

Click here to open service web page for: 2009/12/25/

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Dave Rust

Ushers: Mark Wales, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson,
Brandt Wendland

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever;
Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Hospitality Team 6: Bye

Church Cleaners: Kitzman

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: Mark Wales, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson,
Brandt Wendland

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham;
Benno Sydow; Michael Ude

Hospitality Team 1: Bye

Church Cleaners: Kirkham

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

Today: 10:00 am –Worship Service

Thu., Dec. 31: 7:00 pm – New Year's Eve Worship w/Lord's Supper

Sun., Jan. 3: 10:00 am –Worship Service w/Lord's Supper

Wed., Jan. 6: 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Sun., Jan. 10: 8:30 am – Choir Practice

9:00 – Sunday School and Bible Class

10:00 am – Worship Service

11:15 – Hospitality; 12:00 pm – Council Meeting

Sun., Jan. 17: 11:30 am – Annual Voters Meeting & Dorcas Guild

Last Week's Stats: Dec. 20, 2009 Sun.: 122 S.S.: 24 Thu.: 131

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$5,093.00	CLC:	\$2,616.00
Thu. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,085.00	CLC:	\$645.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+2,878.00	CLC:	+2,261.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	155,163.30	CLC:	47,843.40
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	168,300.00	CLC:	51,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-13,136.70	CLC:	-3,156.60
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	25.00	Tuition:	11.00
GLC Other: 808.02	MDF:	25.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	510.00 ILC Bldg.	25.00	IIF: 20.00	CEF: 0.00



Jesus
Christ
is
Born



**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

DECEMBER 27, 2009

Pastor: John P. Hein

Organist: Susan Nelson

Web: www.CLC Grace Lutheran Church.org

Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Phone: 763-784-8784

Our Christmas Worship

CANDLE LIGHTING:..... *The Christ Candle*

OPENING DIALOG:

P: Unto us a Child is born, Hallelujah!

C: Unto us a Son is given, Hallelujah!

P: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

C: And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: Oh, come, let us worship Him:

C: Let us kneel before the Lord in the manger. Hallelujah!

HYMN:..... *WS 708: Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:..... *Based on TLH 90*

P: Dear Heavenly Father, having come into Your presence, we are moved to confess to you all of our many sins; sins that we have committed in our desires, our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

C: Have mercy upon us, O God, we pray.

SING: Gracious Child, we pray Thee, hear us,
From Thy lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join th' angelic choir.

P: You who are dearly loved by God, it is good and right for us to come before the throne of His grace in Christ Jesus and confess our many sins. The command of our Lord is that His people be comforted with the message of forgiveness in the Christ. Through the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord says to His

people, Israel: "Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over." Our Savior came to make peace between God and man. Now He desires to come to us and abide with us — in our hearts — with His forgiveness and peace.

**SING: See how God, for us providing,
Gave His Son and life abiding;
He our weary steps is guiding
From earth's woe to heav'nly joy.**

C: O most merciful God, we confess to You all of our many sins. We have sinned against You by what we have thought, what we have said, and what we have done. Yet You have given Your only begotten Son to die for us. Have mercy upon us we pray, and for His sake grant us forgiveness for all our sins. By the power of Your Holy Spirit cause us to know Your will truly, and to obey it willingly, so that by Your grace, through faith, we may finally come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**SING: Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing
And to Thee we come confessing
That our freedom Thou hast wrought!**

P: Since God has given you the Keys of the Kingdom of heaven, and as you have called me to administer the same, even so may it be to you as you believe, by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved! For if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed! O Lord, grant this unto us all.

**SING: From the bondage that oppressed us,
From sin's fetters that possessed us,
From the grief that sore distressed us,
We, the captives, now are free.**

CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECT:

P: Grant, almighty God, that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN:.....WS 715: Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

FIRST READING:.....Isaiah 52:7-10

The Lord comes to manifest His strength and power to redeem.

3. [**Women**] "Fear not, then," said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior
Of a pure Virgin bright,
To free all those now in the world
From Satan's power and might:"
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

4. [**All**] **Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Jane Cowan slipped and broke her leg on Christmas Day. She had surgery at Mercy in Coon Rapids yesterday. Viola Schweikert was hospitalized last week with pneumonia. She has returned home. Michael Dick's father, Richard, passed away last Saturday, Dec. 19. His memorial service will be today at our CLC church, Holy Cross, in Phoenix, AZ. May the Lord continue to keep His people in faith.
- ◆ **Cleaning 2010:** The 2010 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ◆ **From the Elders:** All loose offerings collected during Dec. will be distributed equally among the four called workers of the congregation.
- ◆ **Eden Prairie Worship:** Regular Sunday morning services are being held at 9:00 am in Eden Prairie, MN, as an outreach effort in the southwest area of the Twin Cities. Fliers are by the guest book.
- ◆ **Mission Calendars:** 2010 calendars are available which focus on our CLC missions. If you would like one, please make a \$3 donation to the MDF. Copies are available below the mailboxes.
- ◆ **Call News:** Pastor Andrew Schaller of Trinity in Waterown, SD, and Zion of Hidewood, has received the call to Grace of Sleepy Eye, MN, and Faith of New Ulm.
- ◆ **Nomination Slate for 2010:**
 - President: Phil Radichel
 - Vice President: Jack Kirkham
 - Secretary: Michael Dick, Rick Nelson
 - Treasurer: Paul Lentz; Jeff Radichel
 - Financial Secretary: Brandon Paplow
 - Elder: Ed Lentz, Roger Ochsner
 - Education: Benno Sydow, Michael Ude
 - Trustee: Pat Paplow, Bob Vandever

CHRISTMAS PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:..... *Tune of 'It Came Upon a Midnight Clear'*

**C: Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne,
Most holy be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done
On earth – in heav'n the same.
Give us this day the food we need;
Forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead;
From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; unto You
In grateful love we bow;
And Yours the pow'r; Lord, let us view
Your mighty presence now.
The glory Yours; Your praise be sung
By angel hosts and men
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue
Forevermore! Amen.**

CHOIR:.....*Sussex Carol*

BENEDICTION:*Adapted from 1 Peter 1:7*

P: Now may the genuineness of your faith, being more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

C: [Sung] Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN:..... *God Rest You Merry Gentlemen*

**1. [All] God rest you merry gentleman,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

**2. [Men] From God our Heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

SECOND READING:..... *Hebrews 1:1-9*

The Christ Child is appointed heir of all things, the eternal King.

THIRD READING:..... *Luke 2:1-14 with "From Heaven Above"*

**ALL: "From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:"**

Pastor: And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

**MEN: "To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth."**

Men: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

**WOMEN: "This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free."**

Women: And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

**MEN: Give heed, my heart, lift up thine eyes!
What is it in yon manger lies?
Who is this child, so young and fair?
The blessed Christ-child lieth there.**

Men: And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

**WOMEN: Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
Thou com'st to share my misery;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?**

Women: And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

**ALL: Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.**

All: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

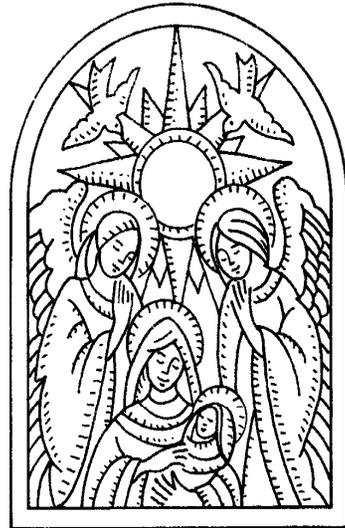
**ALL: My heart for very joy doth leap,
My lips no more can silence keep;
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradle-song:
Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH:.....*The Christmas Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, Who
sent His Son as my Savior on
Christmas Day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only
Son, our Lord, Who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, Born of the
Virgin Mary, Announced by the
Angels, Worshipped by the
shepherds, Adored by the Wise
Men, Who lived to suffer, die, and
rise again, To free me from sin,
death, and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, Who has
brought me to faith in the Christ of
Christmas, And by whose
continuous work in my heart, I am
ever led to lay before the feet of
Christ the treasures of my love and
live under Him as my King, Both
now and forevermore. Amen.



CHRISTMAS

HYMN:..... *The First Noel*

ALL

1. The first Noël the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep: **(Refrain)**

Refrain: Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël, Born is the King of Israel!

Men

2. And by the light of a great star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went: **(Refrain)**

All

3. This star drew nigh to the northwest;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay: **(Refrain)**

Women

4. Then enter'd in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offer'd there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense: **(Refrain)**

All

5. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought: **(Refrain)**

SERMON:.....*Romans 1:2-6*

(2) ... He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, (3) concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, (4) and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. (5) Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, (6) among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; ... (NKJV™)

A Hero Is Born!

HYMN:..... *WS 712: What Child Is This*

OUR GIFTS TO THE CHRIST-CHILD:..... *Interlude*