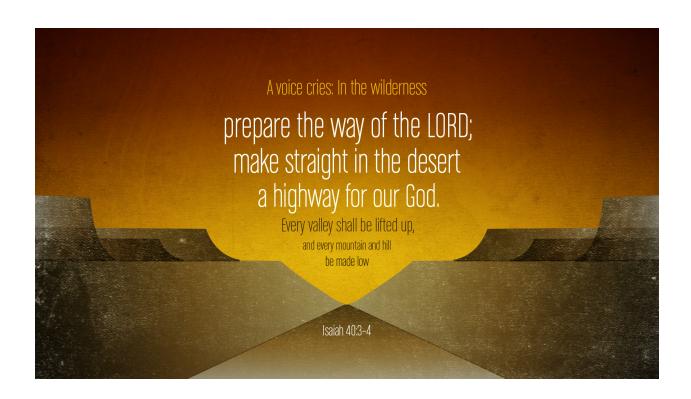
Second Sunday in Advent



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Tucson, Arizona

December 10, 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.

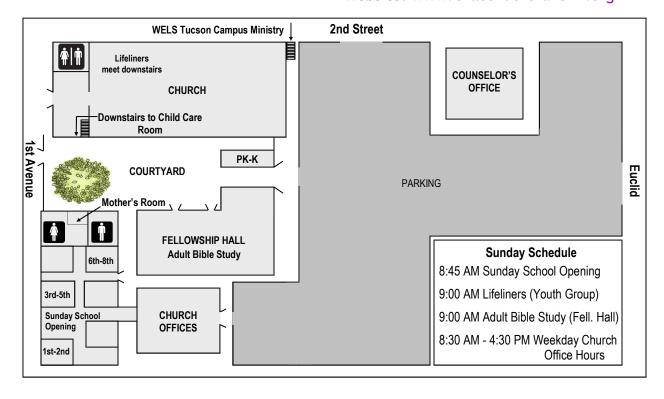
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

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



The weeks before Christmas comprise the season of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin and means "coming." In this season we look forward to the celebration of Christ's coming in the flesh at Christmas, his coming to us regularly in his Word and Sacrament, and his coming at the end of time. Blue is the color of the season, representing hope and heaven.

DIVINE SERVICE I

Christian Worship Supplement

WELCOME

HYMN

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying Christian Worship #13

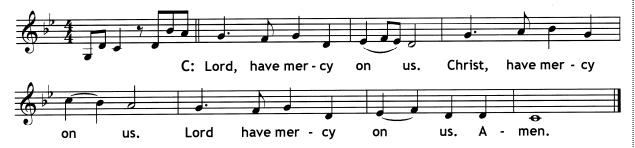
Please stand

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



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.

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."

PRESERVICE MUSIC:

The Angel Gabriel

from Heaven Came

Comfort, Comfort

Setting by Michael

Now My People

Burkhardt

Setting by Paul Manz

10:00 AM-

and

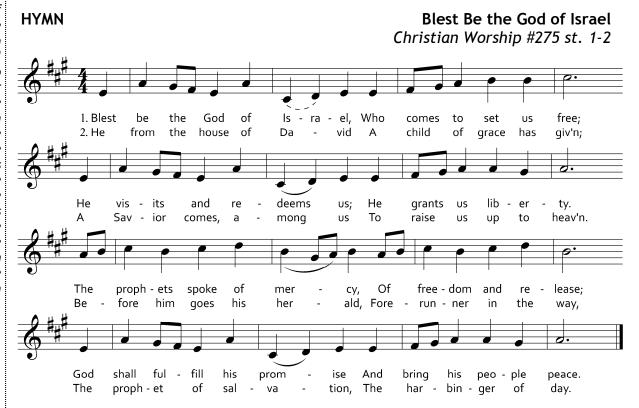
Lighting of Advent Candles

The lighting of candles in anticipation of Christ's coming (Latin, advenio) 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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

- M: We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.
- C: We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.
- M: We hear his call to repent.
- C: We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.
- M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.
- C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Please join in singing the hymn below as two Advent candles are lit.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; 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

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NIV 2011)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the

field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

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 85

Refrain



Psalm Tone



- 1. You showed favor to your / land, O LORD;* you restored the fortunes of / Jacob.
- 2. You forgave the iniquity of your / people* and covered / all their sins.
- 3. Show us your unfailing / love, O LORD,* and grant us your sal- / vation.

Refrain

- 4. I will listen to what God the / LORD will say;* he promises peace to his people, / his saints.
- 5. Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him* that his glory may dwell / in our land.
- 6. Love and faithfulness meet to- / gether;* righteousness and peace kiss each / other.
- 7. 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

2 Peter 3:8-14 (NIV 2011)

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this

way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 3:4, 6 cf. NIV

M: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia.

WORSHIP CHOIR (10:00 AM)

The Coming of the Lord

Lift up your heads, O gates, and make the highway straight, Prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord. Your waiting soon will end, God's glory will descend, Rise up and welcome in the coming of the Lord, the coming of the Lord! Prepare the way for the coming of the Lord! Prepare the way for the coming of the Lord! The ancient words foretell, God with us, He will dwell, Christ, our Emmanuel, and all will see the glory of the Lord!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel. And then the deaf will hear, the blind will see Him clear, The mute will find their voice, the lame will leap for joy, Prepare the way of the coming of the Lord! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, our God will come to us. Prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.

Please stand

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

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8 (NIV 2011)

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way—a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of

Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

Comfort, Comfort All My People Christian Worship #11

SERMON Mark 1:1-8

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

- 1) Denounces Mankind's Sin
- 2) Announces Mankind's Savior from Sin

Please stand

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



Please be seated



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

OFFERTORY MUSIC: 10:00 AM-

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (Swedish folk tune) Setting by Paul Manz

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: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed 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.
- C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.
- M: 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.
- C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
- M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.
- C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent Prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! 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

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry Christian Worship #16

Please stand

PRAYER

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.

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

CLOSING HYMN

Arise, O Christian People Christian Worship #14 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

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

POSTLUDE: 10:00 AM— Tell Out My Soul Setting by Paul Manz

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	Pastor Ron Koehler
Accompanists	Elaine Goldie (7:45 AM), Tina Christianson (10:00 AM)
Acolyte	Emily Rudd (10:00 AM)
Worship Choir Director	Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Ushers	Rusty King, Rick Street, Vic Thornton (7:45 AM)
Jo	n Dongoske, Dylan Guenther, Danny Koehler (10:00 AM)
	Dustin Pauley, Colton Watson (10:00 AM)
Sound, Recording & Video	Tech Jeremy Snavely & Dylan Guenther (10:00 AM)
Greeters	Elaine Goldie, Nicole & Ronda McNamara
Banner Committee	Jeanette O'Donald, Nadine Rentschler, Sandy Weir

Children's Christmas Service Today

The Children's Christmas Service, in which Sunday School and Confirmation students from all of Grace's sites will be sharing the good news of Christmas in word and song, will take place this afternoon at 4:00 PM here at Grace-Tucson. Please join us for this special service.

Divine Call Extended

On December 4, our congregation extended a Divine Call for Pastor Matt Westra from Morristown, TN 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 Morristown as he considers whether to accept the Call to Grace or to remain in Tennessee. Please keep Pastor Westra in your prayers along with his wife Rachel, their two children, and his congregation, Living Promise Lutheran Church.

Apache Clothing Drive

The deadline to donate clean and unstained bedding, as well as winter clothing (infants through adults) is Wednesday, December 20. Tina Christianson and Suzanne Schlegel will be available to collect donations in the Grace-Tucson courtyard today and next Sunday, 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).

Winterhaven Event

All members of Grace are invited to the Winterhaven Festival of Lights this Tuesday, December 12. We will begin our night from 6:00-7:00 PM with homemade cookies, coffee, hot cider, and hot chocolate at Danny's Baboquivari Lounge at 2910 East Fort Lowell Road. Danny's is right across the street from the Winterhaven Festival so after some fortification, we can venture out to enjoy the wonderful light display. You can either walk or take the Winterhaven Hayride (motorized) for \$10 per person. Parking is available in the Danny's parking lot—just mention you are with the WELS group and you can park for free. This bar is owned by WELS members Erik Hulten and Kristen Kiepke.

Christmas For Kids!

This Saturday, December 16 from 9:30-12:30 PM, Grace-Tucson will host Christmas for Kids. This fun event will include Christmas songs, food, crafts, and learning about God's gift to us of our Savior. All children of Sunday School age are invited. For more information and to register online, go to www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org/C4K. You may also pick up a registration form in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

Altar Flowers

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

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 Morris & Sloyan families. 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. Pastor Patoka is preaching at Grace-Sahuarita.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

> Malachi 4:1-6 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon Text & Theme

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Rejoice in Christmas' Real Joy

Upcoming Voters' Meeting

The next Voters' Meeting for our congregation is scheduled for next Sunday, December 17 at 2:00 PM in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall. A booklet with Pastor and Council reports can be found at both entrances of church and in the Fellowship Hall. This keeps members up to date on Grace's ministry activities and helps voters prepare for the meeting.

Sunday, Dec 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.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Midweek Advent Services Wednesdays, 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



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 • Dec 10-Dec 17

TUCSON Today Worship Services
SAHUARITA Today Worship Services
Tuesday Walk Through Winterhaven (All Site Event)6:00p
Wednesday Midweek Advent Worship
Saturday Christmas for Kids at Grace-Tucson
Sunday Worship Services
BENSON Today
Worship Service
Wednesday6:00pMidweek Advent Supper7:00p
Thursday Bible Study: Witnessing to Mormons6:30p
Sunday Worship Service/Communion

Monday ESL Christmas Party6:30p
Tuesday Walk Through Winterhaven (All Site Event)6:00p
Wednesday10:00aMidweek Advent Worship10:00aAdvent Supper in Fellowship Hall6:00pMidweek Advent Worship7:00p
Thursday Women's Bible Study: Key Bible Words
Friday Arizona Lutheran Academy Christmas Concert
Saturday Christmas for Kids
Sunday Worship Services/Communion
Children's Sunday School
Church-Mission-Ministry
VAIL Today
Children's Sunday School

Voters' Meeting in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall2:00p

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