

Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church, 2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin



January 2, 2022

Gathering Liturgy for Second Sunday of Christmas

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☒ Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✝ one God, who sends the word
with angels, who is made flesh
among all peoples, and who
breathes peace on all the earth.

☑ **Amen.**

☒ In Christ, we are bold to
name our sin and cry out for
peace.

Holy God,

☑ **we confess our sin
before you. We replace
compassion with
competition. We seek what
is mighty while ignoring the
meek. We are quick to anger
but slow to forgive. We have
not put on love in harmony
with you. Wrap us in the
grace of your
powerful Word.
Swaddle our hearts
with your peace,
that all we do, in
word or deed, may
reflect your love
born among us.
Amen.**

☒ I bring you good
news of great joy for all
people: God has come
among us in the child
born of Mary, Christ
the Lord. ✝ In Christ

your sins are forgiven and you
are clothed in peace.

☑ **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: "Oh, Come, All
Ye Faithful" (ELW #283) vv. 1 &
3

1: *O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:*

Refrain: *O come, let us adore
him,*

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

3: *Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye
citizens of
heaven above!
Glory to God in
the highest:
Refrain*

GREETING

☒ 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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p.
204)

*Come, let us join our cheerful
songs with angels round the
throne;
ten thousand thousand are their
tongues, but all their joys are
one.*

*"Worthy the Lamb that died,"
they cry, "to be exalted thus!"
"Worthy the Lamb," our lips
reply, "for he was slain for us!"*

*Jesus is worthy to receive honor
and power divine;
and blessings, more than we can
give, be, Lord, forever thine.*

*Let all creation join in one to
bless the sacred name
of God who sits upon the throne,
and to adore the Lamb.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☒ Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have
filled all the earth with the light
of your incarnate Word. By your
grace empower us to reflect your
light in all that we do, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**



Second Sunday of Christmas Readings

Jeremiah 31:7–14

Thus says the LORD:
Sing aloud with gladness
for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the
chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and
say,
“Save, O LORD, your
people,
the remnant of Israel.”
See, I am going to bring them
from the land of the north,
and gather them from the
farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and
the lame,
those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they
shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I
will lead them back,
I will let them walk by
brooks of water,
in a straight path in
which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father
to Israel,
and Ephraim is my
firstborn.
Hear the word of the LORD,
O nations,
and declare it in the
coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered
Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a
shepherd a flock.”
For the Lord has ransomed
Jacob,
and has redeemed him
from hands too strong for
him.
They shall come and sing aloud
on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant
over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine,
and the oil,
and over the young of the

flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a
watered garden,
and they shall never
languish again.
Then shall the young women
rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and
the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning
into joy,
I will comfort them, and
give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of
fatness,
and my people shall be
satisfied with my bounty.

Psalm 147:12–20

¹²Worship the LORD, O
Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion,
¹³**who has strengthened the
bars of your gates
and has blessed your
children within you.**
¹⁴God has established peace on
your borders
and satisfies you with the
finest wheat.
¹⁵**God sends out a command
to the earth,
a word that runs very
swiftly.**
¹⁶God gives snow like wool,
scattering frost like ashes.
¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread
crumbs.
Who can stand against
God’s cold?**
¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word
and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters
flow.
¹⁹**God declares the word to
Jacob,
statutes and judgments to
Israel.**
²⁰The LORD has not done so to
any other nation;
they do not know God’s
judgments. Hallelujah!

Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has blessed us
in Christ with every spiritual
blessing in the heavenly places,
just as he chose us in Christ
before the foundation of the
world to be holy and blameless
before him in love.
He destined us for adoption
as his children through Jesus
Christ, according to the good
pleasure of his will, to the praise
of his glorious grace that he
freely bestowed on us in the
Beloved. In him we have
redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his
grace that he lavished on us.
With all wisdom and
insight he has made known to us
the mystery of his will, according
to his good pleasure that he set
forth in Christ, as a plan for the
fullness of time, to gather up all
things in him, things in heaven
and things on earth.
In Christ we have also
obtained an inheritance, having
been destined according to the
purpose of him who
accomplishes all things according
to his counsel and will, so that
we, who were the first to set our
hope on Christ, might live for the
praise of his glory.
In him you also, when you
had heard the word of truth, the
gospel of your salvation, and had
believed in him, were marked
with the seal of the promised
Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of
our inheritance toward
redemption as God’s own people,
to the praise of his glory.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
*Alleluia! Lord and Savior:
Open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;*

Speak until our hearts are stirred.

*Alleluia! Lord, we sing
For the good news that you bring.*

GOSPEL: John 1:1–18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which

enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.



¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his

name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Creed, Prayers, and Communion Liturgy

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Let All Together Praise Our God" (ELW #287) vv. 1-2

1: *Let all together praise our God
before the highest throne;
today God opens heaven again
and sends the only Son,
and sends the only Son.*

2: *From God's right hand the Son descends,
is born an infant small,
and lies in poverty, his bed
a manger in a stall,
a manger in a stall.*

CREED

☐ Let us proclaim our faith:

☑ **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of

the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

VERSE: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (ELW #752)

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

☐ Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all

methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need, especially:

- Mary Andrews (Welcome Center volunteer from St. Anthony's)
- Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
- Doug Becker (Marlene Binninger's son)
- Pat Bernacchi
- Jackie Brichacek (Nancy's sister-in-law)
- Jean Boothe (Grace soup kitchen supervisor)
- Hank Buehrens
- Andrew Calvert
- Pat Calvert
- Barb Caputo
- Holly Cummings
- Eric Dangerfield (Carolyn Reynold's boyfriend)
- Gregory Foster
- Steve Gapko
- Shirleen Gulick
- Aggie Hartnell (Bert Felland's mother)
- Christine Hill
- Sydney Houston
- Jacqueline & David Kramer
- David Kristopeit (Nancy's brother-in-law)
- Ruth & Dean O'Hanlon
- Carolyn Reynold's children Eddie, Santino, and Lytoshia
- Martha, Joel, and Jeanette Sanchez
- Cynthia Schwartz (Norma's daughter)
- Marcia Swanson
- Joyce Swift
- Linda Wadham
- Florence and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn's sisters)

- Dottie Watts
- Kristi Weiss (Rollie's daughter).

Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities (*especially...*). As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service (*especially Wilhelm Loehe, whom we commemorate today*). Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

☪ receive our prayer.

☒ Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

☪ Amen.

MEAL

OFFERING: *Doxology* (ELW #884)

*1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERING PRAYER

☒ Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☪ Amen.

DIALOGUE & PREFACE

☒ The Lord be with you.

☪ And also with you.

☒ Lift up your hearts.

☪ We lift them to the Lord.

☒ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☪ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

☒ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and

praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,*

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest,

hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

☒ Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

☐ **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

☒ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

☐ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven:**

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☒ In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONG: "Seek Ye First" (WOV #783)

1: *Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness,*

And all these things shall be added unto you.

Allelu, alleluia.

2: *Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;*

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.

Allelu, alleluia.

3: *We do not live by bread alone,
But by every word*

That proceeds from the mouth of God.

Allelu, alleluia.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☒ Let us pray.

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

☐ **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

☒ The God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the

power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

☐ **Amen.**

SENDING SONG “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
(ELW #270) vv. 1 & 3

1: *Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Refrain: *Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"*

3: *Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. Refrain*

DISMISSAL

☐ Go in peace. Christ is near.

☐ **Thanks be to God!**

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Christmas Message from Bishop Erickson

*“We are called to ponder
myst’ry and await the coming
Christ,
to embody God’s compassion
for each fragile human life.
God is with us in our longing
to bring healing to the earth,
while we watch with joy and
wonder for the promised
Savior’s birth.”*

(Unexpected and Mysterious,
ELW #258)

If you’re anything like me and my wife, you may have spent some time in recent months binge-watching a few TV shows or movies on Netflix or another streaming platform. One pattern that seems to be repeated in a variety of these stories is the ebb and flow between times of peace and joy and times of conflict and tension. It often gets to the point where whenever the main character(s) seem to have their problems resolved and they finally get to enjoy life, I think to myself, “this can’t last; something bad is coming.” And, sure enough, they make a bad decision, the enemy whom they had thought they had

vanquished resurfaces, or a twist of luck or fate throws them right back into chaos and fear.



Sound familiar? Our real-life plot twists have followed this pattern, causing us to pivot between hope and despair. COVID numbers rise and fall, causing us to resume practices we thought we had left behind; the headlines related to political tensions, violence around the world and in our streets, and the suffering and damage caused by violent weather patterns are mixed with stories of resilience, generosity, and love. I am also aware that there are countless private struggles that don’t make the headlines, stories

filled with pain and brokenness and courage and hope.

We may long for the “happily-ever-after” endings that Hollywood promises, and as people of faith, we may even want to believe that this is what God promises us in Jesus. And yet, the twists and turns continue, and the peace and tranquility we seek seems all too fleeting. I do not believe that God is holding out on us, waiting to fulfill our dreams until we get our act together.

As the hymn reminds us, “God is with us in our longing to bring healing to the earth.” This is the Good News of this season: Immanuel, God is with us. Not to fix things for us, but to be with us, right here, right now, in the midst of all the ebbs and flows of life.

Regardless of what might be happening around us, or to us, or in us, God invites us to turn toward the light of the coming Christ child, together, trusting that hope will guide us, and love will hold us.

In Christ,
Bishop Paul Erickson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <i>Name of Our Lord</i>
2 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA	3 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing	4 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing 4:00-5:30pm GWC food pantry open	5 <i>Twelfth Night</i>	6 <i>Epiphany</i> 8:00-9:00 am Grace Welcome Center breakfast 2:00-5:00 pm Infant Moses Ministry	7 8:00-9:00 am Grace Welcome Center breakfast	8
9 <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> 9:30 am Worship service 10:30 am Men's group 7:00 pm NA	10 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing	11 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing 4:00-5:30pm GWC food pantry open	12	13 <i>St. Knut</i> 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast 2:00-5:00 pm Infant Moses Ministry	14 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast	15
16 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA	17 <i>Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing	18 <i>Confession of St. Peter</i> 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing 4:00-5:30pm GWC food pantry open	19	20 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast 2:00-5:00 pm Infant Moses Ministry	21 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast	22 <i>St. Timothy</i>
23 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA	24 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing	25 <i>Conversion of St. Paul</i> 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing 4:00-5:30pm GWC food pantry open	26 6:00 pm Home owner meeting	27 <i>Lydia, Dorcas & Phoebe</i> 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast 2:00-5:00 pm Infant Moses Ministry	28 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast	29
30 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA	31 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing	Feb. 1 8:00am-noon Food pantry packing 4:00-5:30pm GWC food pantry open	2 <i>Presentation of Our Lord</i>	3 <i>St. Ansgar</i> 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast 2:00-5:00 pm Infant Moses Ministry	4 8:00-9:00 am GWC breakfast	

O Lutefisk, O Lutefisk, How Fragrant Your Aroma

Norway Lutheran Church, 6321 Heg Park Road in Wind Lake, is taking reservations for its annual Norwegian Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner on Saturday, February 12. Servings are offered hourly from 11:30



a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In addition to the namesake fish and meatballs, the meal includes lefse, boiled potatoes, carrots, candied apples, and a variety of Norwegian cookies

and desserts.

To order tickets, visit norwaylutheranchurch.org/lutefisk after January 2, or call Pam Burke at 262-895-3407 after January 10. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$10 for children under ten, and free for children seated in a high chair.

Grace Lutheran Church
 2006 60th Street
 Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-3893

www.GraceKenosha.com + www.facebook.com/GraceElcaKenosha/
 Worship services in sanctuary and on Facebook Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
 Pastor Jonathan Barker: jonathan.w.barker17@gmail.com ☎ 626-864-6404
 Church office: graceoffice@wi.rr.com ☎ 262-654-9143
 Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

Men's Group Meets in January

Grace's Men's Group will meet in the library after the worship service on Sunday, January 9. All interested men are invited.

Grace Receipts: December 24-26, 2021

General offering	\$ 1,177.00
Benevolence	\$ 150.00
Lutheran Disaster Response: tornadoes ..	\$ 25.00
In memory of Rick Meyer	\$ 200.00
Advent/Christmas	\$ 400.00
Parking lot maintenance.....	\$ 30.00
From non-members:	
For pastor's benefits package	\$ 2,250.00
For Welcome Center	\$ 500.00
non-designated	\$ 853.00
Vigeo	\$ 60.31
<u>Minus banking fees.....</u>	<u>\$ (102.40)</u>



You never quite know who is going to show up at the Grace Welcome Center!

Total	\$ 5,542.91
Grace weekly budget in 2021:	\$ 3,224.20

Notes: You can contribute by mail, or electronically through the "Donations" link at GraceKenosha.com.