

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

545 E MEMORIAL DRIVE  
GRAND ISLAND, NE 68801  
308-382-1190



## Mary Visits Elizabeth

Luke 1:39-45

PASTOR DANIEL G BREMER  
DECEMBER 22ND & 23RD, 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.

**E-mail** Pastor Bremer [pastorbremer@gracegi.net](mailto:pastorbremer@gracegi.net)  
Church Office [graceofc@gracegi.net](mailto:graceofc@gracegi.net)

**Contact** Pastor Bremer 308-390-5186

**Website** [www.gracelcmsgi.org](http://www.gracelcmsgi.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.

# DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR – Page 203

4th Sunday in Advent -- December 23rd, 2018

Opening Hymn “Christ, the Word of God Incarnate” #540

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

Confession and Absolution

p. 203

Introit (*Cantor/Congregation*)



*My soul magni- / fies the Lord,\**  
*and my spirit rejoices in God my / Savior,*  
**My mouth derides my | enemies,\***  
**because I rejoice in your sal- | vation.**  
*There is none holy / like the LORD;\**  
*there is none besides you; there is no rock / like our God.*  
**The barren has borne | seven,\***  
**but she who has many children | is forlorn.**  
*The LORD kills and / brings to life;\**  
*he brings down to Sheol and / raises up.*  
**The LORD makes poor and | makes rich;\***  
**he brings low and | he exalts.**  
**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.**  
*My soul magni- / fies the Lord,\**  
*and my spirit rejoices in God my / Savior,*

Kyrie

p. 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Micah 5:2–5a*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual** (*sung by the Cantor*)

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\**

*Shout aloud, O daughter of Jer- | usalem.*

*Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\**

*righteous and having sal- | vation.*

*Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\**

*From the house of the Lord we | bless You.*

**Epistle**

*Hebrews 10:5–10*

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” <sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Verse of the Day** (*sung by the Cantor*)

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 1:39–45*

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

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed**

*(Inside Back Cover of Hymnal)*

**Hymn**

**“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**# 357**

*(Cantor duet verse 4)*

**Sermon**

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church:**

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**G** **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**

**#’s 346, 680, 332**

**Nunc Dimittis**

**p. 211**

Post-Communion Collect

p. 212

Benedicamus/Benediction

p. 212

Closing Hymn “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” # 356

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES:** Please note that the Christmas Eve Service will begin at **7:30pm**. Our Christmas Day Service will begin at 9am. .

**FINAL UPDATE ON 2018 CHURCH FINANCES:** Our YTD offerings remain behind our budget for this year. As shared in recent weeks, we have had to use some money from savings to meet payroll and operating obligations. Please continue your support, and give prayerful consideration to providing some extra gifts before December 31 to help make up the year-to-date shortfall of about \$5,000.

With much gratitude, we have received the generous gift from the Ralph Laskowski trust. The gift has been set aside with intentions to use it to replace the parking lot with a concrete surface in the spring. If you wish to add a gift to the parking lot project, a special fund has been established. Simply use your Building Fund envelope and mark it “parking lot”. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Kurt Haecker, Treasurer

### **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*)

**HLHS NEWS:** On **Friday, January 25** Heartland Lutheran High School will host a visit day for all students in grades 5 - 8. Students will participate in classroom activities, have lunch, and play games with Heartland Lutheran students. This is their chance to see what Heartland Lutheran is all about.

On **Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**, Heartland Lutheran High School is hosting an open house from 2:00 - 5:00 pm for all students and families. Students and families can come and tour the campus, talk with teachers, parents, and students about their experiences, and get more information about our programs, activities, and more.

**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:**        31                                **Sunday:** 157

**This Week at Grace....**

<b>Today</b>	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
	Bible Class/Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
<b>Monday</b>	Christmas Eve Service	7:30 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Christmas Day Service	9:00 a.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Worship Service	7:00 p.m.
<b>Next Sunday</b>	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

**CANTOR:** Karl Heck

**TODAY'S GREETERS/USHERS:** Roger & Rosalie Roscoe  
Duane Fowler/Ron Bliss

**NEXT WEEKS GREETERS/USHERS:** Mike & Kyla Endorf  
Mike & Kim Krecklow

**CRUCIFER:** Brody Sheeks

**ACOLYTE:** Isabel Burson

**RADIO SERVICE SPONSOR:** St. Paul's, Doniphan

