

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

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Grades: Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

Church Year: Advent 3

Date: December 14, 2025

## ✝ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✝

### Hymns:

TLH 55: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

TLH 70: Hosanna to the Living Lord

TLH 61: Comfort, Comfort, Ye, My People

WS 705: Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalms 130, TLH p. 153

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)

Gloria: TLH 58 & 62

### Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 35:1-10


James 5:7-11

### Sermon: Matthew 11:2-6

<sup>2</sup> And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. <sup>6</sup> "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## **The Blessings of an Unoffended Faith**

- 1. It's free of false expectations**
- 2. It's founded on the faithful Word**



On This Blessed Christmastide

[Tune - TLH #91]

*On this blessed Christmastide  
He came down with us t' abide:  
Christ the Lord in infant form  
Came with love our hearts to warm.*

*Child, You left Your heav'nly throne  
Down to earth for me t' atone,  
Here to give Your life for all,  
Here to save us from our fall.*

*Joy to sorrow; peace to pain.  
In a manger You were lain.  
Wooden bed to wooden cross,  
All to gain what we have lost.*

*Death to life, You rose again  
Victor over Satan's reign  
Righteousness to us You give  
We were dead, but now we live*

*Child, now take me by the hand;  
Lead me toward the Promised Land.  
Christ, I need Your steadfast love  
Now to reach Your home above.*

**A blessed Christmas to all from  
John and Barb Pfeiffer**



# **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## **Christmas Season Worship Schedule**

### **Midweek Advent Services:**

Wed., Dec. 3 – 7:00 pm

Wed., Dec. 10 – 7:00 pm

“Reactions to Jesus’ Coming.”  
Special meditations to  
prepare for the coming of  
the Christ Child.

### **Candlelight Service:**

Wed., Dec. 17 – 7:00 pm

A service of readings & hymns  
along with the lighting of  
candles to celebrate the light  
of Christ’s rule in our hearts.

Preceded by Congregational  
Christmas Meal @ 6:00 pm



### **Christmas Eve Service:**

Wed., Dec. 24 – 6:00 pm

“The Bow in the Clouds and  
the Boy in the Cloths.” A  
service in which the  
children present the  
timeless and treasured  
Christmas message.


### **Christmas Day Service:**

Thur., Dec. 25 – 10:00 am

A service in which we  
ponder the fulfillment of  
Christ being born as  
True Man and True God  
in order to bring us  
salvation.

**REACTIONS TO JESUS’ COMING**

## ✝ **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS** ✝

- ➔ **Today:** We thank Professor Paul Naumann for sharing the Word of our God today. Prof. Naumann hails from Immanuel in Eau Claire, WI, where he teaches students for a lifetime of growing in Christ.
- ➔ **Candlelight Worship:** This Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7 pm, is our final Midweek Advent worship service. This will be our annual candlelight service with Scripture readings and hymns preceded by the Christmas meal at 6 pm. Join us during this precious time of year to ponder our Savior's coming. 
- ➔ **Christmas Meal:** Please join us for a fellowship potluck meal at 6 pm prior to the Candlelight service this Wednesday, December 17. This is a precious time to gather with our fellow Christians to enjoy each other's company. Those attending may bring a dish to share. Dorcas Guild Committee #1 will be hosting.
- ➔ **Duane Enns:** Around 3 am on Thu. morning, Dec. 11, Duane Enns' soul was transferred to heavenly glory to join the Christmas angels in the unrestrained praise of Christ our LORD, Who was born to redeem us. He died in his St. Louis Park home where he resided with his wife, Mitzi. Memorial plans will be made after the holiday season. All correspondence may be shared with Dale Enns (612-875-8094, dalefenns@comcast.net) who will share with other family. Dale: 2462 Churchill St.; Roseville, MN 55113. **"I am the Resurrection and the Life"** (John 11:25).
- ➔ **Among Us:** Bob Rust via biopsy was recently diagnosed with bladder cancer which has metastasized along with a few other colon issues which will require surgery. He will start chemotherapy on Dec. 17. Radiation therapy may take place on his lower back. Pastor will be starting radiation therapy on his right pelvic bone, and also on a tumor in his left hip. He will also be prepping for a gamma knife procedure to remove what is believed to be a brain lesion, all at the clinic attached to Unity Hospital in Fridley. **2 Corinthians 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.
- ➔ **Northtown Christmas Concert:** The Grace School children will be singing at the Northtown Mall this Fri., Dec. 19, 2:00 pm. They will be located at the inside-of-the-mall entrance to the former Best Buy, which is now Furniture Mart. Everyone is encouraged to come attend as it is always an experience greatly appreciated. If you haven't ever come to this, you may be pleasantly surprised at how well received it is. Come support the school!

- ➔ **Christmas Eve Rehearsals:** This is the remaining rehearsal schedule:
  - Sun., Dec. 14: 11:30 am-1:00 pm (hospitality after worship)
  - Sun., Dec. 21: 8:45-9:45 am (please be here at 8:45 am so that we can start promptly)

December is a busy month, but please remember the importance of these rehearsals for a successful Christmas Eve service. The last rehearsal on December 21 is the most critical as it is the dress rehearsal.

- ➔ **Christmas Caroling:** We are organizing a schedule for caroling on Sunday, December 21, at 1 pm. We will be stopping by a few members' homes and a couple of care facilities. Please reach out to Bonnie Baker for any interest. It is always exciting to be able to make people smile by singing praises about our Savior in this special way.

- ➔ **Christmas Worship:** Our Christmas Eve service will be held on Wed., Dec. 24, 6 pm with our children presenting the Christmas Gospel. The theme this year is: "The Bow in the Clouds and the Boy in the Cloths." The kids are asked to be here ½ hour prior to the service so that we can take a group picture and run through things. Christmas Day worship will be held Thur., Dec. 25, 10 am. May the love of this Child be the gift you open up your heart to on Christmas Day!




- ➔ **New Year's Eve:** On New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, we will be having a 7 pm worship service with the Lord's Supper.
- ➔ **Christmas Eve Video:** A reminder that we are having a Christmas Eve service instead of a Christmas Eve program. Therefore, we ask that parents and friends avoid using their cell phones to take pictures and video during this service so that the focus remains on the joyous message of our Savior's birth. Our Christmas Eve service will be recorded via digital video and made available on our website which can be downloaded. If you are interested in a DVD, please speak with Pastor, Frank Radichel, or Rick Nelson.
- ➔ **Poinsettia** signup sheet is in the narthex by the guest book. Poinsettias are \$8 each. They will be purchased in stages throughout the Advent Season. Please see Laura Wales for payment.
- ➔ **2025 Cleaning:** Any volunteers for the remaining weeks of 2025?
- ➔ **2026 Cleaning:** The 2026 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ➔ **Parking Reminder:** For those members who are able, please park further away to permit those with physical impairments to be able to park closer to the church.

- ➔ **Large Print Hymnals:** As a reminder, there are three copies of The Lutheran Hymnal in large print. These are by the guest book. Feel free to use these and return at the end of the worship service.
- ➔ **Listening Assistance:** There are a few receiving units by the mailboxes that can be placed in one's ear in order to hear the sound that is picked up by the pastor's microphone. Please feel free to use these (and return) if they are of any help to hear the sermon, etc.
- ➔ **From the Elders:** This time of year is when a collection is taken for our "Called Workers Gift." All such designated offerings and any loose offerings collected during December will be distributed equally among the congregation's called workers.
- ➔ **Local Special Funds:** Just to highlight a few of our local funds ...
  - 1) Liberia Fund: supports special projects related to work in Liberia
  - 2) Sanctuary Improvement Fund: supports the current sanctuary project
  - 3) Tuition Aid Fund: supports Grace students who attend Immanuel Luth. H.S.
  - 4) Living Faith Fund: supports people who are in need, particularly members
  - 5) Dorcas Guild Fund: supports projects by our women's group
- ➔ **Sunday School Teachers:** Perhaps something to consider this Christmas is extending our Sunday School teachers an expression of gratitude for what they do for our children each week.
- ➔ **Stock Donations:** The Voters of Grace have provided a process for members to donate equities to the Congregation. Anyone interested in doing this can get information from Dale Enns. Such a donation spares the donor from being taxed on any capital gains.
- ➔ **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD):** For those over 70½ it may be beneficial for you to send your offerings directly from an IRA fund to the church. The advantage of this procedure is those amounts are NOT considered as income and your adjusted gross income is less. For more information see Dale Enns.
- ➔ **Nativity Scene:** The nativity scene in the narthex is fragile. Parents are asked to supervise their children around it.
- ➔ **Immanuel Recital:** The ILC Piano/Organ Recital will be held TDOAY, Dec. 14, at 3 pm in the ILC Fieldhouse.
- ➔ **Immanuel Christmas Concert:** The choirs of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will be presenting Light Born from Light (*O Nata Lux de Lumine*) on Friday, December 19, 2025, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2015 N Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI, 54703. The evening will begin at 7:00 pm, with the strings, band, and flute choir presenting several songs prior to the choral service. It is open to the public and admission is free. The service will also be streaming live at [youtube.com/ilc.videos](https://youtube.com/ilc.videos).

- ➔ **National Women's Retreat:** Coming in January. Before your 2026 calendar begins to fill up, think about marking your calendars and get ready to Press Pause with women across the country. What: Press Pause for the National Women's (Virtual) Retreat 2026 When: Saturday, January 31, 2026 // 11:00 am-1:00 pm (Central Time) Cost: Free event - all are welcome! How: Join us virtually via Zoom Register now: <https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26>
- ➔ **Nominations for ILC Professor and ILC President:** The Board of Regents announces the following nominations to fill the professorship vacated by the resignation of Professor David Schaller prior to the 2025-26 academic year: Paul Krause, David Reim, David Schaller, Dan Sullivan, and David Ude. In addition, the following and only person has been nominated for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College: Daniel Schierenbeck. The term of the ILC President's call is for two years, extending to the end of Academic Year 2028. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight January 17, 2026 (letters postmarked January 7, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email:jeb6217@yahoo.com.
- ➔ **CLC Youth Camp at ILC 2026:** Camp will be held June 14-20, 2026, at ILC for campers going into 6-9<sup>th</sup> grade. Please visit our website for more info.: [youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp](http://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp). Registration will open in March of 2026. Email [youthcamp.clc@gmail.com](mailto:youthcamp.clc@gmail.com) with any questions.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck has accepted the call to serve as Assistant to the Pastor at Berea Ev. Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, MN, after he concludes serving as vacancy pastor of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN, at the end of January. † Pastor Cory Drehle of Berea Lutheran in Sioux Falls, SD, has received the call to Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI.
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Christmas Eve Parts & Hymns

**Last Week's Stats:** Dec. 7, 2025 Sun: 77 S.S.: 9 B.Cl.: 34

Week's Offering:	Grace:	\$1,373	CLC:	\$270	
Weekly Need (est.):	Grace:	5,100	CLC:	1,150	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-3,727	CLC:	-880	
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$252,790	CLC:	\$71,836	
Year-to-Date Need (est.):	Grace:	244,800	CLC:	55,200	
Difference from Budget (+/-)	Grace:	+7,990	CLC:	+16,636	

GLC Other:	100	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	75	Sanctuary:	0
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	134	EduK8:	0
ILC Student Aid:	0	ILC Bldg.	100	IIF:	0	CEF:	0

Current Balances: Tuition Aid: \$3,493 Sanctuary: \$16,258  
 All numbers are best estimates. Treasurer reports are official. Dec. 10: 40 attendance

# ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Maureen Ochsner      Elder: Phil Radichel

Ushers: Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Bob Maki; Bill Rust;  
David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter;

Counting Team 3: Gary Gunther; Roger Ochsner; Al  
Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Benno Sydow

Hospitality Team 3: Jan Davis; Mikey & Ryan Oman; Laura  
Wales; Janelle Hein

Church Cleaners: Ochsner      School: Conway

# ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Bob Maki; Bill Rust;  
David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter;

Counting Team 1: Dale Enns; Larry Nelson; Thomas  
Graham; Kevin Hulke; Phil Radichel

Hospitality Team 4: Bonnie Baker; Kevin & Sandy Hulke;  
Jenny Kleifgen; Pat & Dawn Paplow

Church Cleaners: Volunteers?      School: Oman

# ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., Dec. 14:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 3)  
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 3)  
11:30 am-1:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
12:00 pm – Council Meeting  
3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Concert (Eau Claire, WI)
- Wed., Dec. 17:** 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Meal (Guild Committee #1)  
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship Service
- Thur., Dec. 18:** 2:00 pm – Catechism
- Fri., Dec. 19:** 2:00 pm – Grace School Concert (Northtown Mall)  
7:00 pm – ILC Christmas Concert (Messiah – Eau Claire, WI)
- Sun., Dec. 21:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
9:00 am – Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 4)  
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 4)  
1:00 pm – Christmas Caroling (Meet at Grace)
- Wed., Dec. 24:** **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
5:30 pm – Children Meet at Grace (Picture, Practice, etc)  
6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Thur., Dec. 25:** **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship Service
- Wed., Dec. 31:** **NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
7:00 pm – New Year's Eve Worship Service

