

Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

First Sunday in Advent

November 27, 2022 8:30am

Grace Lutheran Church † Davenport, Iowa
Pastor Stephanie Wood

Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Please complete an attendance card – located in the pews or at the usher's table.

Prelude

Advent Hymn Medley..... ELW

Announcements

Call to Confession

P: In God's house, everyone is welcome— those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

P: God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

C: But we say, "Our lives are too messy."

P: You say, “Bring your hopes and your dreams. There’s room for you here.”

C: **But we say, “It’s too risky to hope.”**

P: You say, “Bring your grief and your prayers. There’s room for you here.”

C: **But we say, “Some things are easier to forget.”**

P: God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there’s room for us here.

C: **Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.**

P: Help us remember, today and tomorrow,

C: **There’s room for every story. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

P: Family of faith, We who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, “There’s room for you here.” From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God!

C: **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Hark, the Glad Sound! ELW 239

Advent Candle Lighting

A: Over a hundred people from the ages of two to eighty years old were asked the question, “What gives you hope?” From the voices of different generations, hear some of their answers:

C: **My two-year-old son, dogs wagging their tails, talking with young people.**

A: Kindness from strangers.

C: **Spending time in the woods, waffles, hands clasped in prayer.**

A: Social progress.

C: **The ringing of church bells, the turning of seasons.**

A: Babies trying over and over to take their first step.

C: **Christian community, books, friendships with adult children.**

A: Advocates for justice.

C: **Hearing the singing of hymns, the sunrise every single morning.**

A: What gives you hope?

C: **Today we light the candle of hope to remind ourselves that God is at work in this world.**

A: From generation to generation, God has brought good news of love and compassion, justice, and community. Let us rest and abide in that good news. **Amen.**

The first Advent candle is lit.

Advent Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 1)..... ELW 257

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison ELW p. 184

(Kyrie Eleison means Lord, Have Mercy)

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the

u-ni-ty of all; for
 hun-gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam-i-ly; for
 wa-ter and the word; that you

this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Gloria

Glo-ry be to God on high. Peace, good-will to all the earth. Let us sing a
 Love has come to dwell with us. Light now shines on ev-'ry-one. Hope has lift-ed

joy-ful song to the Christ, the Liv-ing Word. Glo- - -
 up our hearts. Joy has made, in us, a home.

- - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o; Glor-

- - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. God of the ages,

C: in scripture we hear stories of people like us; ordinary people, people who longed to know you, people who longed to follow you, people who made mistakes, people who tried to grow; old, young, native, immigrant, new to the faith, lifelong believer. In scripture we hear stories of people like us, so just as you walked with them, help us to hear and remember all the ways that you walk with us. We are listening. We are grateful. We are yours. Amen.

Children's Message

Whirl Story Bible "The Lord's Welcoming House" p. 122

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

A: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

C: Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

A: Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

C: to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

A: the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

C: For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

A: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

C: Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

A: For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

C: Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good.”

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-17

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar,
and Perez the father of Hezron,
and Hezron the father of Aram,
and Aram the father of Aminadab,
and Aminadab the father of Nahshon,
and Nahshon the father of Salmon,
and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab,
and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth,
and Obed the father of Jesse,
and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,
and Solomon the father of Rehoboam,
and Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
and Abijah the father of Asaph,
and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat,
and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
and Joram the father of Uzziah,
and Uzziah the father of Jotham,
and Jotham the father of Ahaz,
and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,
and Manasseh the father of Amos,
and Amos the father of Josiah,
and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers,
at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon:
Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel,
and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,
and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud,
and Abiud the father of Eliakim,
and Eliakim the father of Azor,
and Azor the father of Zadok,
and Zadok the father of Achim,
and Achim the father of Eliud,
and Eliud the father of Eleazar,

and Eleazar the father of Matthan,
and Matthan the father of Jacob,
and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was
born, who is called the Messiah.

So, all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations;
and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and
from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

The King Shall Come ELW 260

Affirmation of Faith

P: Let us pray. We believe in a God

C: who promised to Abraham, who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with
Ruth, who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba, who
danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph, and who hoped like
Mary. We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming,
and challenging us from generation to generation. And we believe that
same God is here with us now, saying, "Come on in; there's room for
you here." Amen.

Remembering God Through the Generations

*We are going to create a mosaic out in the windows of the narthex made up
of petals with the names of people throughout the generations who passed
on God's faith or will hear the story in the generations to come.*

Please write ONE first name per side of the petal with a sharpie in your pew. It can be a relative, friend, teacher, mentor. Someone who is younger or older than you. Again, ONE first name on each side of the petal. You can then place these petals in the offering plate. They will be collected and made into a mosaic in the narthex. A mosaic where you can continue to add names in the weeks to come.

P: Let us pray. From generation to generation, the story of your love and forgiveness is passed on. From generation to generation, we tell of your faithfulness to your people. From generation to generation, you invite us to take part in building your kingdom here on earth. Bless the names of those who we remember today and may we be a part of passing on your Good News and your work in the world. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

A: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

A: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Peace

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Call to Offering

A: We believe in the God of justice and righteousness, and God believes in us to carry forth the mission of loving and caring for community. Let us now share our gifts and resources so that we may continue to walk humbly with God and with neighbors.

Offertory Hymn

We Are an Offering..... ELW 692

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: **we're grateful for your invitation to move and give faithfully and abundantly. We ask that you would extend your blessings over these gifts we now offer so that they can be multiplied in service to you and the missions of this congregation. May it be so! Amen.**

Anointing with Oil for Healing and Wholeness

P: Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing. Loving God...

C: **Your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair.**

P: Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

*You are invited to come forward to receive a blessing and anointing.
As you come forward you may kneel or stand in the front pew.
After you have been blessed and anointed, you may return to your seat.*

P: Compassionate God...

C: The strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress.

P: All-knowing God...

C: Source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care.

P: Loving God...

C: Our creator and redeemer, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer.

P: God of great and abundant mercy...

C: With your presence sustain all for whom we pray. Drive away their suffering, give them firm hope, and strengthen their trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

P: As you leave this place, may you go knowing that from generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved. From generation to generation, God has been by our side. From generation to generation, we are not alone. The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth, saying, "Go be the person you are called to be, love wildly, do justice, and come back soon." May it be so.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers..... ELW 244

Sending

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns setting: Hildebrand

Interested in Joining Grace?

Please contact the church office office@gracewelcomesyou.org, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.



Junior Bible Study is on break today,
Please join us next week as we start
to rehearse our Christmas program!

Worship Boxes

Worship Boxes are available in the narthex for families with children attending worship. The boxes contain interactive materials that encourage children to participate in worship using the symbols in the bulletins. Please use and return to the table as you leave.

Do You Receive the Weekly Update?

Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.



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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 27

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

8:30am Worship & Livestream
9:30am Adult Education
10:30am Worship

Monday, November 28

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer
7:00pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 29

11:15am Serve Safer Lunches
11:45am Member Text Study - PBH
6:30pm Theology on Tap*

Wednesday, November 30

10:00am Searcher's Bible Study*
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 1

1:15pm Prayer Group

Friday, December 2

Saturday, December 3

Sunday, December 4

Food Pantry Collection

8:30am Healing Worship & Livestream
9:30am Adult Education
10:30am Healing Worship
11:45am Children's Advent Event

*These events and programs are at (or hosted by) St. Mark Lutheran Church
2363 W 3rd St, Davenport, 52802
563-322-5318 lwilley@stmarkcares.org

You Can Watch Us Online and Follow us on Facebook!

YouTube: [Grace Lutheran Davenport](https://www.youtube.com/GraceLutheranDavenport) Facebook: [facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou](https://www.facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou)

Looking Ahead

- **December 4** Children's Advent Event
- **December 12** Page Turners
- **December 18** Jr Bible Study Christmas Program (morning);
Candles & Carols (evening)
- **December 21** Blue Christmas/Longest Night Worship
- **December 24** Christmas Eve Worship at 5pm & 7pm
- **December 25** Christmas Day - no services

Scan for our digital
Weekly Update



Adult Education Between Services

Bring your refreshments and join us between services in Pat Bell Hall.

- **November 27** As we begin Advent, we will ponder the genealogy of Jesus through our Advent theme "From Generation to Generation". Bring your coat, it could be a little chilly.
- **December 4 & 11** Advent Series "From Generation to Generation"



Poinsettia Orders

Red, pink, or white poinsettias are available to order online at bit.ly/2022GracePoinsettias, by scanning the QR code to the left, or using the printed order form (in the narthex). You can pay by cash or check (write "poinsettias" in the memo line) or online at gracewelcomesyou.org at the "Give" tab. **Plants are \$10 each. The deadline for orders is TODAY November 27.**

Good Christian Friends Rejoice with Heart and Soul and Voice!

The singers of Heart and Voice, Grace's adult choir invite you to join us in praising our Lord with song during the Advent and Christmas season. It would be lovely to have many voices join in the fun and spirit during this most beautiful holiday. This is an easy commitment of four rehearsals culminating in the Candles and Carols service on December 18, at 6:30pm. Rehearsals are as follows:

- Wed, Nov 30, 7-8pm
- Wed, Dec 7, 7-8pm
- Wed, Dec 14, 7-8pm

We ask that you attend as many rehearsals as possible. Please contact Sally Meier at 309-292-0281 with questions, or just show up. We will have a part for you!

Advent Social Ministries Collection

Our donations will be directed to two recipients this year - you can place a monetary donation in the collection plate marked for ILUGUA, and we will get it to our brothers and sisters in Guatemala. Make a check out to Grace, with ILUGUA in the memo line or put cash in an envelope marked "ILUGUA."

AND, we are collecting items for our local homeless shelters -single men, women and families, victims of domestic violence. Reading the most recent article in the QC Times confirms the disturbing fact that there are not enough beds for all the homeless folks in the Quad Cities. Fill our boxes in the narthex, and we will deliver after Christmas. **We are collecting:**

- **New in the package socks and underwear**
- **Mittens, hats, and scarves**
- **Deodorant, soap, and shampoo**
- **Toothpaste and toothbrushes**

Grief Support Group - December 7

The Grace Grief Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Masks are optional. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at any-time, and please be assured our conversations will be kept in confidence. **Questions? Contact Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.**

(over →)

GRACE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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COUNCIL

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President, Grace Visitors, When & How
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Kevin Miller

Vice President, Partnering in Ministry,
Children, Youth, & Family

Deb Kirby

Secretary, Personnel Committee,
Partnering in Ministry

Claudia Wood

Treasurer, Finance Committee,
Partnering in Ministry

Bill McCullough

Finance Committee,
When & How Committee

Mark Jepson

Finance Committee, Worship Task Force,
Blood Drive Coordinator

Janice Gibbs

Children, Youth, & Family

Cindy Lee

Outreach & Welcome, Memorial

Ann Lorentzen

Outreach & Welcome

Jim Bayles

Property

Children's Advent Event - December 4

Sunday, December 4, 2022 | 11:45am-1:30pm | Kids in Preschool-Grade 5

The children will learn the meaning of Advent through activities such as a story time, a nativity craft, scavenger hunt, and learning the meaning of the Advent wreath. Pizza will be served with a drink. You may drop off your child, or feel free to stay if you'd like to join us. We hope this event will prepare them for the upcoming Christmas season by learning the meaning of the birth of Christ. **Please RSVP to the church office at 563-322-0769 so we know how much food and materials will be needed.**

Jr Bible Study Christmas Program - December 18

We are getting excited about the Junior Bible Study Christmas Program on December 18! The practices will be on December 4 and 11, during the Junior Bible Study session you attend at worship. We need sheep, shepherds, angels, narrators, and wise men. The costumes are all set up with alterations to be made. It would be helpful if you intend on having your child participate that they attend these Junior Bible Study dates. There will be a party after the program for everyone in the fellowship hall. **Please let us know if you're interested in having your children participate by calling the church office at 563-322-0769.**

Fair Trade Coffee

It's time to start thinking about Christmas Giving - Order a CASE

(six per box)! Our Fair Trade Coffee is available for purchase anytime during office hours. Regular Coffee \$8, Decaf \$9, plus a variety of teas, chocolate, and olive oil (at reduced prices). You may pay by check or online at gracewelcomesyou.org at the "Give" tab.

Deadline to place orders for the holidays is December 11 - watch for more details.



Safer Lunches

We are serving lunches November 29 and December 6. The Safer Foundation offers classes for at-risk youth to assist the teens in completing their education and to work on job skills, and Grace helps to serve lunches. We meet at JB Young building on Main Street at 11:15am. Please contact Hollie Swain with any questions.

Centering Prayer Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing our faculties to receive this gift. Cheryl Kritsch facilitates the Centering Prayer Group which meets via ZOOM every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update). Occasionally, we will meet in person. Please contact Cheryl to verify if the group is meeting in-person on that Monday at 563-343-0135.

Theology on Tap

Tuesdays in Advent, Nov 29-Dec 20, 6:30pm @ St. Mark

Video Series: Because of Bethlehem by Max Lucado

The study explores how the One who made everything chose to make himself nothing and come into our world. An optional study guide can be purchased which includes notes for video segments and activities to deepen learning between sessions. Facilitated by St. Mark member Beth Claeys. If you plan on attending, please call St. Mark at 563-322-5318 to register.

Searcher's Bible Study

Our bible study meets weekly at St. Mark in the Conference Room/Library on Wednesdays at 10:00am. All are welcome to attend and jump in at anytime.

St. Mark Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open Tuesday - Thursday, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Volunteer positions are always open for various duties. For more information on volunteering, please call Rick Flynn at 563-370-1939.

