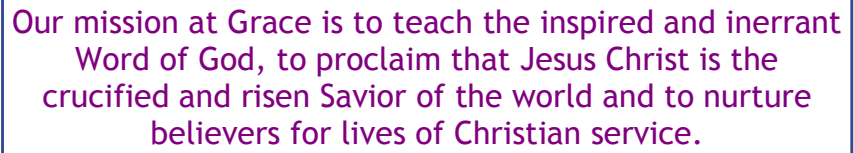


Fourth Sunday in Advent

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

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 22, 2013



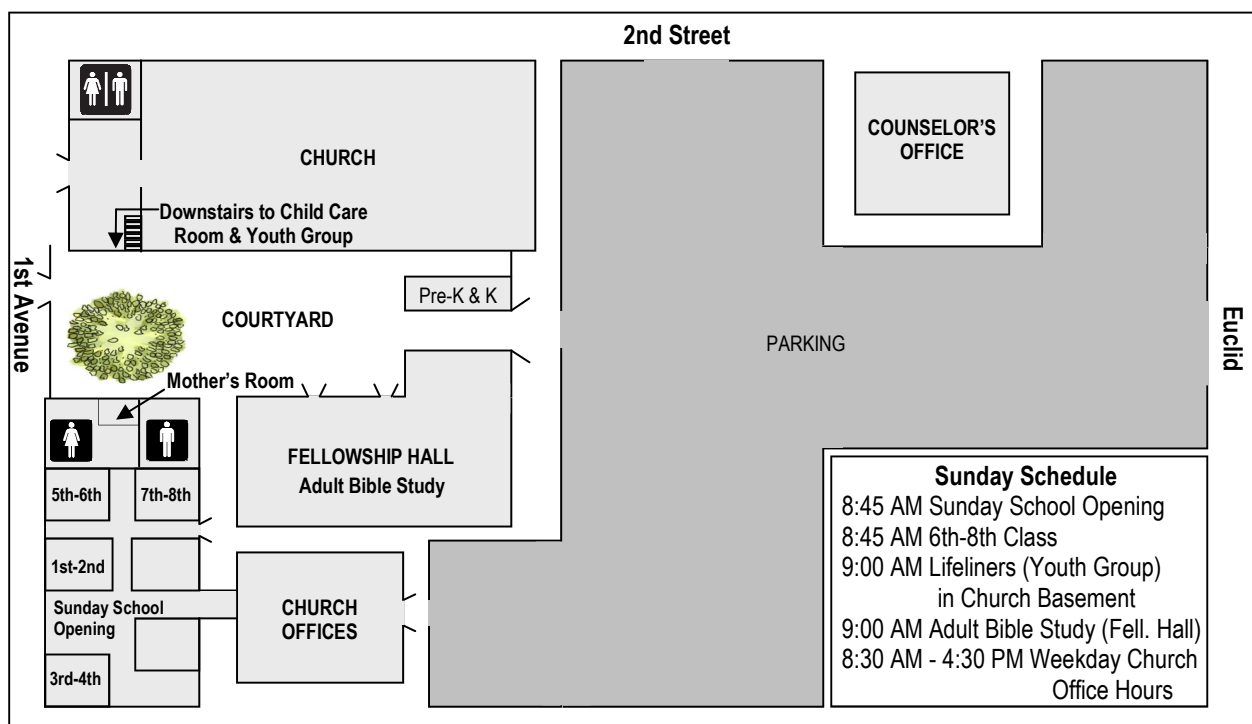


Worship Notes

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



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

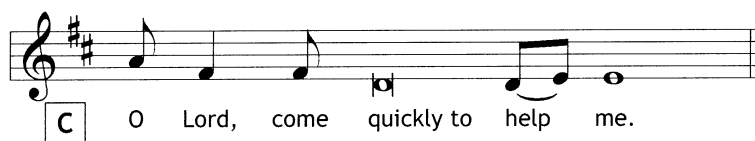
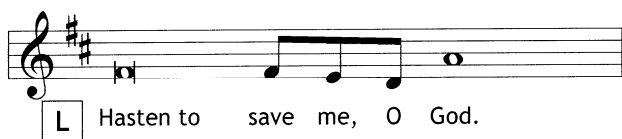
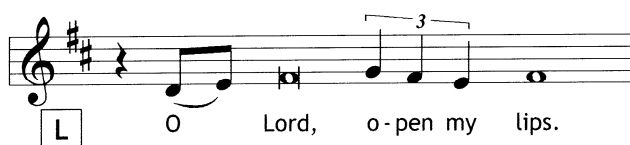
HYMN

Hosanna to the Coming Lord
Christian Worship #21

STAND

RESPONSIVE SENTENCES

L: Leader C: Congregation



PRESERVICE MUSIC:

10:00 AM—
O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel
Arr. by Lani Smith

Piano: Melissa
Newbrey
Organ: Tina
Christianson

Come, Thou Long-
Expected Jesus

Piano: Kathy Parra
Clarinets: Beth
Kassulke, Missy
Wiechmann

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

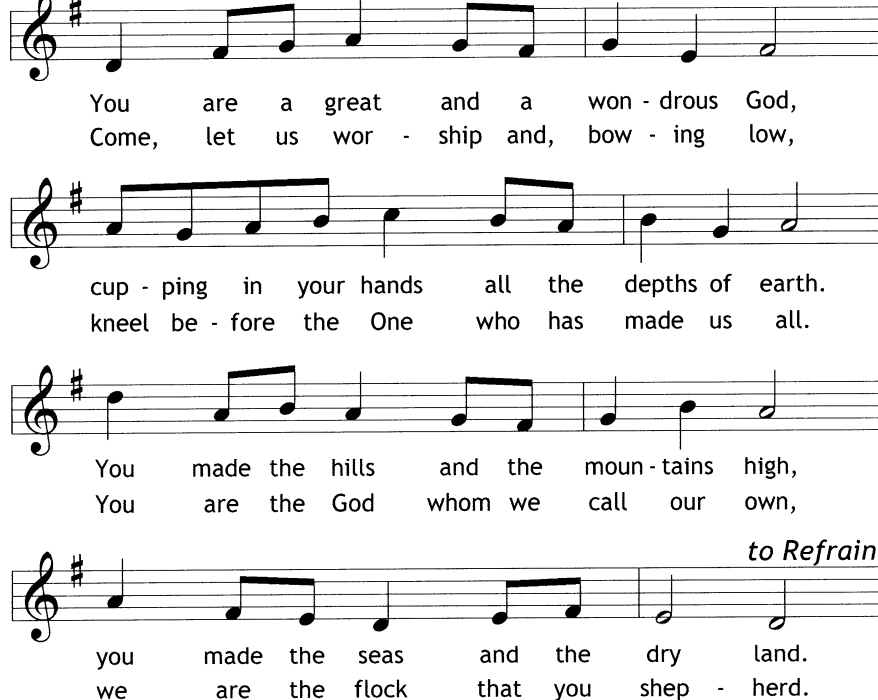
Congregation sings the refrain and verses.

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



You are a great and a won - drous God,
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 four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

C: We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

L: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

L: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

Four Advent candles are lit.

7:45 AM – Please continue on page 5 with the First Lesson

(10:00 AM) Light the Advent Candle

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.

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.

FIRST LESSON

When Ahaz son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem, but they could not overpower it. Now the house of David was told, "Aram has allied itself with Ephraim"; so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind. Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub, to meet Ahaz at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Washerman's Field. Say to him, 'Be careful, keep calm and don't be afraid. Do not lose heart because of these two smoldering stubs of firewood—because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and of the son of Remaliah. Aram, Ephraim and Remaliah's son have plotted your ruin, saying, Let us invade Judah; let us tear it apart and divide it among ourselves, and make the son of Tabeel king over it.'" Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "It will not take place, it will not happen, for the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is only Rezin. Within sixty-five years

Isaiah 7:1-17 (NIV)

Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people. The head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is only Remaliah's son. If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.'" Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah—he will bring the king of Assyria."

SECOND LESSON

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him and for

Romans 1:1-7 (NIV)

his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 1:23

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

STAND

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy

Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.” When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

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

BE SEATED

HYMN

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

SERMON

Isaiah 7:1-17
The Lord Himself Will Give You a Sign

STAND

SONG OF ZECHARIAH



Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes in love and
 Re - mem - ber - ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from
 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 the 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. 3.
 prais-es to the Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

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!

OFFERTORY:

Hark, the Glad
 Sound!
 Setting by Paul
 Manz

STAND



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

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.

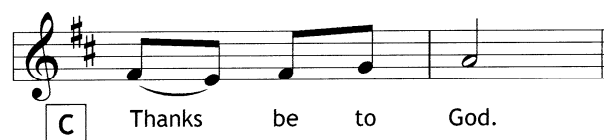
L: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ,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

C: Amen.

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.

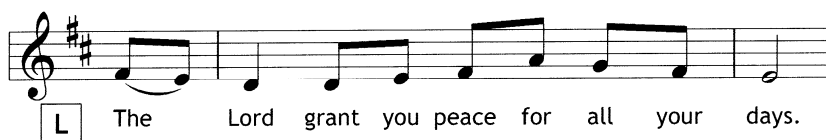
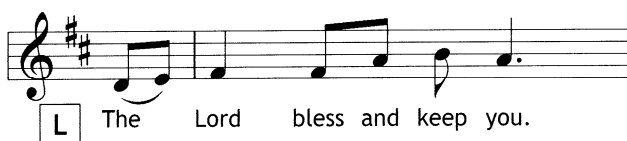
LORD'S PRAYER

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.



BLESSING

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





**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 22-Dec 29

*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 Christmas Eve Rehearsal in Church.....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 Elementary9:00a
Grace-Vail Sunday School at Cottonwood Elem.9:00a
Grace-Vail Worship at Cottonwood Elementary 10:00a

Monday

Bible Study at Vail Golf Club: Isaiah Sermon Series.....9:00a
Worship Choir Practice6:00p
Voices of Grace6:30p

Tuesday

Christmas Eve Carol Service at Grace-Vail.....4:00p
Children's Christmas Eve Service at Grace-Univ..... 7:00p

Wednesday

Christmas Day Worship at Grace-Vail 10:00a
Christmas Day Worship at Grace-University 10:00a

Thursday

NO Women's Bible Study
NO Worship Choir

Sunday

Worship Services7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School8:45a
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 Only9:00a
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Check out the NEW GRACE WEBSITE at www.GraceTucsonWELS.com!

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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GraceTucsonWELS.com**

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Music Coordinator

**Beth Kassulke
music@gracetucsonwels.com
Phone 293-2935**

TODAY

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 Kosankes, Millers, Stuhls and Wiechmanns. 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 Greg and Karen Grorud to the glory of God and in loving memory of August and Dorothy Lehet.



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

Hosea 11:1-7
Galatians 4:4-7
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Sermon Text & Theme

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

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 in the courtyard after early service, Bible Class, or late service to make your purchase or ask any questions you may have.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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.

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) 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.**



H.E.L.P.
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

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.

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 Breitzkreitz, 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.

KINGDOM WORKERS SPIRITUAL RENEWAL EVENT

“REACHING OUT WITH THE GOSPEL”

Saturday, January 25, 2014 @ Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Tucson, AZ
7:45 am-8:50 am Registration | 8:50 am-3:30 pm Program

Presenters

Rev. Mark A. Jeske

Time of Grace TV Ministry

“Speaking to People Not Like Us”

Rev. Colin M. Rieke

Mission Congregation in Vail, AZ

“From Missionary's Kid to Home Missionary”

Updates

AZ/CA District and

National & Local Kingdom Workers

“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.



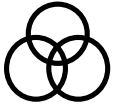
THE STAR (NATAL) CROSS reminds us of the star that marked our Savior’s birth.



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!