prayer Before Worship

God of love and faithfulness, you showed favor to your people by sending your one and only Son to be our Savior. Help us to trust in him as our gracious Redeemer and so enjoy the peace he came to bring, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Few Notes About Our Service

The Order of Worship

God does not restrict us to specific orders of worship. We are free to worship him in many different ways. From ancient times Christians have chosen to use a "liturgy" to guide them in worship. The word "liturgy" means service. Liturgies are orders of worship which provide a solemn setting for songs and expressions of praise, repentance of sins, attentiveness to God's word, public profession of our faith, prayer, and support for his kingdom.

The Purpose of Worship

Preaching the gospel is the chief purpose of worship at Grace Lutheran Church. It is through the gospel that the Holy Spirit works faith in a believer's heart (Romans 10:17). It is not only the pastor that preaches the gospel in his sermon message, but the entire congregation. We proclaim the gospel in the songs we sing, the words we say, and even in our standing and sitting. If you would like to know more about our worship practices, please speak with the pastor after the service.

Advent—A Time to Wait

Sometimes perhaps, but not always. Especially not now at the beginning of a new church year. It's Advent again, that perennial four-week season of the year that Christians set aside to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Advent is a Latin word that means "coming." Coming implies waiting. Advent is an invitation to wait—quietly, patiently, expectantly, joyfully—not only to remember a Savior who has come, but one who will come again.

MORNING PRAISE FOR ADVENT

This order of service is based on the historic order for morning praise known as Matins. This contemporary setting is from Christian Worship: New Service Settings.

PRESERVICE MUSIC:

*Covenant Church
Setting by Rebecca
Kramer*

WELCOME

HYMN

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful *Christian Worship #55, st. 1-3*



1. Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
2. God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;



Come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels. Oh,
On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est



come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh,

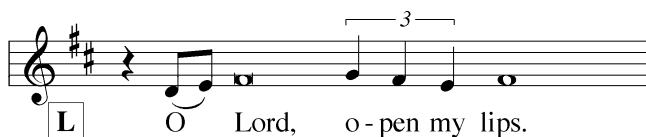


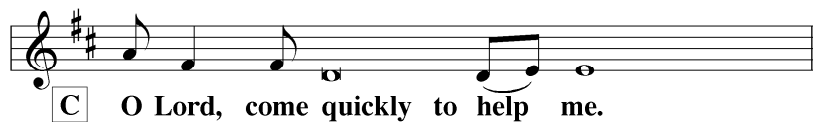
come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

STAND

RESPONSIVE SENTENCES

L: Leader **C:** Congregation

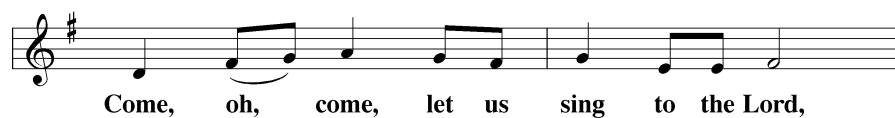




COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Congregation sings the refrain and verses.

Refrain



Verses

1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
 2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,
 cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
 kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.
 You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
 You are the God whom we call our own,
 you made the seas and the dry land.
 we are the flock that you shep - herd.

to Refrain

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return

Micah 5:2-5a (NIV)

to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

PSALM 63

Please join in singing the refrain. Repeat the refrain after the vocalists sing each verse.

Refrain

In the morn - ing I will sing, I will
 sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
 you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

1. O God, you are my God; for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. **Refrain**
2. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **Refrain**
3. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON

A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The

Revelation 12:1-6 (NIV)

dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

L: Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia.

WORSHIP CHOIR

Bethlehem Wind

Words & Music by Joseph M. Martin

STAND

GOSPEL

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!" And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in

Luke 1:39-55 (NIV)

God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers."

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

BE SEATED

HYMN (see page 11)

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel
Christian Worship #23

SERMON

Micah 5:2-5a
Behold the King Who Brings Peace

Copies of the sermon are available in the back at the information table and will be posted on the Grace website.

"A Prophet's Perspective"

- ◇ 12/2 — Jeremiah's Righteous Branch
- ◇ 12/9 — Malachi's Messenger
- ◇ 12/16 — Nehemiah's Revival
- ◇ 12/23 — Micah's Peace

STAND

SONG OF ZECHARIAH



1. Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes in love and
 2. Re - mem-ber-ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from
 3. In ten - der mer-cy God will send The Day-spring from on



pow'r, Who rais - es from the roy - al house De -
 fear, That we might serve in ho - li - ness And
 high, Our ris - ing sun, the light of life For



liv - 'rance in this hour. Through ho - ly proph - ets
 peace from year to year; And you, my child, shall
 those who sit and sigh. God comes to guide our



God has sworn To free us from a - larm, To
 go be - fore To preach, to proph - e - sy, That
 way to peace That death shall reign no more, Sing



1., 2.
 save us from the heav - y hand Of all who wish us harm.
 all may know the ten - der love, The grace of God most high.



3.
 prais-es to the Ho-ly One! O wor-ship and a-dore!



If you prefer, use your
 smart phone to give
 online by scanning
 this QR code.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank You!

STAND

OFFERTORY MUSIC:
 One Small Child
 Setting by David
 Meece

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

L In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you;
be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYERS

L: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

L: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and reaffirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy. Fill us instead with the joy and peace of the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ your Son. Direct our eyes both to the manger and to the skies, where we will see Jesus coming again in glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Special prayers may be included here.

L: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Christians stand for congregational prayer showing the freedom of God's children to come boldly into his presence. The Christian theologian Augustine (400 AD) adds, "We pray standing...as a sign of the Resurrection."

Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

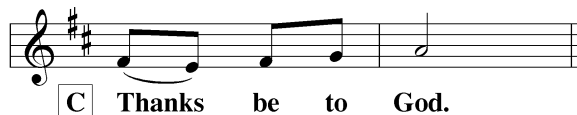
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DISTRIBUTION

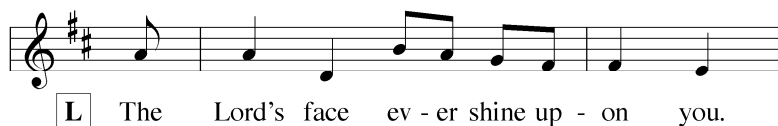
*The Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is a unique communion of Christ and the individual believer as well as a coming together of people who hold to the same beliefs. Because of these Scriptural truths, we practice **Member Communion** at Grace. Those who are confirmed members of Wisconsin Synod congregations (WELS) are invited to receive the Lord's Supper with us.*

If you are not a WELS member but have an interest in receiving Holy Communion, please speak with the pastor after church today or at another time. We are aware that there are a number of other teachings about Holy Communion, and we want it to be a blessing for you, so we would look forward to sharing with you what God says about this Sacrament.

STAND



BLESSING





L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

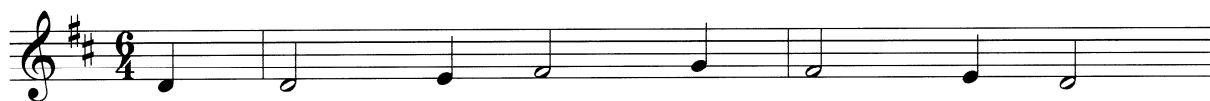
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

Now Praise We Christ the Holy One Christian Worship #39 st. 1-4, 7

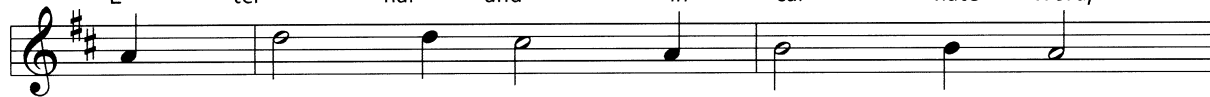
*Sung to the tune of
Christian Worship #5*



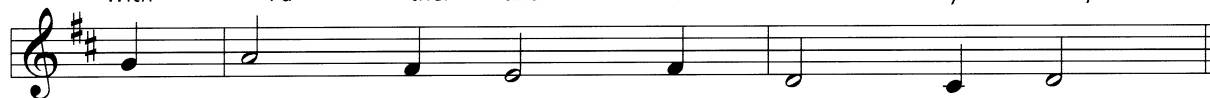
1. Now praise we Christ, the Ho - ly One,
2. He who him - self all things did make
3. The grace and pow'r of God the Lord
4. The no - ble moth - er bore a Son
5. All hon - or un - to Christ the Lord,



The bless - ed vir - gin Mar - y's Son.
A ser - vant's form a - greed to take,
Up - on the moth - er was out - poured;
For so did Ga - briel's prom - ise run
E - ter - nal and in - car - nate Word,



From east to west, from shore to shore
That he as man man - kind might win
A vir - gin pure and un - de - filed
Whom John con - fessed and leaped with joy
With Fa - ther and with Ho - ly Ghost,



Let earth its Lord and King a - dore.
And save his crea - tures from their sin.
In won - drous way con - ceived a child.
Be - fore the moth - er knew her boy.
Till time in end - less time be lost.

POSTLUDE:
*O Come, All Ye
Faithful*
Arr. by Cindy Berry

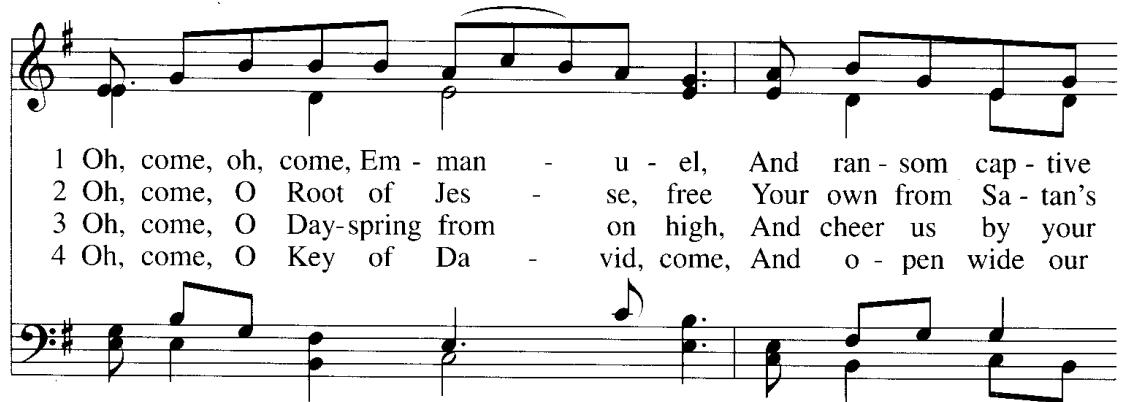
THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leader Pastor Colin Rieke
Communion Assistant Jason Watson
Accompanist Elaine Goldie
Vocalists Pastor Rieke & Sue Sargent
Worship Choir Director Sue Sargent
Sound Technician Jason Watson & Christian Watson

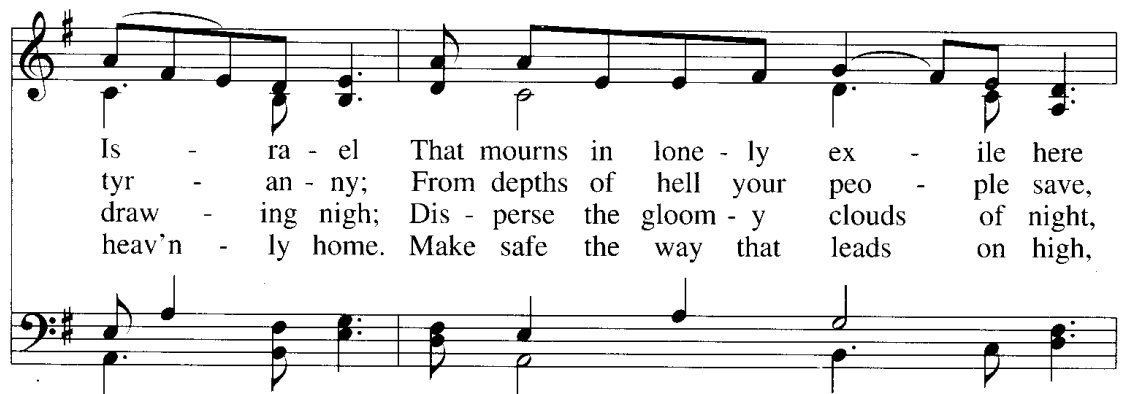
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Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel


23



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Refrain

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!



Worshiping at
9950 E. Rees Loop
Tucson, AZ 85747

9:00 AM—Bible Class &
Sunday School

10:00 AM—Worship
Service

Phone: 343-9881

Pastor:

Colin M. Rieke
revcmr@gracetucsonwels.com

Grace-Vail Announcements and Upcoming Events

Read Ahead for Next Sunday:

1 Samuel 2:18-20,26

Hebrews 2:10-18

Luke 2:41-52

You are invited

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. We invited you to join us for a time of “meet and greet” after the service. Enjoy some coffee and cookies while you get to know those worshipping with you this morning.

Help with Take-Down and Clean-Up

If you have extra time following the service and would like to help break down the worship area and put equipment away, it would be appreciated. The more hands we have helping, the faster it gets done. Please speak with Pastor Rieke or Jason Watson (the guy working the sound table) if you have questions.

Nursery Available

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Therefore, we welcome children in our worship service. If, however, you feel the need to calm or feed your young children, we do have a nursery available. Follow the signs through the south entrance doors to find it.

December Voters’ Meeting Actions

1. The 2013 Grace Church Council members were elected in our Voters’ Meeting on Tuesday, December 18. *President:* Bryan Guenther, *Vice President:* Robert Parra, *Member Ministry Elder:* Jason Watson, *Outreach Elder:* Jeff Weinstein, *Education Elder:* DJ Miller, *Recording Secretary:* Dallas Johnson, *Trustee:* Dave Breitzkreitz, *Financial Secretary:* Doug Lemke, *Treasurer:* Chris Stuhr. We did not have a candidate for Spiritual Needs Elder. In keeping with our constitution, the President will appoint someone to fill that council position.
2. The Ministry Spending Plan that was available to all members prior to the meeting was approved with one change. It was voted to not include the Music Coordinator position in our spending plan for 2013 and to instead add that amount (\$7,917) to our Congregational Mission Offering to the synod, bringing that total to \$19,917. The approved MSP for 2013 totals \$514,119.97. All members will receive a copy of the approved MSP in their 2013 Stewardship Packets.

Grace-University Announcements and Upcoming Events

Called Home to Heaven

Bill O'Donald was called to his heavenly home last Tuesday, December 18. His memorial service was held at Grace yesterday, December 22.

Caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab TODAY!

This is a *special appeal* to help convey the real meaning and joy of Christmas to some special people. Come and sing this message to the residents at Sabino Canyon Rehab (5830 E. Pima) this afternoon. We're expected to begin at 1:00 PM so please arrive a bit early. Caroling will be held in the large meeting room, which you will be directed to when you arrive. Music and piano accompaniment is provided. All you need to bring is yourself and a smile! Thanks in advance from the Grace Extension Group.

Oh No! I Forgot!

Did you forget to purchase a Christmas gift for someone? No problem!! Get them a **Scrip** gift card to one or more retailers on our list! Stop by the **Scrip** table to make your purchase or ask any questions you may have.



Filling Gaps & Raising Reserves

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit. -John 15:8

"Filling Gaps & Raising Reserves" is the special, year-end initiative to raise funds to: (1) honor our remaining 2012 congregation mission offering ("CMO") commitment to the Synod of approximately \$25,000, (2) close any spending gap for 2012, and (3) establish a Reserve Fund to be used to pay for future items not budgeted for in the Ministry & Spending Plan (e.g., new air conditioning unit, major repairs, and seasonal fluctuations in offerings).

"Filling Gaps & Raising Reserves" has **two challenge grants**. Through December 31, 2012, a group of anonymous members of our congregation will **match** gifts **dollar for dollar**, up to \$25,000 -- \$12,500 match for the CMO offerings and \$12,500 match for the Reserve Fund offerings.

To date, the offerings (including the matching funds) total **\$12,624** for the CMO support and **\$7,030** for the Reserve Fund. Thank you for your generous offerings. We pray that our congregation will fully take advantage of the two challenge grants.

If you would like to make a special, year-end offering, please use the yellow envelope which can be found on the welcome table and place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Doug Lemke: financialsec@gracetucsonwels.com or 520.275.1685.



**830 N. First Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719**

**Phone: 623-6633
Fax: 623-1514**

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office@gracetucsonwels.com

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revrgk3@gracetucsonwels.com

Nathan P. Kassulke
revnpk@gracetucsonwels.com

Samuel M. Clemons
revsmc@gracetucsonwels.com

Counselor:

Cinda Drescher
cinda@gracetucsonwels.com

Music Coordinator:

Beth Kassulke
music@gracetucsonwels.com

This Week at Grace (12/23/12 - 12/30/12)

Grace—University

TODAY

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal in Church 8:45a
Youth Confirmation Class (Christmas Rehearsal) 8:45a
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
Adult Bible Study:
• *The Life of Christ: Jesus' Miracles* (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a
Caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab 1:00p

Monday

Children's Christmas Eve Service 7:00p

Tuesday

Christmas Day Worship at Grace-University 10:00a

Wednesday

NO Midweek Bible Studies

Thursday

NO Women's Bible Study

Sunday

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School 8:45a
Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
Adult Bible Study:
• *The Life of Christ: Jesus' Miracles* (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a

Grace—Vail

TODAY

Bible Study & Discussion 9:00a
Sunday School 9:00a
Worship Service/Communion 10:00a
"Meet & Greet" Fellowship after worship

Tuesday

Christmas Day Worship 10:00a

Sunday

Bible Study & Discussion 9:00a
Sunday School 9:00a
Worship Service 10:00a
"Meet & Greet" Fellowship after worship

Tuition Tax Credit

Students from Grace at Redeemer Lutheran School and Arizona Lutheran Academy have received over \$24,000 this year in tuition tax credit awards. You can help support Lutheran education and receive a credit on your Arizona state income taxes (up to \$503 per person and up to your income tax liability). Donations made to the HELP Scholarship Foundation before the end of the year will be awarded to students in early spring. Please make use of this program if you are able to do so. If you have any questions, please speak to Stephanie Weinstein (623-3759) or one of the pastors. **Pick up a flyer and a donation form brochure in the Fellowship Hall.** New this year, if you have further tax liability, you may be able to donate an additional \$500 per person to the "Plus" scholarship program and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit. Donations to HELP may be recommended for one of the students from Grace.

Grace currently supports 11 of our active members who are students enrolled at Redeemer and 6 at ALA.

Branches Band at Grace-University—Jan 6

In our Epiphany worship services on Sunday, January 6, we will be joined by the WELS musical group Branches Band. They will lead us in singing hymns and will provide additional music for the services. A separate freewill offering will be received on their behalf to help offset their costs in joining us. Branches Band will also have CD's available for purchase.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Children's Service

Monday, December 24 at 7:00 PM at
Grace-University. No service at Grace-Vail.

Christmas Day Festival Worship

Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 AM at both Grace
-University and Grace-Vail.

New Year's Eve Worship

Monday, December 31 at 7:00 PM at
Grace-University. No service at Grace-Vail.

