

Third Sunday of End Time— Saints Triumphant



Statues of the ten virgins on the Cathedral in Magdeburg, Germany. These impressive sculptures by an unknown artist date to about 1250 AD and capture emotion and body language more realistically than what was common at that time. Martin Luther preached at this church in 1524.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tucson, Arizona

November 19, 2017



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-Tucson! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises 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.

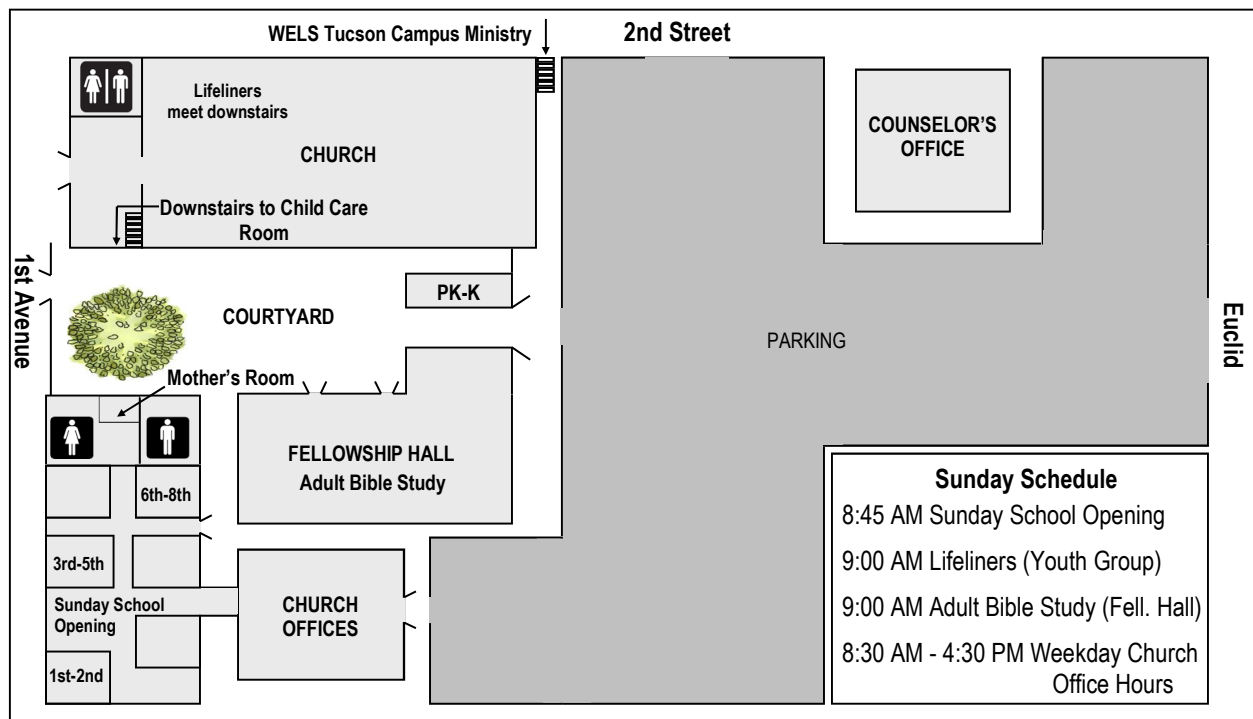
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

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 be able to see and 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 entryways. 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.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



After journeying through the Sundays after Pentecost examining our life of faith, the season of End Time marks the end of the Christian Church Year. The third Sunday of End Time is Saints Triumphant Sunday. On this day our focus is on heaven and the gift of eternal life given to those who trust in Christ. We remember those who have gone before us and are around the throne of God and we look forward to our victory as well. The color for this Sunday is white, signifying the holiness of God, heaven, and the saints.

DIVINE SERVICE I

Christian Worship Supplement

WELCOME

HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers Christian Worship #7

Please stand

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

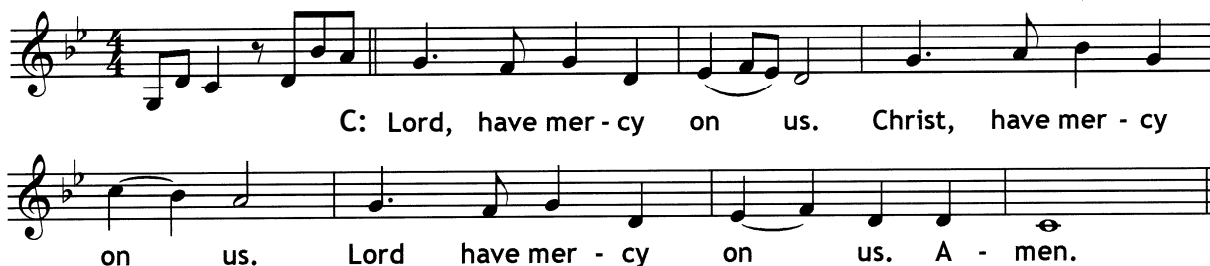
CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord have mer - cy on us. A - men.

PRESERVICE MUSIC:

7:45 AM—

Jerusalem the
Golden
Arr. by Valerie
Floeter

10:00 AM—

Wake, Awake for
Night is Flying

The imagery of the saints of God enjoying the marriage feast of Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church, is taken from our Gospel for today. We will see this symbolism throughout several of our songs this morning.

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*

The congregation is invited to sing the refrains. The vocalist(s) will sing the verses.

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.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory!

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer, receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

Final Refrain

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 and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:00 AM)

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought Lorenzo to be baptized. Jesus told us: "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart (+) to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Lorenzo Axel Angel, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

EXHORTATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Lorenzo may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray: Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Lorenzo and grant him a rich measure of your Spirit that he may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 37:15-28 (NIV)

The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, take a stick of wood and write on it, 'Belonging to Judah and the Israelites associated with him.' Then take another stick of wood, and

write on it, 'Ephraim's stick, belonging to Joseph and all the house of Israel associated with him.' Join them together into one stick so that they will become one in your hand. When

*The First Lesson
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.

your countrymen ask you, ‘Won’t you tell us what you mean by this?’ say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and of the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah’s stick, making them a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand.’ Hold before their eyes the sticks you have written on and say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them

from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God. ‘My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever.’”

The Verse of the Day is a familiar or significant Scripture text framed with alleluias.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 7:15a

M: Alleluia. They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia.

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 19:1-9 (NIV)

After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.” And again they shouted: “Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever.” The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: “Amen, Hallelujah!” Then a voice came from the throne, saying: “Praise our God, all you his

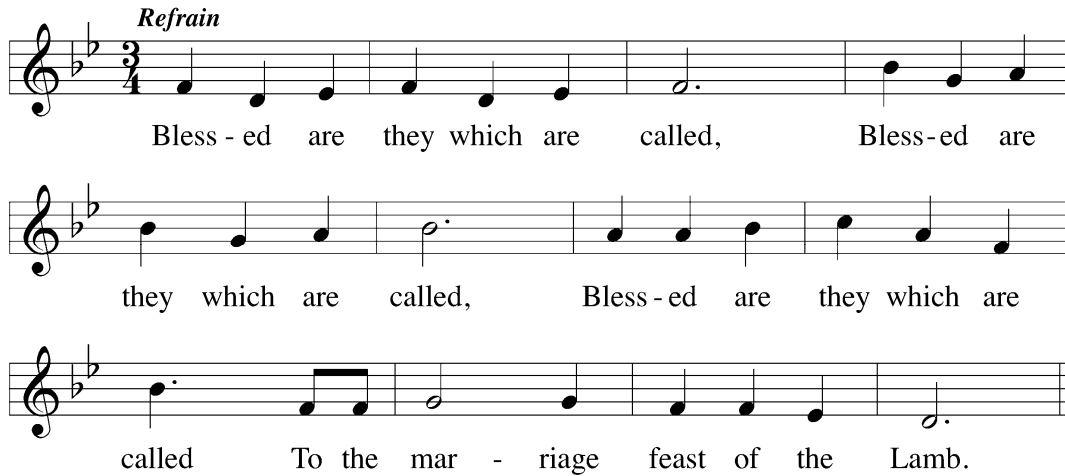
servants, you who fear him, both small and great!” Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

HYMN RESPONSE

Blessed Are They Christian Worship Supplement #730

This hymn echoes the song of victory sung by the saints both now and in eternity. The words are based on the reading for today from Revelation 19.

The vocalist(s) will sing the stanzas, the congregation may join in the refrains.



- 1 Multitudes, clothed in white robes,
From ev'ry nation and tongue,
Stood before God and the Lamb
At the marriage feast of the Lamb.
- 2 They'll neither hunger nor thirst,
Death, sorrow, pain vanquished now,
God wipes all tears from their eyes
By the marriage feast of the Lamb. *Refrain*
- 3 Blessing and honor, they cry,
Unto the Lamb that was slain,
Redeeming us with his blood
In the marriage feast of the Lamb.
- 4 Servant, saint, martyr at rest,
Sanctified, ransomed, restored,
Thund'rously sing a new song
Of the marriage feast of the Lamb. *Refrain*
- 5 Worthy are you, Lamb of God,
To receive glory and praise.
Alleluia and amen!
For the marriage feast of the Lamb. *Refrain*

Please stand

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

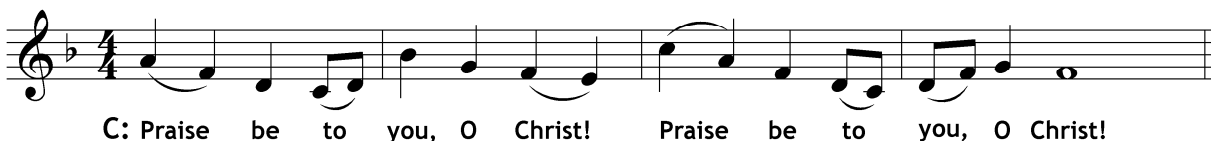
After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our

lamps are going out.’ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’ But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’ Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Nicene Creed was first developed in 325 at the First Council of Nicea. It was written to reaffirm the Biblical teaching of the divinity of Jesus, God’s Son. Like the Apostles’ and Athanasian Creeds, the Nicene Creed is a confession of what the Bible teaches.

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying
Christian Worship #206

7:45 AM—The vocalist will sing stanza 1.

10:00 AM—The Worship Choir will sing stanza 1.

SERMON

Matthew 25:1-13
Are You Ready for Christ's Return?

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

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!



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

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

7:45 AM—

I'm But a Stranger Here
CW #417

*There at my Savior's side — Heav'n is my home —
I shall be glorified;
Heav'n is my home.
There are the good and blest, Those I love most and best,
And, there I, too, shall rest; Heav'n is my home.*

10:00 AM—

For All the Saints
Setting by Sylvia Oines

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord of eternity and King of saints, all the heavens adore you. Saints and angels sing before you.

C: **We too join them to praise your majesty.**

M: You clothe us with garments of splendor. You bless us with grace and mercy in this life and eternal glory forever. What undeserved love you show us!

C: **We thank you, Lord, that you have made us your saints.**

M: Encourage us by your gracious promises. Forgive our failures to live as you desire. Strengthen the faith of all who are weak and wandering.

C: **Give us power to live as your faithful people.**

M: Your saints will triumph forever in new heavens and a new earth. The sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more. We anticipate with joy an eternity of perfect fellowship with you.

C: **Be with us as we work and witness for Christ, so that many more people can join us before your throne.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Lord of life, the day is coming when you will come down from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trumpet call of God. On that glorious day, the saints triumphant will rise in bright array, clothed in your perfect righteousness.

C: **Give us strength until that day when we will share fully in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.**

7:45 AM – Please continue on page 10 with the Words of Institution.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

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.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction:



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This ancient worship song is based on songs of praise recorded in Isaiah 6 and Psalm 118.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men. A - - - men.

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.

Please 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.

Please stand

THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction:



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord-ing to your
word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre-pared for
ev-'ry peo-ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

PRAYER

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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

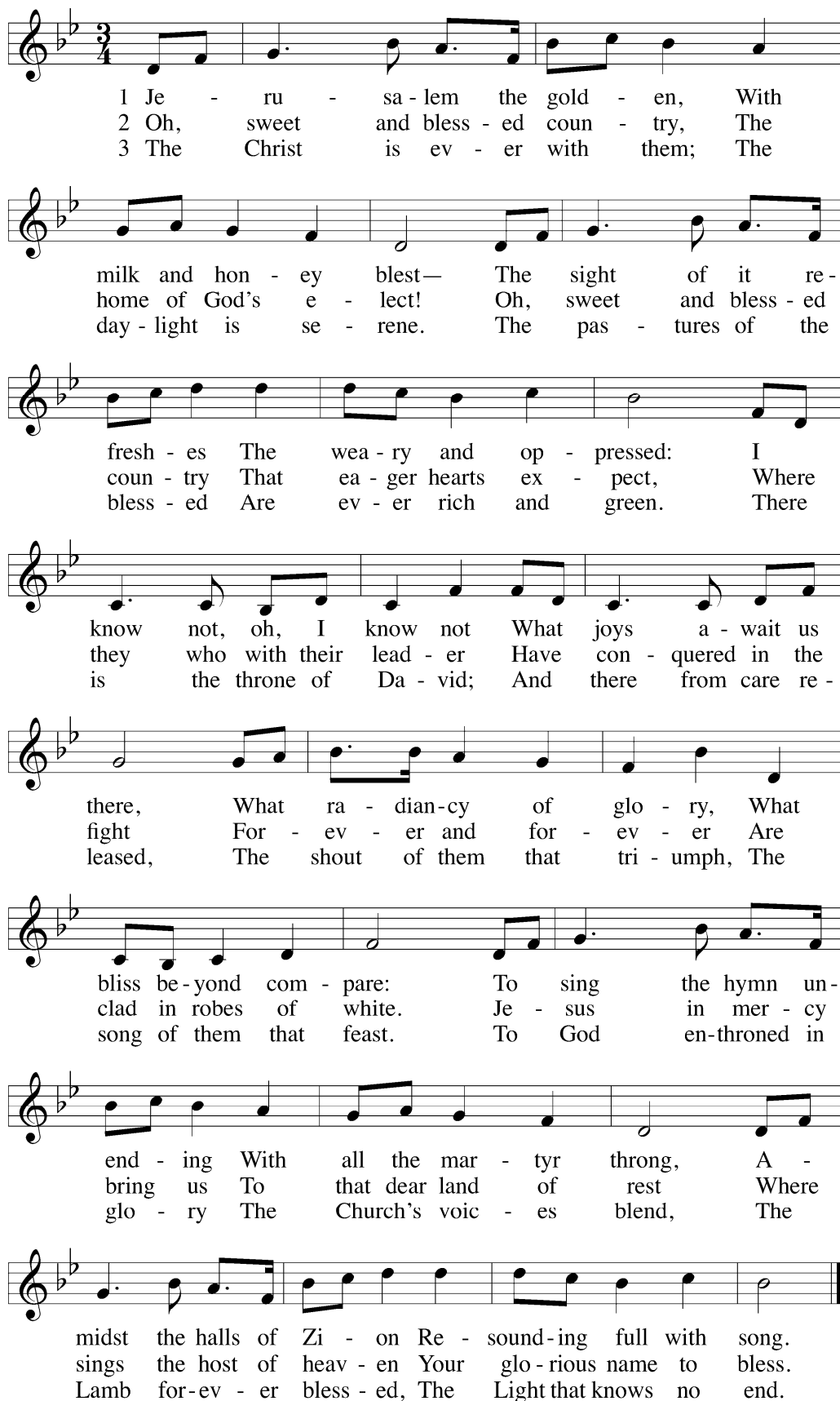
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The words to this hymn are taken from a lengthy Latin poem written in the twelfth century by Bernard of Cluny. They vividly depict the glories of heaven. This version is set to the triumphant English hymn tune THAXTED.

CLOSING HYMN

Jerusalem the Golden Christian Worship Supplement #728



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With
 2 Oh, sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The
 3 The Christ is ev - er with them; The

milk and hon - ey blest— The sight of it re -
 home of God's e - lect! Oh, sweet and bless - ed
 day - light is se - rene. The pas - tures of the

fresh - es The wea - ry and op - pressed: I
 coun - try That ea - ger hearts ex - pect, Where
 bless - ed Are ev - er rich and green. There

know not, oh, I know not What joys a - wait us
 they who with their lead - er Have con - quered in the
 is the throne of Da - vid; And there from care re -

there, What ra - dian-cy of glo - ry, What
 fight For - ev - er and for - ev - er Are
 leased, The shout of them that tri - umph, The

bliss be - yond com - pare: To sing the hymn un -
 clad in robes of white. Je - sus in mer - cy
 song of them that feast. To God en - throned in

end - ing With all the mar - tyr throng, A -
 bring us To that dear land of rest Where
 glo - ry The Church's voic - es blend, The

midst the halls of Zi - on Re - sound - ing full with song.
 sings the host of heav - en Your glo - rious name to bless.
 Lamb for - ev - er bless - ed, The Light that knows no end.

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leader Pastor Ron Koehler
Communion Assistants Pastor Tim Patoka (10:00 AM)
 Outreach Elder Jeff Weinstein (10:00 AM)
 Member Ministry Elder Boz Lomasney (10:00 AM)
Accompanists Kathy Parra (7:45 AM)
 Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Vocalist Nicole Peterson (7:45 AM)
Worship Choir Director Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Ushers..... Rusty King, Rick Street, Vic Thornton (7:45 AM)
 Ed Ethington, Jonathan Ganster, Lucas Guenther (10:00 AM)
 Ferdie Kramm, Jacob Miller, Jon Miller (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech Jeremy Snavely (10:00 AM)
Altar Prep Team..... Erika Hanson, Diane Kramm, Nancy Miles
Greeters Bill & Lisa Toben
Banner Committee..... Jeanette O'Donald, Nadine Rentschler, Sandy Weir

POSTLUDE:

7:45 AM—

*Lord, When Your
Glory I Shall See
CW #219*

10:00 AM—

*Jerusalem, My
Happy Home
By Charles Callahan*

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Divine Service I: Texts
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 House.
CWS 730 Blessed Are
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Growing at Grace Building Project Pledge Cards

Grace members should have received a letter recently about the *Growing at Grace* Building Project, along with a pledge card for 2018. We had hoped to receive those pledges today, however returning them soon will still help our planning. If you did not bring yours with you and plan to support the *Growing at Grace* Building Project, you will find pledge cards at both entrances of church and in the Fellowship Hall.

Women of Grace Meeting Today

There will be a brief Women of Grace (WOG) meeting following the 10:00 AM worship service this morning in the Fellowship Hall. Diane Kramm will give a report on the Roast Beef Dinner as well as information about upcoming WOG events.

Christmas Tree Decorating Next Sunday

The Christmas trees will be set up and decorated next Sunday, November 26 following the 10:00 AM worship service. Everyone is invited to help. Please contact Jake Kassulke at 449-7122 if you have any questions.

Christmas Card Boxes for Sale

There are Christmas card boxes available for purchase in the southwest corner of the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall. The Christmas card boxes are \$5 each. Checks should be made payable to Women of Grace and left in the card box on the table.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Services

A Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be held at Grace-Tucson this **Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 PM**. Invite a friend or family member to attend! Following worship, there will be a dessert fellowship in the Fellowship Hall and courtyard. **Members are asked to bring a pie or other dessert already cut.**

Grace-Sahuarita will also be holding a Thanksgiving Eve worship service this **Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 PM**. If you haven't been out to our Sahuarita site, this might be the perfect opportunity to try it out and invite your friends and family members. There will be a pie social following the service.

Advent Worship Concert "*Emmanuel Has Come*"

Prepare your hearts for Christmas by coming on a musical journey full of original and favorite Advent songs. WELS singer/songwriter Mike Westendorf will be putting on an Advent worship concert entitled "*Emmanuel Has Come*" on Friday, December 1, at 6:30 PM in the Grace-Tucson sanctuary. You can preview his music by going to www.MikeWestendorf.com.

Advent By Candlelight at Holy Cross

The women of Holy Cross Lutheran Church invite their fellow sisters in Christ to join them in preparing our hearts for Christmas on Saturday, December 2 at 2:00 PM in the back Sunday School Building at Holy Cross (241 N. Harrison Road, Tucson). There is no cost. Treats and beverages will be provided. **You may register online at www.holycrosstucson.org or at 296-5129.**

Baby Shower for Cora Stuhr

There will be a baby shower for Cora Stuhr in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 3 at 1:30 PM. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided. Cora is registered at Target and Buy Buy Baby and is having a girl. The hostesses are Beth Kassulke, Debbie Koehler, Jenn Miller, Katie Patoka, and Missy Wiechmann. **Please RSVP to Missy Wiechmann at 403-1177 by November 28 if you plan to attend.**



In-Betweeners' White Elephant Party

The In-Betweeners will have a White Elephant Christmas party on Friday, December 8 at 4:30 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. 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.*

Lifeline Sales

The Grace Lifeliners (our high school youth group) are now selling Bible Verse Calendars and notepads to help raise money for their activities, including a planned trip to next summer's WELS Youth Rally. Calendars are 1 for \$8 or 2 for \$15. Notepads (new from the Lifeliners this year) are \$2 each. Any questions about the Lifeliners or these sales may be directed to Pastor Patoka ([520-623-6633](tel:520-623-6633) or RevTLP@GraceLutheranSAZ.org).

ACSTO and Tuition Tax Credit

The Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO) exists to provide tuition scholarships to students at Christian schools by receiving tax credit donations. ACSTO works closely with our WELS schools in Arizona, including Redeemer Lutheran School here in Tucson and our area Lutheran high school, Arizona Lutheran Academy (ALA) in Phoenix. Currently, 13 members of Grace attend Redeemer Lutheran School, and 4 members attend ALA.

The support of ACSTO, which allows many families to afford the Lutheran education that they want for their children, is made possible by Arizona residents who make donations. In fact, specific children may even be recommended to receive a scholarship from your donation. Arizona law also allows you to receive the full amount, up to certain limits, as a tax credit on your state income taxes. This means that you can direct money that you would otherwise pay to the state to support a cause that interests you. You can donate to Lutheran education without spending any extra money.

ACSTO has an excellent video explaining the tax credit law in Arizona, and you can view that video on their website at www.ACSTO.org. While some may wish to make donations now prior to the end of the calendar year, donations made before April 15 of the next year may still be applied to this year's taxes. Please keep in mind this opportunity and make use of it as you are able!

If you have questions about this program, please ask. There are several people at Grace who know it well and would be happy to help!

TODAY

Welcome Grace Guests!

If you are a guest at Grace today, we are very happy to have you worship with us! If you would like more information about Grace or have questions about becoming a member of our congregation, please visit the Welcome Table in the courtyard. If this is your first time at Grace, please stop there to pick up a gift just for being our guest this morning.

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. 11 in today's worship folder under "Distribution" for information about our practice of Member Communion.

Altar Flowers

The flowers beautifying our worship this morning have been given by Cora Stuhr in celebration of Chris Stuhr's birthday tomorrow.

Baptism

Lorenzo Axel Angel, son of Axel and Katelyn Angel, born on November 12, will be made a forgiven child of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in 10:00 AM worship this morning.

You Are Invited

You are invited to coffee fellowship this morning in the courtyard following both services. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor Kassulke is preaching at Grace-Benson and Grace-Vail this morning.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Matthew 27:27-31

Sermon Text & Theme

Matthew 27:27-31

Hail the Crucified King!

Divine Call Extended

On October 30, our congregation extended a Divine Call for Pastor Stephen Daley from South Haven, MI to serve as our pastor at Grace-Benson and Grace-Vail. Over the next weeks, he will spend time in prayer and discussions with leaders at Grace and with his members in South Haven as he considers whether to accept the Call to Grace or to remain in Michigan. Please keep Pastor Daley in your prayers along with his wife Heidi, their three children, and his congregation, St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Luther Movie DVD's Available for Purchase

The new Luther movie, *A Return to Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy*, is now available for purchase in the Grace-Tucson office. DVD's are \$10 and checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Church.



**Grace is one congregation
at FOUR places!**

**Enjoy worship, Bible study and activities
at Grace locations in
Benson, Sahuarita, Tucson and Vail.**

This Week at Grace • Nov 19-Nov 26

TUCSON

Today

Worship Services/Communion 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children's Sunday School 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Creation vs. Evolution* 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
 • *Church-Mission-Ministry* 9:00a
Women of Grace Meeting in Fellowship Hall 11:00a
 WELS TCM Study: *Why Should I Give Thanks to God?* 7:00p

Monday

Church Council Meeting 6:00p
 English as a Second Language Classes 6:30p

SAHUARITA

Today

Worship Services/Communion 7:45 & 10:00a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study: *Angels & Demons* 9:00a
Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Dinner 11:30a

Wednesday

Bible Study: *Proverbs* 10:00a
Thanksgiving Eve Worship (dessert to follow) 7:00p

Sunday

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
 Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study: *Angels & Demons* 9:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship
 Youth Confirmation Class 11:30a

BENSON

Today

Worship Service/Communion 7:30a

Thursday

NO Bible Study

Sunday

Worship Service 7:30a

Tuesday

English as a Second Language Classes 6:30p

Wednesday

NO Midweek Bible Studies
Thanksgiving Eve Worship (dessert to follow) 7:00p

Thursday **THANKSGIVING DAY** (Church Office Closed)

NO Women's Bible Study
NO Handbells or Worship Choir Practice

Sunday

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children's Sunday School 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Creation vs. Evolution* 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
 • *Church-Mission-Ministry* 9:00a
Christmas Tree Decorating in Sanctuary 11:00a
 WELS TCM: *Thanksgiving Party at the Patoka's* 7:00p

VAIL

Today

Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study: *Hebrews 11: Heroes of Faith* 9:00a
 Youth Confirmation Class 9:00a
 Worship Service/Communion 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

Wednesday

NO Ministry Center Office Hours
NO Bible Study

Sunday

Children's Sunday School 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study: *Hebrews 11: Heroes of Faith* 9:00a
 Youth Confirmation Class 9:00a
 Worship Service 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following worship

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

**830 N. 1st Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85719**

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

Administrative Assistant

Cora Stuhr
office@gracelutheransaz.org

Pastors

At Grace-Tucson

Ronald G. Koehler, III revrgk3@gracelutheransaz.org
 Nathan P. Kassulke revnpk@gracelutheransaz.org
 Timothy L. Patoka revtlp@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Vail & Grace-Benson

Ronald G. Koehler, III revrgk3@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Sahuarita

Ryan A. Heiman revrah@gracelutheransaz.org

Bible-Based Counselor

Cinda Drescher
cinda@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 882-3773

Music Coordinator

Beth Kassulke
music@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 260-3649

Office Assistant

Debbie Koehler
assistant@gracelutheransaz.org
Phone 623-6633

Apache Clothing Drive

Pastor Kirk Massey has expressed to us his gratitude for all the donations his congregation has received so far from Grace! For the upcoming fall and winter, donations of clean and unstained bedding, as well as winter clothing (infants through adults) is appreciated. Tina Christianson and Suzanne Schlegel will be available to collect donations in the Grace-Tucson courtyard on Sundays in November, before and after the 10:00 AM worship service. You may also drop them off during the week from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact Tina (603-7644) or Suzanne (975-7263).

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Midweek Advent Services Wednesdays, Dec 6, Dec 13 & 20

7:00 PM at Grace-Benson
(supper at 6:00 PM)

10:00 AM & 7:00 PM
at Grace-Sahuarita

10:00 AM & 7:00 PM at Grace-Tucson
(supper at 6:00 PM)

Children's Christmas Service Sunday, December 10

4:00 PM at Grace-Tucson

Christmas Eve Services Sunday, December 24

7:30 AM at Grace-Benson
4:00 PM at Grace-Vail

7:00 PM at Grace-Sahuarita
7:00 PM at Grace-Tucson

Christmas Day Services Monday, December 25

10:00 AM at Grace-Sahuarita
10:00 AM at Grace-Tucson

New Year's Eve Worship — All Site Service Sunday, December 31

7:00 PM at Grace-Tucson

Sunday, December 24 Schedule

With Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday this year, we are adjusting our morning schedule that day. Join us for our last Advent season worship services at 10:00 AM that morning at Grace-Sahuarita, Grace-Tucson, and Grace-Vail. No Bible Studies or early services are planned for that morning at these three sites.

Midweek Advent Suppers

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 13 and 20 (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.



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

For more information about our synod and what we believe visit: www.wels.net