

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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GRAND ISLAND, NE 68801
308-382-1190

Rejoice! An Advent Celebration of Music



PASTOR DANIEL G BREMER
DECEMBER 16TH, 2018

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 KRGI—1430 a.m.

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Contact Pastor Bremer 308-390-5186

Website www.gracelcmegi.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.

Rejoice! An Advent Celebration of Music

3rd Sunday in Advent -- December 16th, 2018

Pre-Service Music

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

Children’s Choir

Opening Hymn “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” #384

(vss. 1,2—Cantor; vs. 3—Choir; vss.4,5—congregation)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Confession and Absolution

p. 203

Introit

Psalm 146:5-8 (antiphon: Philippians 4:4)

The antiphon is first sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation. The Psalm verses are chanted by the choir. All sing the Antiphon at the appropriate places.

ANTIPHON



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



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

Choir

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,
Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
Who keeps faith forever...

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

Choir

...Who executes justice for the oppressed,
Who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

ANTIPHON (*congregation*)

Choir

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

“A Little Child Shall Lead Them”
(*Isaiah 11:1-6; music by Ralph Manuel*)

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the LORD.

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)

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Luke 7:18-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John's messengers had gone, 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? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I

send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

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 “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied” Senior Choir
(text: Stephen P. Starke; music: Jonathan Kohrs)

Prayer of the Church:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C 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

“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring” (violin solo)

“The Advent of Our King” #331

Senior Choir: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing” #643

“Prepare the Royal Highway” #343

Nunc Dimittis p. 211

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benedicamus/Benediction p. 212

Closing Hymn “The Tree of Life” # 561

*(Choir sings vs. 3
arr. David von Kampen)*

COMMUNION -- To help pastor, elders and visiting pastors during communion, if you prefer the common cup please place your hands with both palms up. Thank you for your help in this manner.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Saturday: 22 **Sunday:** 131

This Week at Grace....

Today	Children's Christmas Program	10:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Soup Supper	5:30-6:30 p.m.
	Senior Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.
	Mid-week Advent Service	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Worship Service	7:00 p.m.
Next Sunday	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
	Bible Class/Sunday School	10:30 a.m.

THOSE SERVING US THIS MORNING

ELDERS ON DUTY:	Keith Pobanz/Stu Endorf
ORGANIST:	Shawn Pfanstiel
CHOIR:	Senior Choir & Children's Choir
FLUTE:	Hailey McGuan
SAXOPHONE:	Kyle Sheeks
TROMBONE:	Chase Heck
VIOLIN:	Elizabeth Pobanz
TODAY'S GREETERS/USHERS:	Mike & Kyla Endorf
	Roger Sweley/Mark Liess
NEXT WEEKS GREETERS/USHERS:	Roger & Rosalie Roscoe
	Duane Fowler/Ron Bliss
CRUCIFER:	Brody Sheeks
ACOLYTE:	Carreagan Endorf
RADIO SERVICE SPONSOR:	Kurt Haecker

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE: The Children's Christmas Service will be held **today during the Sunday school hour** in the sanctuary following the regular worship service.

LATEST ON CHURCH FINANCES: Now, into December, please note our YTD offerings have fallen further behind our budget (no thanks to winter weather). We again had to use some money from savings to meet our payroll and early monthly obligations. Please continue your support, and give prayerful consideration to boosting weekly gifts to help make up the year-to-date shortfall of about \$5,000.

As shared previously, we are grateful the wishes of Ralph Laskowski were for a significant bequest be made to Grace Lutheran Church following his death. We are expecting Ralph's gift before year end, and will set it aside with intentions to use it to replace the parking lot with a concrete surface next spring. If you wish to make a gift to the parking lot project, a special fund has been established. Simply mark your Building Fund envelope with "parking lot". Thank you!

Kurt Haecker, Treasurer

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

- Amaryah Jenkins, for skillfully leading our Children's Choir, particularly this year in its new format.
- Elizabeth Pobanz, for accompanying the Children's Choir.
- Cindy Kemp, for serving as organist for many Saturday services, and substituting for me in choir rehearsal when needed.
- Keith Pobanz and Randy Kemp, for again preparing the dinner for the choirs today.
- Heartland Lutheran High School, for the use of their hand-chimes 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

THE MEANING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREES:

First Tree: decorated with red apples the symbol of our sin.

Red base- "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" Isaiah 1:18 (*Right side of the altar as you look to the front*)

Second Tree- Tree of Life Everlasting

Star-Head, shoulders, and feet of Christ

3 silver strands running from top to bottom: 3 meanings of Christ to our lives- Prophet, Priest and King

33 roses: 33 years of Jesus' life and the love that Christ lived

White candles: Jesus is the light of the world

White base- "Tho your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" Isaiah 1:18 (*Left side of the altar as you look to the front*)