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# Angels We Have Heard on High

## The Angel of the LORD Appears to Moses: .....Exodus 3:1-8a

(1) Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. (2) And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush *was* not consumed. (3) Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." (4) So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." (5) Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground." (6) Moreover He said, "I *am* the God of your father -- the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. (7) And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. (8) "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey ..."

Hymns: TLH 64; WS 709; TLH 558

December 6, 2006

## The Angel of the LORD Appears to Abraham: .....Genesis 22:9-18

(9) Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. (10) And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. (11) But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." (12) And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from Me." (13) Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind *him was* a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. (14) And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said *to* this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided." (15) Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, (16) and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*; (17) "blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. (18) "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

Hymns: TLH 66; TLH 95; TLH 552, st. 1-3, 8

December 13, 2006

## The Angel of the LORD Appears as the Messenger of the Covenant: .....Malachi 3:1

(1) "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.

Candlelight Service

December 20, 2006

# Grace Lutheran Church

## Advent 2006

Angels We Have Heard on High



# Order of Advent Worship

**Pre-Service Meditation:** .....Psalm 91, TLH p. 143

**Hymn:**

**Opening Liturgy:** ..... Vespers, TLH p. 41

*P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.*

**C: And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

*P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.*

**C: Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Hallelujah!**



**Confession & Absolution:**...Selected “Angel” Passagesw/ Angels We Have Heard on High

*P: It is wise for us to confess our sins before Jesus, our Savior, and to confess Him as our sole source of salvation. For He Himself once said: “Whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels” (Mark 8:38). Let us, then, confess our sins before God, trusting in the blood of Jesus which cleanses us from all sin.*

**C: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.” (1 Corinthians**

**13:1) I have not loved God with all my heart, with all my soul, and with all my mind. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. I am, then, a sinner. I deserve to be among those of whom Jesus said: “The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” (Matthew 13:41-42). But I rejoice in knowing that this is not my fate! By the grace of God I have been saved. “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.” (Hebrews 2:9-10)**



*P: We do have great reason to rejoice, dearly loved in Christ! “Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents” (Luke 15:10). “You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.” Hebrews 12:22-24)*

**C: Our Savior “has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.” (1 Peter 3:22). There I will join all the holy angels around His throne to declare: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!” (Revelation 5:12).**

**Response:** .....Angels We Have Heard on High

**Sing [♪]:** Join now with the Church on earth  
And the hosts of heav’n above  
Let us praise His name, whose birth  
Brings to us eternal love.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!



**Scripture Reading:**.....Selected Readings: Exodus 14:10-31; Genesis 18:1-15

**Confession of Faith:** .....Formula of Concord, The Person of Christ, Art., VIII, ¶ 6

*P: Jesus once said: “I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God” (Luke 12:8). Let us confess our Savior before our fellow Christians using Article VIII from the Formula of Concord.”*

**C: We believe, teach, and confess that the Son of God, although from eternity He has been a particular, distinct, entire divine person, and thus, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, true, essential, perfect God, nevertheless, in the fullness of time assumed also human nature into the unity of His person, not in such a way that there now are two persons or two Christs, but that Christ Jesus is now in one person at the same time true, eternal God, born of the Father from eternity, and a true man, born of the most blessed Virgin Mary.**

**Response:** .....Angels We Have Heard on High

**Sing [♪]:** Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o’er the plains.  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!



**Sermon:** .....See Back of Bulletin for Text and Themes

December 6: The Angel of the LORD Appears to Moses (Exodus 3:1-8a)

December 13: The Angel of the LORD Appears to Abraham (Genesis 22:9-18)

**Response:** .....Angels We Have Heard on High

**Sing [♪]:** Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing:  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!



**Hymn:**

**Offering, Prayer, & Lord’s Prayer:**

**Benediction by Choir:**

**Closing Hymn:**