

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Rejoice! An Advent Celebration of Music



PASTOR DANIEL G BREMER
DECEMBER 15TH, 2019

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOMES YOU!!

Divine Service with Communion each Saturday 7:00 p.m.

Divine Service with Communion each Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Rolls in the Parish Hall 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m. (ages 2 ½ - grade 8)

Adult and High School Bible Class 10:30 a.m.

Restrooms can be found between the parish hall and the entryway.

Interested in membership at Grace? Pastor Bremer would consider it a privilege to speak with you. Please fill out a pew card expressing your interest or see him after Divine Service.

Radio: Grace, along with St. Paul's, Doniphan, can be heard each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on KRGJ—1430 a.m.

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Contact Pastor Bremer 308-390-5186

Website www.gracelcmgsi.org



In faithfulness to God's Word we celebrate the Lord's Supper in every Saturday and Sunday Divine Service. Unlike Baptism this Sacrament is to be received again and again for forgiveness and the strengthening of our Christian faith. Also in faithfulness to God's Word we practice closed communion. Our faith is not exclusive but God says that we should have unity of faith and doctrine (which Communion expresses). As we receive His gift today we would ask all visitors and guests to refrain from receiving the sacrament until they speak to Pastor Bremer. We also ask that those members who have not communed in the past 6 months to also speak to the pastor before communing once again. For further instruction please turn to Luther's Questions and Answers found on page 329 in the hymnal. These questions/answers are for those who desire to receive the sacrament.

3rd Sunday in Advent -- December 15th, 2019

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
Children’s Choir (LSB 338)**

#331

(Choir sings vs. 3)

Confession and Absolution

p. 203

Psalm 71: 14-18 (antiphon: Philippians 4:4)

The antiphon is first sung once by the choir only; all others: choir and congregation. The Psalm verses are chanted by the choir.

Re - joyce, re-joyce in the Lord al-ways re -



 joyce, re - joyce in the Lord; a - gain I will say, Re - joyce.

I will hope continually
and will praise you yet more and more.
My mouth will tell of your righteous acts,
your deeds of salvation all the day,
for their number is past my knowledge.

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;
I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.
O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

Choir

So even to old age and gray hairs,
O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might to another generation,
your power to all those to come.

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and will be forever. Amen.

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

Kyrie

p. 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers
and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious
visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Anthem: Senior Choir

“The Hills are Bare at Bethlehem”

(text: Royce J. Scherf; music: Sara Boss)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall
rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and
rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the
LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make
firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be
strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the
recompense of God. He will come and save you.” ⁵Then the eyes of
the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then
shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for
joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs
of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall
become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be
called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall

belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children's Choir

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(text; Latin, 12th century; tune: French, 15th Century; LSB 357)

Epistle

James 5:7–11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day (sung by the Choir)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?” ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

(Inside Back Cover of Hymnal)

Hymn “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” # 345

(Choir sings vs. 3)

Sermon

Offering

“Joy to the World”

Senior Choir

(text: Isaac Watts; music: Gordon Young)

Prayer of the Church:

[P] let us pray to the Lord:

[C] Lord, hear our prayer.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface, Sanctus p. 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Lord’s Prayer p. 209

Words of our Lord, Pax Domini p. 209

Agnus Dei p. 210

Communion Hymns

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” #643

Senior Choir: “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

(text: J. Brownlie; music: P. Grime; LSB 348)

“Prepare the Royal Highway” #343

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” #359

ATTENTION: There will **NOT** be a New Year's Eve service this year. Please disregard it on the December calendar.

HLHS DELEGATE: There is one opening for a HLHS delegate for 2020. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Jesse Bartels.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: The Children's Christmas program will be Sunday, December 22nd at 11am. They will be practicing during the Sunday School hour the next few weeks.

THANK YOU: Dear members of Grace, Thank you so much for all the prayers, visits, beautiful cards, gifts, and words of encouragement after my hip surgery. Also for the prayers and sympathy cards at the time of my brother John's death. They were all truly appreciated. Last, but not least my thanks to you, Pastor Bremer, for your prayers before and after surgery. In Christ our Savior, Anne Turnbull

THANK YOU: Thank you to all of the musicians for their extra preparations for today's service. Special thanks to:

- Amaryah Jenkins, for leading our Children's Choir.
- Cindy Kemp, for serving as organist for many Saturday services, and accompanying the Children's Choir.
- Keith Pobanz for preparing the dinner for the choirs today.

I am grateful to the Grace congregation for allowing me to serve as your Director of Music. May God continue to enrich us with his Word through the use of music! Psalm 100 - Shawn Pfanstiel

YEAR END FINANCES: Thank you for the extra gifts we have been receiving the past couple weeks. Our offerings are trending in the right direction, but YTD offerings remain a little behind our budget. Please continue your support to help us finish favorably for the year and provide us a jumpstart to 2020. Gifts of stock or required retirement distributions can also be arranged. Thank you!