



Second Sunday in Advent Granite Falls Lutheran Church

December 5, 2021
9:00 am

Welcome visitors and friends. Prayer request cards and visitor cards can be found in the pews. If you have a prayer request or if you are a visitor you are welcome to fill out a card and place in the offering box for the pastors.

Welcome to the Lord's Table today. When we celebrate the Lord's Supper today, all are welcome. When you come forward by the center aisle, proceed to either side in front of the first pew and return to your seat by the side aisle. **If you prefer grape juice or a gluten free wafer,** just ask the server.

Large Print Bulletins and Earphones (which amplify the sound system) are available from the ushers. Please pick these up in the narthex.



Welcome

Senior Choir

Advent Candle lighting *John 10: 14-15*

¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down
my life for the sheep.

*Advent Hymn

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" #240

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, [†] one God, who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God,
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God for whom we wait,

C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in
our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in

material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!
Through the power of the Holy Spirit, [†] your sins are forgiven.
You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen**

*Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

*Kyrie and This is the Feast (sung) pg 147-150

P: *In peace, let us pray to the Lord.* C: *Lord, have mercy.*

P: *For the peace from above.....* C: *Lord, have mercy.*

P: *For the peace of the whole world...* C: *Lord, have mercy.*

P: *For this holy house....* C: *Lord, have mercy.*

P: *Help, save comfort,...* C: *Amen*

P: *This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia..*

C: *Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*Prayer of the Day

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God,

C: to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson Malachi 3:1-4

Pew Bible Pg 1448

Responsive Reading Luke 1:68-79

L: ⁶⁸"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

C: **⁶⁹He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,**
 L: ⁷⁰as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
 C: **⁷¹that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.**
 L: ⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,
 C: **⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us**
 L: ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,
 C: **⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**
 L: ⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
 C: **⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.**
 L: ⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,
 C: **⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

Second Lesson Philippians 1: 3-11 Pew Bible Pg 1823

***Gospel Acclamation** (*sung*) pg 151
Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, Alleluia

***Gospel** Luke 3:1-6 Pew Bible Pg 1595

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'

P: The gospel of the Lord.
 C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "On Jordan's Banks" #249

*Apostles Creed

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.

***Prayers of the Church** (*sung*) #178

P: You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God

C: ***Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.***

P:(after each petition.).... Hear us O God.

C: ***Hear our prayer, hear now our prayer.***

P: We remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming.

C: Amen.

Offering "There's a Voice in the Wilderness" #255

Offering Prayer

P: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving** (*sung*) (pg.152)

P: *The Lord be with you.* C: *And also with you.*

P: *Lift up your hearts.* C: *We lift them to the Lord.*

P: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God*

C: ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

(preface continues)

*Hymn of Thanksgiving (sung) (pg. 153)

C: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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.*

*Holy Communion Words of Institution / The Lord's Prayer

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.

Holy Communion Distribution

Hymns	"Prepare the Royal Highway"	#264
	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"	#272

Post Communion Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" #205

*Benediction and Announcements

*Sending

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Participants

Ministers	<i>All of us gathered to worship</i>
Lead Pastor	<i>Mark Manning</i>
Associate Pastor	<i>Paul Drees</i>
Organ/Piano	<i>Lynn Ullrich</i>
Reader	<i>Dana Baldry</i>
Advent Candle	<i>Brandon & Ali Mensink Family</i>
Communion Assistants	<i>Gail Aus, Dana Baldry, Richard Jepson, Dar Hanson</i>

News & Announcements

Calendar this week: Please check the church website for changes.

Tuesday -	10:30 pm	Staff Meeting
	5:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Property Committee Meeting
Wednesday -	2:00 pm	GF Care Center Worship
	5:15 pm	Education Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Service Project
Thursday -	2:30 pm	Espresso Time
Friday -		Office Closed
Saturday	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday -	9:00 am	SS Christmas Program (FB live)
	10:00 am	Adult Faith Formation Class

75th Anniversary Committee is selling wooden laser engraved GFLC **church ornaments, magnets and coasters** for \$5.00 per item. They would make a great addition to your tree or gift giving list.

*What do Mennonites believe? Why do Mormons call themselves "Latter Day Saints?" How is the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod so much like us and yet we do so little together? Why are they called "Methodists?" Today, after worship we will begin an Adult Sunday Faith Formation class called "**Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith**" where we get the chance to study another denomination or religion each week--and you choose which ones you want to study. Please come for a cup of coffee, a little reading, and some discussion about "our neighbor's faith."*

Christmas Parent Break! The Christmas season can be very busy, especially for young parents. That's why we're providing a **Christmas shopping child care day** for anyone who wants NEXT SATURDAY, December 11, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This for kids in Pre-K to 6th grade (older kiddos are welcome too!) Register by 12/6.

Reminder, the Confirmation service project this week is Cookie Baking.

Looking ahead:

- December 19th – Senior Choir Christmas Worship Service
- December 24th – Christmas Eve Services at 2pm, 4pm and 7pm
- December 26th – Lessons and Carols Worship Service

Malachi 3:1-4

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Philippians 1: 3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

#240

Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

#249

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

The cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God with-in,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more
oh, let your face up on us shine and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, ever-more.

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

#255

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!
- 2 O Jerusalem, herald good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their king.
Like flow'rs of the field we perish, like grass our works decay;
the pow'r and the pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.
- 3 But the word of our Savior is faithful, the arm of our God is strong,
who stands in the midst of the nations and soon will right the wrong.
Lord, feed your flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold;
in pastures of peace now lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Prepare the Royal Highway

264

Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let every hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet every nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

#272

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem
hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers
of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, amid
the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with
Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show
God's love alright, she bore to us a Savior, when
half spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness
fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the
darkness ev'rywhere. True man, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe; O
Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of
heaven and into endless day.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

#205

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.