

First Sunday after Christmas



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 29, 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.

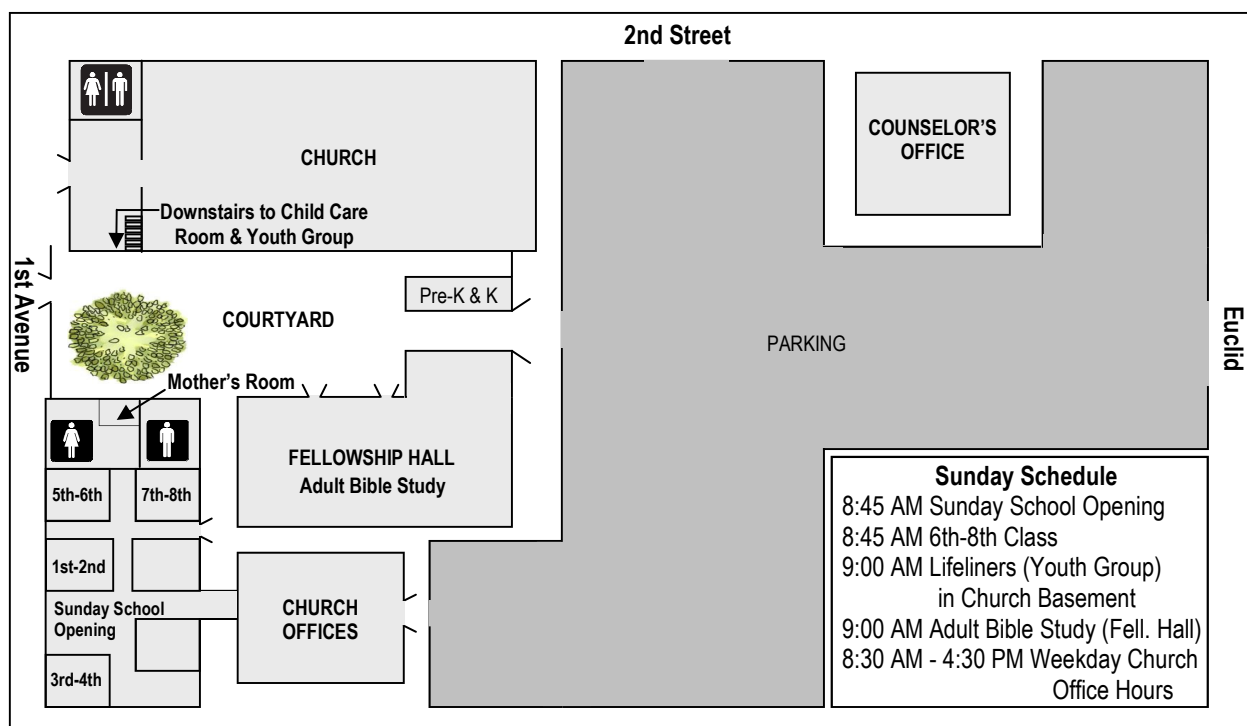
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

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



DIVINE SERVICE I

Christian Worship Supplement

PRESERVICE MUSIC:

10:00 AM—

*Come, Your Hearts
and Voices Raising
By Healey Willan*

WELCOME

HYMN

Where Shepherds Lately Kneled
Christian Worship #54

Please stand

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

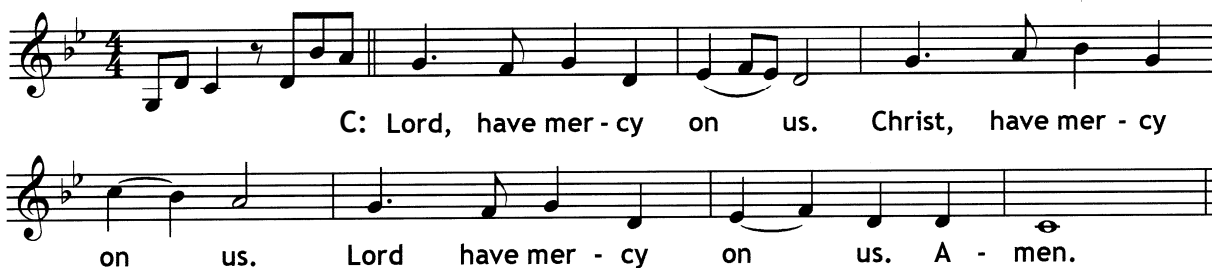
M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

*We come before the
true God only
because of his mercy
and not because we
deserve to come. We
confess our
unworthiness and
rejoice to hear the
assurance of
forgiveness.*

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



*Kyrie—We sing our
penitential
confession to our
Triune God—Father,
Son and Holy Spirit,
asking for his mercy.
The name **Kyrie** is
shortened from the
Greek **Kyrie**
Eleison, which
means “Lord have
mercy.”*

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis

(Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction)

The text of Gloria in Excelsis (Latin for "Glory in the highest") is an ancient song that echoes the song of the angels in Luke 2:14. It offers praise and thanks to our triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God,
 heav - en - ly King, al - migh - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks we praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the
 high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Father; re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our
 prayer. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Hosea 11:1-7 (NIV)

“When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. But the more I called Israel, the further they went from me. They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images. It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love; I lifted the yoke from their neck and

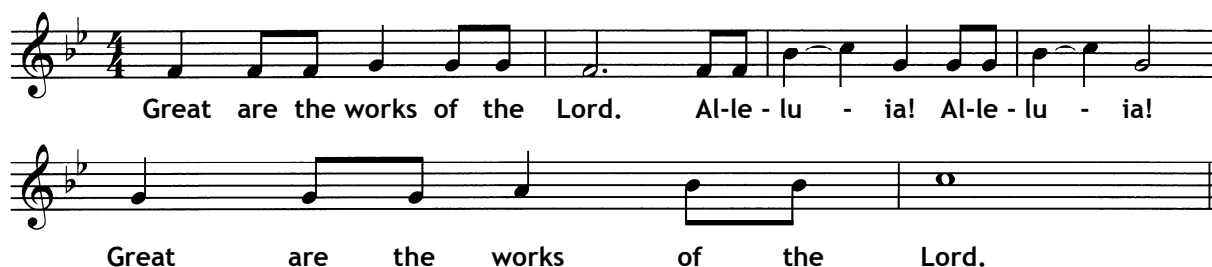
bent down to feed them. Will they not return to Egypt and will not Assyria rule over them because they refuse to repent? Swords will flash in their cities, will destroy the bars of their gates and put an end to their plans. My people are determined to turn from me. Even if they call to the Most High, he will by no means exalt them.”

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 OF THE DAY

PSALM 2

Refrain



Psalm Tone



1. Why do the nations / conspire* and the peoples / plot in vain?
2. The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together a- / gainst the Lord* and against his A- / noointed One.

Refrain

3. The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;* the Lord / scoffs at them.
4. Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying,* “I have installed my King on Zion, my / holy hill.”
5. I will proclaim the decree / of the Lord:* He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your / Father.”
6. Glory be to the Father and / to the Son* and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning,* is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7 (NIV)

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls

out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir. Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Colossians 3:15a

M: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.

Please stand

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (NIV)

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in

Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.” So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed developed in the Early Christian Church as a personal confession of faith. It is so named because it confesses the faith taught by the Apostles of Jesus.

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes
Christian Worship #51

SERMON

Galatians 4:4-7
I'm so glad the "fullness of time" came.

Please stand

After the sermon, please join in singing the response below:

C: Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or
take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal -
va - tion, and up - hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Please be seated



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

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

10:00 AM—

*O Jesus Christ, Thy
Manger is My
Paradise
By Kenneth T.
Kosche*

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!

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, Creator and Sustainer of the universe, we praise you for the special love you have shown us, your fallen and sinful creatures. You have kept your word and sent your Son to be born as the promised Savior and Redeemer.

Lord Jesus Christ, we marvel at your servantlike heart, which moved you to do your Father's will and take on our flesh. You became fully human so that you might live the holy and perfect life we could not live, endure the agony of the cross, and suffer death as our substitute.

O Holy Spirit, we thank you for your saving work of bringing us to faith in our newborn Savior, You have opened our eyes to see that, despite his humble appearance and lowly circumstances, this child who lies in Bethlehem's manger is the mighty God, the Redeemer of the world.

God of our salvation, as you have brought us to faith in the Christ Child, so we ask that you would work powerfully also in the hearts of those who do not yet know him or who do not know him in truth. Grant that the world's attention to the Christ Child may not be only a seasonal attraction or a sentimental novelty. Rather, bring sinners to faith that they may see him as the answer to life's problems here and the sure hope of life eternal in heaven with you.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Let the joyous message of Christmas be preached in all the world, and may it find ready acceptance in believing hearts, for the eternal benefit of lost souls, for the extension of your kingdom, and for the glory of your holy name.

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.

Please be seated

HYMN

A Great and Mighty Wonder
Christian Worship #36

Please stand

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
Christian Worship #38 st. 13-15

New Year's Eve Worship at Grace-University

Please join us this Tuesday, December 31 at 7:00 PM for our New Year's Eve Worship Service.

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.

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

POSTLUDE:

10:00 AM—

*All My Heart Again
Rejoices
By Donald Busarow*

Divine Service I: Texts revised from The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Music by Kermit Moldenhauer. © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710199.



**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 29-Jan 5

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

TODAY

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School 8:45a
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
• *Jesus' Last Days* 9:00a
• **NO** *Grow in Grace Class*
Grace-Vail Bible Study Cottonwood Elementary 9:00a
Grace-Vail Sunday School at Cottonwood Elem. 9:00a
Grace-Vail Worship at Cottonwood Elementary 10:00a

Monday

NO Vail Bible Study

Tuesday

New Year's Eve Worship (with communion) 7:00p

Wednesday **NEW YEAR'S DAY** (Church Office Closed)

NO Bible Studies

Thursday

NO Women's Bible Study
NO Worship Choir
Goldie/Kassulke Wedding Rehearsal 4:00p

Friday

Goldie/Kassulke Wedding 3:30p

Sunday

Worship Services/Communion 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School 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
Grace-Vail Bible Study Cottonwood Elementary 9:00a
Grace-Vail Sunday School at Cottonwood Elem. 9:00a
Grace-Vail Worship at Cottonwood Elementary 10:00a
Church Council Installation at both sites 10:00a
NO WELS TCM

Check out the GRACE WEBSITE at www.GraceTucsonWELS.com!

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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GraceTucsonWELS.com**

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Phone 293-2935**

TODAY

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

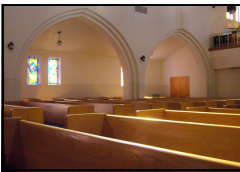
Worship Leader Pastor Nathan Kassulke (7:45 AM), Pastor Ron Koehler (10:00 AM)
Preacher Pastor Mark Hallemeyer
Pastor Hallemeyer is a member of Grace who retired in 2008 after serving as pastor here for 36 years.
Accompanists..... Stephanie Kania (7:45 AM), Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Ushers Vic Thornton, 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 Jay Pauley (10:00 AM)

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.

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 Hallemeyers. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.



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.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

Genesis 16:1-16
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:14-18

Wedding Invitation

The Grace congregation is invited to the wedding ceremony of Jacob Kassulke and Christa Goldie this Friday, January 3 at 3:30 PM in the sanctuary.



Tuition Tax Credit

2013 is almost over! 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) 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.**

Grace currently has 10 students enrolled at Redeemer and 4 at ALA.



December Voters' Meeting Actions

1. The 2014 Grace Church Council members were elected in our Voters' Meeting on Tuesday, December 17. *President: Bryan Guenther, Vice President: Robert Parra, Member Ministry Elder: Jason Watson, Outreach Elder: Jeff Weinstein, Education Elder: Mike Festerling, Recording Secretary: Dallas Johnson, Trustee: Dave Breitreitz, Financial Secretary: Doug Lemke, Treasurer: Chris Stuhr, Spiritual Needs Elder: Eric Hanson.*
2. The Ministry Spending Plan that was available to all members prior to the meeting was approved.
3. A Grace-Vail Facilities Fund was established and permission was given to seek donations and commitments for leasing a combined worship and office space for our mission effort in Vail. The congregation can proceed with the lease only when donations and commitments for the lease are reached.

Going Out for Lunch? Having Dinner Out This Week?

Just a few of the restaurants included in the **Scrip Program** are Applebee's, Boston Market, Chipotle, Chili's/On the Border/Macaroni Grill, Cracker Barrel, Olive Garden/Red Lobster, and Texas Roadhouse. Visit Vic & Lois Thornton (after early service and after Bible Class) or Debbie Koehler (after late service) at the Scrip table in the courtyard to make your purchases! Questions about Scrip? We're happy to help!

Christian Fellowship Group White Elephant Bingo Party

Christian Fellowship Group will meet on Saturday, January 11, at noon in the Grace-University Fellowship hall for a Pot Luck White Elephant Bingo party. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to pass and a cleverly wrapped or disguised "White Elephant." We are always looking for new members. Come, give us a try! *The Christian Fellowship Group provides people 55 and better with an opportunity to enjoy the company of others on a very informal basis.*

WOG Kaffeeklatsch

Saturday, January 18, the Women of Grace will have a *Kaffeeklatsch* (Webster: informal gathering for coffee and conversation) to work out details for the February WOG tea and other business. Coffee and breakfast food will be provided.

Precious Lambs Playgroup

Children (ages birth to age 5) are invited to come play along with their parent or caregiver on **Tuesday, January 14** from **9:30-11:30AM**. We will meet at the Wiechmann's house (2361 W Terner 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 January 21 at the Tucson Mall play area, 4500 N Oracle Rd, 85705.)

WELS Kingdom Workers Spiritual Renewal Event

Saturday, January 25, the WELS Kingdom Workers will have their annual Spiritual Renewal Event at Redeemer Lutheran Church (8845 N Silverbell Rd, 85743) from 8:50 AM to 3:30 PM. The theme is "Reaching Out with the Gospel." The presenters for the day are Pastor Mark Jeske from Time of Grace TV Ministry and our own Pastor Colin Rieke. Registration begins at 7:45 AM. Registrations forms are in the Grace-University Fellowship Hall and on the welcome table at Grace-Vail. We hope you can make it!