

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432

Email: [john.p.hein@gmail.com](mailto:john.p.hein@gmail.com)

Home Page: [www.FridleyLutheran.org](http://www.FridleyLutheran.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

**School Phone:** 763-784-6340

**Church Year:** Advent 1

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

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

**Date:** November 30, 2025

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 64: Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes

WS 703: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

TLH 75: Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken

TLH 91, st. 4-5: Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalms 98, TLH p. 144

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)

Gloria: TLH 58 & 62

### Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

### Sermon: Matthew 24:37-44

<sup>37</sup> "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>38</sup> "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>40</sup> "Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup> "Two *women* will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>42</sup> "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## Reactions to Jesus' Coming

### Noah: Prepared When Least Expected

# **A MEANINGFUL CHRISTMAS:**

When the fullness of the time was come according to the determination of the Heavenly Father, Caesar Augustus called a census for the purpose of taxation. Unbeknownst to Caesar, he set in motion God's plan for the salvation of mankind. Joseph and Mary set out for Bethlehem and thus was fulfilled the prophecy of Micah that declared where Jesus should be born (Micah 5:2). So this Christmas time we in spirit will go to Bethlehem to worship at the manger in which was laid the incarnate Christ. In a lowly manger bed lies the Son of God, born of Mary into the flesh, and appointed to be our Savior from sin.

But our Christmas worship is incomplete if we do not get beyond the manger. On the other hand, our Christmas is complete if as we stand at the manger bed we see the shadow of the cross upon which Jesus would die for the sins of the world. As we look even further, behind the cross we see the light of the empty tomb from which our Savior came forth on Easter. Jesus Who was born to die in our place, did not see corruption in the grave. He rose again for our justification. But it is not yet complete – our appreciation of Christmas. Look even beyond the empty tomb. There you see the mount of ascension. Ah, what a glorious sight it is as Jesus, true God and true Man in glorified body raised His hands in blessing upon His disciples, and ascended to the right hand of His Father from whence He had come. In heaven the child for whom there was no room in the inn, Who in time died the ignominious death upon the cross, but burst the grave restoring life, pleads for us before the Father as our Advocate. Yes, it is He Who according to His own word has prepared our mansion in the heavens. The birth, the cross, the resurrection, and the ascension occurred in space time history. Each event was planned by the Heavenly Father to bring about our salvation. But we encourage you to anticipate with eyes of faith another event that is yet to occur. The child who once came in lowliness will come in exalted state as the glorious Lord to judge the world. He will come to take His children Home. Then finally will be completed the fullness of all that the Father planned in eternity and brought to pass when Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Many will forget Christmas when they pack away the party hats and the decorations. They are to be pitied as they turn back again to the pitiful manifestations of a world obsessed with the shadowy, passing pleasures of life. It is a lonely life for those who use the birth of the Lord Jesus only for their own purpose and who are so short sighted as to be blind to the purpose of His birth. God spare us! Rather may we be among those who as Christ believers see the love of God as a continuum from the Lord's birth to the Lord's return. Truly, then we will know the joy that has no end.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (12/9/2007)

# **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** ✝

➔ **Midweek Advent Worship:** Beginning this Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7 pm, we will hold Midweek Advent worship services with the theme: "Reactions to Jesus' Coming." These services will focus on various characters in the account of Jesus' coming, His birth, and following His birth. Jesus brought us the light of righteousness in the midst of this dark world of sin. We will see how much this meant to the people in Jesus' day and give us perspective on His coming for us today. Our last one on Dec. 17 will be our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm. Join us during this precious time of year to ponder our Savior's coming.



➔ **Hospitality:** Like last year, there will be regular hospitality (instead of luncheons as in past) on December 7, 14, and 21.

➔ **Christmas Meal:** Please join us for a fellowship potluck meal at 6 pm prior to the Candlelight service on Dec. 17. Those attending may bring something to share. Dorcas Guild committee #1 is hosting.

➔ **Christmas Caroling:** We are organizing a schedule for caroling, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, December 21, possibly adding in some care facilities. Please speak with Pastor Hein should you have any desire to sing with us so that he can get an idea as to what the interest is and put together a plan. It is always exciting to be able to make people smile by singing praises about our Savior in this special way.

➔ **Northtown Christmas Concert:** This year the Grace School children will be singing at the Northtown Mall on Fri., Dec. 19, 2:00 pm. They will be located at the inside-of-the-mall entrance to Best Buy. 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 rehearsal schedule:

- Sun., Dec. 7: 11:30 am-1:00 pm (hospitality after worship)
- 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 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.

➔ **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 ...

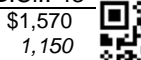
- 1) Liberia Fund: supports special projects related to work in Liberia
- 2) Sanctuary Improvement Fund: supports the current sanctuary project
- 3) Tuition Aid Fund: supports Grace students who attend Immanuel Luth. H.S.
- 4) Living Faith Fund: supports people who are in need, particularly members
- 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:** 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.
- ➔ **Immanuel Recital:** The ILC Piano/Organ Recital will be held Sun., Dec. 14, at 3 pm in the ILC Fieldhouse.
- ➔ **Immanuel Christmas Concert:** The concert is at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire on Fri., Dec. 19, at 7:00 pm. This is always a spiritually edifying concert to help a person focus, even in the midst of the busy holiday season, on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This concert ends the busy finals week for the students as they conclude their first semester of the academic year. We pray the students will safely arrive at their homes in order to enjoy Christmas break with their families.
- ➔ **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>
- ➔ **Appreciation:** Some thank-you cards are posted by Pastor's office from the Grace high school students for the donations to the Tuition Aid Fund to support their Christian education at Immanuel.
- ➔ **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](https://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 Dave Naumann of St. John's Lutheran in Clarkston, WA, and Peace Lutheran in Orofino, ID, has received the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran in Spokane, WA.
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Christmas Eve Personal Recitations

**Welcome** to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with Pastor Hein. He would be delighted to visit with you!

**Facebook Page:** If you're on Facebook, be sure to like or share items that are on the Grace Lutheran Church page. This can help promote the page to others, along with events that we publicize there. The more shares, etc., the more Facebook promotes our church page to others.



| Last Week's Stats: Nov. 23, 2025  |        |                      |      |                     | Sun: 81   | S.S.: 12   | B.Cl.: 43 | QR Code for Online Giving: |
|---|--------|----------------------|------|---------------------|---|------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Week's Offering:  | Grace: | \$5,478              | CLC: | \$1,570             |  |            |           |                            |
| Weekly Need (est.):   | Grace: | 5,100                | CLC: | 1,150               |   |            |           |                            |
| -Under / +Over:   | Grace: | +378                 | CLC: | +420                |   |            |           |                            |
| Year-to-Date Offering:  | Grace: | \$251,417            | CLC: | \$71,566            |   |            |           |                            |
| Year-to-Date Need (est.):   | Grace: | 239,700              | CLC: | 54,050              |   |            |           |                            |
| Difference from Budget (+/-)  | Grace: | +11,717              | CLC: | +17,516             |   |            |           |                            |
| GLC Other:  | 40     | Living Faith:        | 0    | Tuition Aid:        | 195   | Sanctuary: | 50        |                            |
| SAF Endowment:  | 20     | MDF:                 | 0    | Kinship:            | 166   | EduK8:     | 0         |                            |
| ILC Student Aid:  | 0      | ILC Bldg.            | 200  | IIF:                | 0   | CEF:       | 0         |                            |
| Current Balances:   |        | Tuition Aid: \$3,418 |      | Sanctuary: \$16,258 |   |            |           |                            |
| 68 at T-Giving Eve. All numbers are best estimates. Treasurer reports are official. |        |                      |      |                     |   |            |           |                            |



## ✝ TODAY AT GRACE ✝

Organist: **Stephen Kuehne**

Elder: **Frank Radichel**

Ushers: **Al Rosendahl; Kyle Aymond; Kevin Hulke; Jack Maki;  
John Maki; Keith Radichel; Grant Wells**

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

Church Cleaners: **Volunteers?** School: **None**

## ✝ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✝

Ushers: **Al Rosendahl; Kyle Aymond; Kevin Hulke; Jack Maki;  
John Maki; Keith Radichel; Grant Wells**

Counting Team 2: **Kyle Aymond; Dan Degnan; Rick Nelson;  
Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker**

Hospitality Team 1: **Dan & Cindy Degnan; Stephen & Annette  
Kuehne; Larry Nelson; Benno & Barb Sydow**

Church Cleaners: **Volunteers?** School: **Konway**

## ✝ OUR SCHEDULE ✝

- Sun., Nov. 30:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 1)
- Mon., Dec. 1:** Grace School Resumes from Thanksgiving Break
- Wed., Dec. 3:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service
- Thur., Dec. 4:** 2:00 pm – Catechism
- Sun., Dec. 7:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Advent 2)  
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 1)  
11:30 am-1:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- Wed., Dec. 10:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service
- 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 2)  
11:30 am-1:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Concert (Eau Claire, WI)
- Wed., Dec. 17:** 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Meal  
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship Service
- Fri., Dec. 19:** 2:00 pm – Grace School Concert (Northtown Mall by Best Buy)  
7:00 pm – ILC Christmas Concert (Messiah – Eau Claire, WI)
- Sun., Dec. 21:** 8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
3:00 pm – Christmas Caroling (Tentative)
- Wed., Dec. 24:** 6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Thur., Dec. 25:** 10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship Service
- Wed., Dec. 31:** 7:00 pm – New Year's Eve Worship Service