

# First Sunday in Advent

*Advent*  
**J e s u s i s C o m i n g !**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
December 1, 2013





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.

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today at Grace-University! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises and as you offer him your thanks and praise.

## Worship Notes

The **order of service** we follow is printed out in this worship folder. You'll notice that the service is a dialogue between God and us, his people. The pastor speaks to God along with the congregation and also speaks the Word of God to the people.

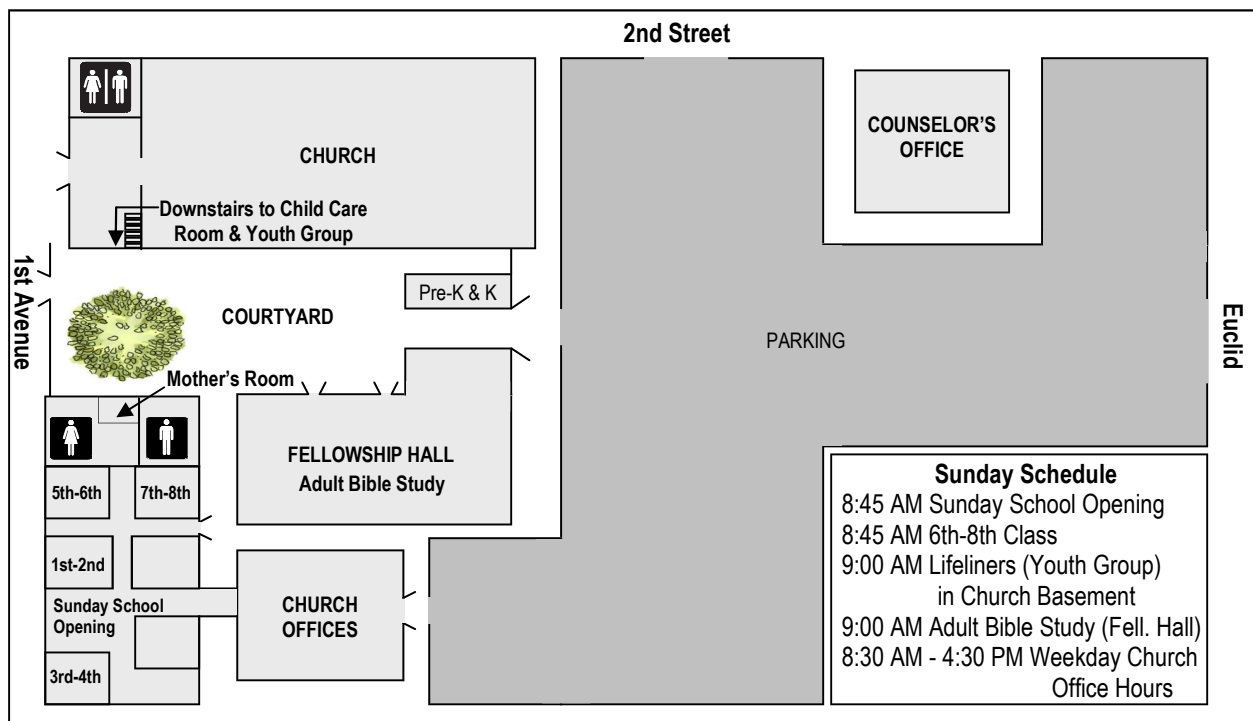
**Hymns** are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

**Large print** hymn sheets are available in the entryway. You may also ask an usher or greeter to get one for you.

We believe that many blessings come from having families worship together and we love to have **children in worship!** If you need to calm a restless child, you may:

- stand for a few moments in the entryway, sometimes that's all that's needed
- go down the stairs to the left in the entryway—they will lead down to the Child Care Room where you will still be able to hear the service
- visit the private Mother's Room across the courtyard in the women's restroom—you will be able to hear the service there also

Printed copies of the sermon are available in the entryway. CDs of the entire worship service will be made upon request from the sound technician in the balcony. It only takes a few minutes to copy. You may also find sermons and services in print, audio and video on our website: [www.GraceTucsonWELS.com](http://www.GraceTucsonWELS.com)



## Lighting of Advent Candles

The lighting of candles in anticipation of Christ's coming "advent" (Latin for "coming") has a long tradition in the Christian Church. On each of the four Sundays of Advent, a new candle is lit, dispelling the darkness, as the church moves forward to welcoming him who is the true Light of the world. The evergreen wreath represents eternal life—evergreens do not drop their foliage—and the circle of the wreath is unending. The blue color of the candles symbolizes hope—the hope we have as we anticipate Christ's coming. The white Christ Candle in the center will be lit on Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Each year the privilege of lighting the Advent candles is given to the youth confirmation students at Grace.

## 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*.

### WELCOME

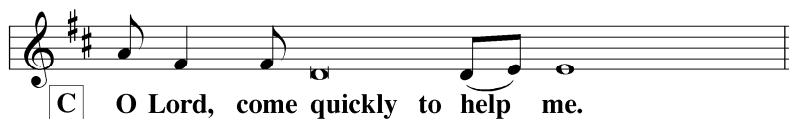
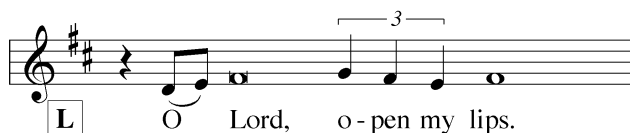
### HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come  
Christian Worship #2

### STAND

### RESPONSIVE SENTENCES

L: Leader C: Congregation



### PRESERVICE MUSIC:

7:45 AM—  
Nun komm, der  
Heiden Heiland  
Arr. by Mark Sedio

10:00 AM—  
Savior of the  
Nations, Come  
Setting by Johann  
Gottfried Walther

Evening Prayer:  
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Opening Sentences:  
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*Come, Oh, Come,  
Let Us Sing to the  
Lord, Prayer  
Response, Blessing:*  
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## COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

*Congregation sings the refrain and verses.*

### Refrain

Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,  
let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;  
come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,  
come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

### 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,  
*to Refrain*  
you made the seas and the dry land.  
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

### BE SEATED

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

**L:** We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

**C:** We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us knows what day that will be.

**L:** We hear his call to watch.

**C:** We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

**L:** Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

**C:** Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

*One Advent candle is lit.*

# Light the Advent Candle

*Light the Advent Candle: By Ruth Elaine Schram. © 2001 by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710199.*

The choir will sing the response the first time. The congregation is invited to join as indicated.

As we light the Ad - vent can - dle with the light of hope burn - ing

bright, faith - ful - ly we wait for His com - ing;

faith - ful - ly it shines through the night. In our hum - ble hearts a

fire burns as well; hear the prayer these flames would tell.

**Choir and congregation sing response.**

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them has light shined. Be of good courage, all ye that hope in the Lord, and He will strengthen your heart. (Isaiah 9:2, Psalm 31:24)*

**Choir and congregation sing response.**

## FIRST LESSON

This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and

## Genesis 6:9-22, 7:11-23 (NIV)

make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them." Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

*(Scripture reading continues on page 5)*

*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.*

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. The animals going in were male

and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in. For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet. Every living thing that moved on the earth perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died.

## **SECOND LESSON**

And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us

## **Romans 13:11-14 (NIV)**

behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

## **Revelation 22:20**

**L:** Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

## **STAND**

## **GOSPEL**

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew

## **Matthew 24:36-44 (NIV)**

nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know

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

on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his

house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

**BE SEATED**

**HYMN**

**The Day Is Surely Drawing Near**  
*Christian Worship #207*

**SERMON**

**Romans 13:11-14**  
**Watch How You're Living—Jesus is Coming!**

**STAND**

# **SONG OF ZECHARIAH**



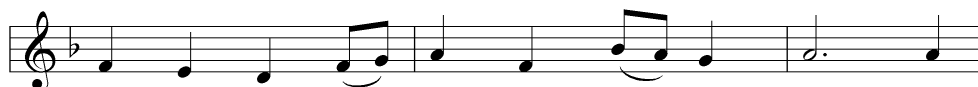
1. Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes in love and  
2. Re - mem-ber-ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from  
3. In ten - der mer-cy God will send The Day-spring from on



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



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.



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

**Song of Zechariah:**  
Words by Ruth  
Duck. Music by  
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If you prefer, use  
your smart phone to  
give online by  
scanning this  
QR code.

**7:45 AM—**  
Lord, You Love the  
Cheerful Giver  
CW #489

**10:00 AM—**  
O Come, O Come,  
Emmanuel  
Setting by Wayne L.  
Wold

## 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

### 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. 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.

**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.

### 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.

### BE SEATED

### 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 one of our pastors 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



**L** Let us praise the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

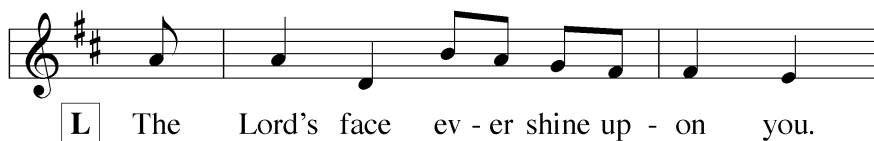
*Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.*

*We provide **gluten-free communion wafers** for those with wheat allergy, gluten-sensitivity or celiac disease. These wafers are stored and handled separately to avoid cross-contamination. They are "bread" as Scripture requires and are consecrated along with the rest of the bread. For those requiring gluten-free wafers, please take one from the container on the stand located at the front rail as you approach for communion. Simply hold it so that the pastor can see it at the time of distribution.*

*Grape juice is available for those who for health or medical reason require it instead of wine. Please speak with a pastor about providing grape juice for you on future Sundays.*

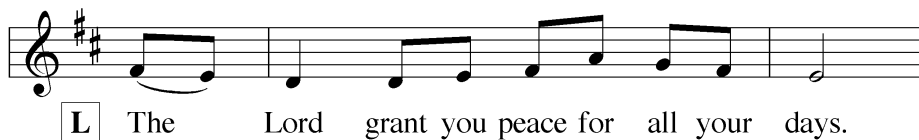
The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." Numbers 6:27

## BLESSING



## POSTLUDE:

**7:45 AM—**  
Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty  
Arr. by Victor  
Labenske



**10:00 AM—**  
Lift Up Your Heads,  
Ye Mighty Gates  
Arr. by David Lasky



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## BE SEATED

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CLOSING HYMN

The Advent of Our King  
Christian Worship #1

## Member Feedback Meetings

Grace is having Member Feedback Meetings on the following dates and times so that blessings, challenges and plans pertaining to our Grace-Vail site can be shared. All Grace members are encouraged to participate so that the pastors and council may receive input and so that you can learn more about this important mission work. The same information will be shared each time.

**TODAY**, December 1 9:00 AM Grace-University Fellowship Hall  
Thursday, December 5 10:30 AM Grace-University Fellowship Hall  
Sunday, December 8 9:00 AM Grace-Vail (Cottonwood Elementary)



Grace is one congregation  
at TWO places!

Enjoy worship, Bible study  
and activities at both  
Grace-University and Grace-Vail.



## This Week at Grace • Dec 1-Dec 8

\*Unless otherwise noted, calendar events take place at Grace-University. Grace-Vail events are shown in red.

### TODAY

Worship Services/Communion .....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 (Fellowship Hall):  
• **Member Feedback Meeting**.....9:00a  
• *Grow in Grace Class* (Office) Non-Members Only.....9:00a  
**Grace-Vail Bible Study Cottonwood Elem: Exodus** .....9:00a  
**Grace-Vail Sunday School at Cottonwood Elem.** .....9:00a  
**Grace-Vail Worship at Cottonwood Elementary** ..... 10:00a  
**NO WELS TCM**.....

### Monday

**Bible Study at Vail Golf Club: Isaiah Sermon Series**.....9:00a  
English as a Second Language Classes ..... 6:30p

### Tuesday

Precious Lambs at the Wiechmann's house..... 9:30-11:30a  
Handbell Choir Practice..... 6:30p  
English as a Second Language Classes ..... 6:30p

### Wednesday

Grace Extension Meeting.....9:00a  
Midweek Advent Worship..... 10:00a  
Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall..... 6:00p  
Midweek Advent Worship..... 7:00p

### Thursday

Women's Bible Study: *The Narrow Lutheran Middle* ..... 9:00a  
**Member Feedback Meeting at Grace-University** .. 10:30a  
Worship Choir .....6:30p

### Friday

ALA Christmas Concert in Phoenix.....7:00p

### Saturday

Christmas for Kids at Grace-University ..... 9:30a-1:00p  
**Grace-Vail Canvassing** .....9:30a-11-30a

### Sunday

Worship Services .....7:45 & 10:00a  
Coffee Fellowship following both services .....  
Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal in Church..... 8:45a  
Youth Confirmation Class ..... 8:45a  
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study*..... 9:00a  
Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):  
• *Jesus' Last Days*..... 9:00a  
• *Grow in Grace Class* (Office) Non-Members Only ..... 9:00a  
**Member Feedback Meeting at Grace-Vail** ..... 9:00a  
**Grace-Vail Sunday School at Cottonwood Elem.**..... 9:00a  
**Grace-Vail Worship at Cottonwood Elementary** ..... 10:00a  
WELS TCM Bible Study: *Why We Need Creeds* .....7:00p

Check out the NEW GRACE WEBSITE at [www.GraceTucsonWELS.com](http://www.GraceTucsonWELS.com)!

#### Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Tucson, Arizona 85719

Phone 623-6633  
Fax 623-1514

Grace Website  
[GraceTucsonWELS.com](http://GraceTucsonWELS.com)

#### Administrative Assistant

Cora Stuhr  
[office@gracetucsonwels.com](mailto:office@gracetucsonwels.com)

#### Pastors

##### At Grace-University

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Nathan P. Kassulke  
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Samuel M. Clemons  
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##### At Grace-Vail

Colin M. Rieke  
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#### Bible-Based Counselor

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Phone 882-3773

#### Music Coordinator

Beth Kassulke  
[music@gracetucsonwels.com](mailto:music@gracetucsonwels.com)  
Phone 293-2935

## THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leader .....	Pastor Ron Koehler
Accompanists .....	Kathy Parra (7:45 AM), Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Communion Assistants .....	Pastor Sam Clemons, Pastor Mark Hallemeyer (10:00 AM)
	Member Ministry Elder, Jason Watson (10:00 AM)
Worship Choir Director.....	Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Accolyte.....	Isaac Walshaw (10:00 AM)
Ushers .....	Vic Thornton, Vernon Neal (7:45 AM)
	Mark Christianson, Jon Dongoske, Danny Koehler (10:00 AM)
	Taylor Parra, Dustin Pauley, Rick Street (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech.....	Jeremy Snively (10:00 AM)
Altar Prep Team .....	Navonne Baxter, Sally Littau, Merri Myrmo

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### For Our Guests

If you are visiting Grace today, we are happy that you joined us for Worship. Please help yourself to a Guest Packet as you leave this morning. You'll find them in the church entryway.

### Holy Communion

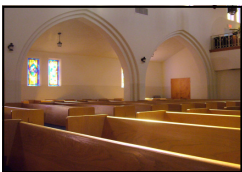
There are before-communion and after-communion prayers in our Christian Worship hymnal on p. 11, and a personal preparation guide on p.156 to help prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper. If you are a guest with us today, please see p. 8 in today's worship folder under "Distribution" for information about our practice of Member Communion.

### You Are Invited

You are invited to a coffee fellowship this morning in the courtyard following both services. Fellowship after 10:00 AM worship is hosted by the Sloyan and Morris families. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

### Altar Flowers

The flowers beautifying our worship this morning have been given by the Sloyan and Morris families in honor of Amy's birthday and in memory of Vera and Verna.



During this time of year, the sun shines through the stained glass windows and directs its light on the church pews. Feel free to move during the service if the sun is bothering you. For more information about what the symbols and pictures in the windows represent, please take a pamphlet from the main entryway.

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### Photo Directory Pictures

Thank you to all those who took pictures for our photo directory. If you were unable to have your photo taken by Lifetouch, Marsha Hoffman will be in the courtyard between services today to take your photo to include in the directory. Please help us make our directory as complete as possible! Thanks!

Also, we are looking for more pictures to include in the Grace photo directory. If you have any pictures of activities that have taken place at Grace in the last year (digital preferred or regular prints) please give them to Marsha Hoffman, or leave them in or email them to the church office ([office@gracetucsonwels.com](mailto:office@gracetucsonwels.com)).

## Precious Lambs Playgroup

Children (ages birth to age 5) are invited to come play along with their parent or caregiver this **Tuesday, December 3** from **9:30-11:30AM**. We will meet at the Wiechmann's House (2361 W Ternero Pl, 85741) for this informal play date. You do not need to RSVP and can come for any or all of the time. Precious Lambs will meet on most Tuesday mornings for play dates. If you have any questions, please contact Missy Wiechmann (403-1177) or Beth Kassulke (293-2935). (Precious Lambs will meet on December 10 at Meadowbrook Park, 2635 W Sandbrook Ln, 85741.)

## Advent Services and Suppers

The word "Advent" means "coming." It is the name of the season prior to Christmas where Christians take extra time during the week to prepare their hearts to properly celebrate our Savior's coming into this world to bring salvation.

Our worship theme for Wednesday's in Advent this year is *The Eager Expectation of God's People*. We will consider the soul's anticipation of the Savior's arrival. Each week that eagerness to greet the Messiah focuses on one of his offices: Prophet, Priest or King. You are invited to prepare your heart to celebrate Christmas by attending Wednesday Advent Services at Grace-University. Worship will be held at 10 AM and at 7 PM.

### The Eager Expectation of God's People

December 4	Eager to Hear the Prophet
December 11	Eager to Trust the Priest
December 18	Eager to See the King

Prior to the 7 PM services each week you are welcome to join us for supper at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We need volunteers to host the meals on December 11 and 18 (individuals, families, groups, or any combination). There are information sheets in the Fellowship Hall which explain how to host one of these meals. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office if you would like to serve in this way.

## HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Midweek Advent Services at Grace-University

Wednesday, December 4, 11, 18  
10:00 AM & 7:00 PM  
with a supper at 6:00 PM.

### Christmas Eve Carol Service

Tuesday, December 24  
4:00 PM at Grace-Vail  
(Cottonwood Elementary).

### Children's Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24  
7:00 PM at Grace-University.

### Christmas Day Festival Worship

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

### New Year's Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 31  
7:00 PM at Grace-University.

## Grace-Vail Fall Canvassing

We will continue our canvassing of the Vail and Rita Ranch neighborhoods this Saturday, December 7, from 9:30-11:30 AM. Even if you have never canvassed before, you are encouraged to come out on the 7<sup>th</sup> to see how easy it can be. Following canvassing, Grace will provide lunch for those in attendance. Our last two canvassing dates for the year are:



December 7 – Meet at Rancho Del Lago golf course in Vail  
(14155 E Via Rancho Del Lago, Vail, 85641)

December 21

## Tuition Tax Credit

2013 is quickly drawing to a close! With that in mind, don't forget about the Arizona Tuition Tax Credit. You can help support Lutheran education and receive a credit on your Arizona state income taxes (up to \$1031 per person and \$2062 per married couple filing jointly). Donations made to the HELP Scholarship Foundation ([www.helpscholarships.org](http://www.helpscholarships.org)) 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 (909-8022) or one of the pastors. **Pick up a flyer and a donation form brochure in the Fellowship Hall and on the welcome table at Grace-Vail.**



Grace currently has 10 students enrolled at Redeemer and 4 at ALA. To choose a Grace student to put on your form please call the church office or see the student list at either Grace location.

## Christmas for Kids

We invite 2-12 year old children to attend Christmas for Kids at Grace this Saturday, December 7 from 9:30-1:00 PM. The children will learn what the Bible tells us about Christmas, sing songs, and do some Christmas crafts. The event is free and lunch is included. Please register early, and invite unchurched friends to join the fun. Registration forms are in the Fellowship Hall and online at the Grace website, [www.gracetucsonwels.com](http://www.gracetucsonwels.com) and on the welcome table at Grace-Vail.



## In-Betweeners' White Elephant Party

The In-Betweeners will have a White Elephant Christmas party on Friday, December 13 at 5:00 PM at the clubhouse of Cinda Drescher & Geri DeRosa (the clubhouse is at the end of the street just south of their home, 5716 N. Camino De Las Estrellas). There is also parking at the end of the next street, Camino Noche. The meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and a wrapped White Elephant gift. If you have questions call Cinda or Geri at 615-6059. *This is a once a year social activity that is open to all adults.*

## Christian Fellowship Group Christmas Potluck

The Christian Fellowship Group will hold their annual Potluck Christmas Party at Jo Davis' home (1899 W. Camelot) on Saturday, December 14 at noon. Following the meal Christmas carols will be sung. Call Jo at 624-9156 for more information and/or directions. Bring your food and your voices so we can eat, sing, and visit at this joyous time of the year! *The Christian Fellowship Group provides people 55 and better with an opportunity to enjoy the company of others on a very informal basis.*

## Caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab

You're invited to go caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab on Sunday, December 15 at 1:00 PM. Sabino Canyon Rehab is located at 5830 East Pima Street. Plan to arrive a few minutes early. We hope you will join us! Questions? Call Gisela Kittel (887-0428), Bob Rentschler (299-3974), or Russ Weir (795-0062).



# “Chrismons”

## Christ-Monograms

*Chrismons are symbols that proclaim Jesus’ name and his works of salvation for us. Here are explanations for the Chrismons you see on our Christmas trees.*



THE ANCHOR CROSS represents our certain hope of salvation anchored in Christ.



THE BUDDED CROSS with its trefoil ends emphasizes the Trinity.



THE CELTIC CROSS has a circle in the middle symbolizing eternity. Because it has ancient ties to Christians in Ireland, Iona and Scotland, it is also called the Irish or Iona Cross.



THE CROSS WITH ORB symbolizes the world united under Christ, as the Lord cares for heaven and earth.



THE GREEK CROSS has four arms of equal length. Early Greek artists used this cross.



IHS is the acrostic of the first three letters of Jesus’ name in Greek (**Ιησους**). Various meanings have been attached to each letter. The horizontal line that forms the cross is the sign for an abbreviation.



THE IOTA CROSS is the first letter of “Jesus” in Greek (**Ι**=IOTA) combined with the first letter of “Christ” in Greek (**Χ**=CHI).



THE JERUSALEM CROSS (also known as the CRUSADER’S CROSS) represents the city of peace. The 5 crosses represent the 5 wounds of our Lord. The 4 smaller crosses are also said to represent the spread of the gospel to the 4 corners of the earth.



THE MALTESE CROSS is comprised of 4 arms shaped like spear-heads. Each points to the center, with the broad end having 2 points. The 8 points in all represent the beatitudes (Matt. 5:3-10). This is the emblem of John the Baptist. The cross was the emblem of the Knights of St. John, who were driven from Rhodes to the island of Malta by the Turks. Malta is the island where St. Paul was shipwrecked.



THE ROMAN CROSS consists of the Latin Cross and the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, the alpha (**Α**) and omega (**Ω**) symbolizing Jesus as the Eternal One: the ‘First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.’ Though he died on the cross, he reigns in glory forever.



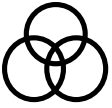
THE STAR (NATAL) CROSS reminds us of the star that marked our Savior’s birth.



THE TAU CROSS, shaped like the Greek letter **Τ** (tau), depicts the type of cross Moses is believed to have raised in the desert with the serpent on it. It is also the traditional sign that Israelites made with lamb's blood on their doorposts in Egypt on the night of Passover. Therefore this is the cross of penitence and prophecy.



CHALICE AND WAFER represent the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.



THREE INTERLACING CIRCLES represent the three distinct persons of the Holy Trinity, yet just one God.



THE DESCENDING DOVE symbolizes the Holy Spirit, remembering the baptism of Jesus when he descended in the form of a dove.



THE TABLET OF STONE is a symbol of the Ten Commandments given by God to Moses on Mt. Sinai.



THE BUTTERFLY brings to mind our Lord's resurrection from the dead and reminds us that all believers in Christ will also rise to eternal life. The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, the alpha (Α) and omega (Ω) are sometimes added to signify the eternal life enjoyed by those who die in the Lord.



THE CROSS CROWN is a symbol of the Kingship of our Lord, reminding us that he is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. It also reminds us of the crown of life given to believers for their lives of faith.



THE CHI-RHO is a monogram consisting of the first two Greek letters of 'Christ', **Χ** and **Ρ**.



THE FISH is the most ancient symbol of Christ. Christians drew the image of the fish to identify each other in times of persecution. The Greek word for fish is **ΙΧΘΥΣ** (ichthus). The acrostic represents this meaning: **Ι**=Jesus **Χ**=Christ **Θ**=God's **Υ**=Son **Σ**=Savior.



THE 5-POINTED STAR/EPIPHANY STAR represents the star of Bethlehem and is shaped roughly like a human being representing Christ's incarnation.



THE 6-POINTED STAR/CREATOR'S STAR/STAR OF DAVID symbolizes creation. Each point refers to a day of God's creating work.



THE TREFOIL AND TRIANGLE is a symbol of the Holy Trinity showing both the unity of the Godhead as well as the diversity of the Persons.

*May these Christian symbols enrich your worship and fill your Christmas celebration with even more meaning and joy!*