



## **Second Sunday in Advent**

**Morning Prayer Service**

**Grace Episcopal Church  
Galena, Illinois**

**December 5, 2021    10:30am**

### ***Welcome to Grace Church!***

It is, as always, a pleasure and privilege to worship together today. Please know that your presence is valued whether this is your first time at Grace or whether you are a regular, whether we are together in person or online.

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We have chosen to keep our online and in-person congregations together. For those at home on YouTube, links to the bulletin may be found in Friday's e-Blast, the link to YouTube, and on our website. Printed copies will be available for the in-person congregation. If you are worshipping in the church and wish to use a bulletin on your electronic device, you must download it before coming into the church. Please be aware that we are live-streaming this service to YouTube and our website. It is possible that you will be shown briefly in the recording.

#### ***Information:***

**Due to the upsurge in COVID infections and out of concern for those who cannot yet be vaccinated or whose immune systems are compromised, we respectfully request that you wear a mask indoors, regardless of your vaccination status.**

**Social hour will be suspended.**

Masks are required for all singing, whether in the choir or congregation.

Masks and hand sanitizer are available at each entrance for those who need them.

You may be seated in any pew EXCEPT for a section in the rear of the nave reserved for any who wish to maintain distancing. In that area, please sit only where seats are marked by bulletins.

Baskets are located at each entrance for your offerings. If possible, please place them in the baskets prior to the service so they may be dedicated with the other gifts at the offertory.

Communion will be offered—wafer only—at the altar rail.

***Should you become ill after attending worship, please notify the church so that others present may be contacted.***

As life continues to change, let us rejoice in God who continues to be revealed to us and give thanks for our ability to share in worship in hope for the time when all of us can be together again.

*As we prepare ourselves for worship, please sit or kneel in quietness while the prelude is offered.*

## PRELUDE

*Diapason Movement*

*John Stanley*

*We stand as the bell rings, the altar party enters and the Advent Candle is lighted.*

Officiant: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

## OPENING HYMN 75

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness*

*J.L.Milligan/H..H. Bancroft*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(All kneeling.)*

**All:** Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. *Amen.*

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**All:** *Amen.*

## THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*(Standing.)*

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

**People:** And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**All:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
*Amen*

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.

## VENITE

### Psalm 95:1-7

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

COME, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE CANTICLE APPOINTED

*(We read responsively as directed by the lector.)*

### Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah

#### ***Benedictus Dominus Deus***

*Luke 1: 68-79*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \***  
**born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets he promised of old,**

that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers \***  
**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear, \***  
**holy and righteous in his sight**  
**all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation \***  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Lector: A reading from **Malachi 3:1-4**

See, 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. But 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; he 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. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## CANTICLE 15 The Magnificat

**Canticle 15 The Magnificat**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

**He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.**

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.**

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.***

## THE SECOND LESSON

Lector: A reading from **Luke 3:1-6**

In 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, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as 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.  
Every 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;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

## THE SERMON

Rev. Diane Luther

*(Please Stand.)*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

All:

I believe in one God the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He 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, and is seated  
at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.*

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

## EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

### ANNIVERSARY/BIRTHDAY BLESSING

*Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase;  
bless and guide them wherever they may be.*

*Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful;  
raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all  
the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## ANTHEM

*The Yearning*

*C. Courtney*

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief  
And centuries of sorrow.  
There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide,  
A yearning for tomorrow.  
There is a yearning, a yearning for the promised One,  
The Firstborn of creation.  
There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own,  
And by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts the yearning.  
There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing.  
There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts  
the yearning.

## THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

**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.  
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, the power,  
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your Name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today.

R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy;**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Officiant: Let us pray.  
Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: *Amen.*

**A COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE**

Officiant: Let us pray together.

All: **Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Amen.*

**PRAYER FOR THE SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Officiant: Let us pray together.

All: **Almighty God, giver of every good gift: we pray for our Rector Search Committee. Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds and hearts of those who shall seek a new rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.**

*Amen.*

**A PRAYER FOR MISSION**

Officiant: Let us pray.  
O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: *Amen.*

**A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

Officiant: Let us pray together.

All: **Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.**

*Amen.*

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

Officiant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*Prichard/Carter*

*The flowers today are given by the Altar Guild*

## FAQs

(Frequently Asked Questions)

*by Lynn Giles*

### **Are there parish office hours?**

Nancy, Parish Administrator, will be maintaining her schedule of office hours. Lynn Giles, Senior Warden, will be at the Parish House on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 am until 2 pm.

### **Whom do I contact in a pastoral emergency?**

You should contact Lynn Giles, Senior Warden, or Bonnielynn Kreiser, Ministry of Care Coordinator.

### **What will Sunday morning be like?**

On Sunday morning we will have either a Eucharist or a Morning Prayer Service. We will have, as celebrant, Rev. Linda Packard and a variety of supply clergy. The eblast, Grace Happenings, will include information about the upcoming Sunday services. The time will remain 10:30 am. The choir will sing for both Eucharist and Morning Prayer Services.

### **Is the Rota still in place?**

Yes. All the assignments will be basically the same whether the Sunday service is a Eucharist or a Morning Prayer.

### **Will we have a Christmas Eve service?**

Yes, we will celebrate Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm with Rev. Linda Packard.

### **Can we still attend a church service on our computer?**

Yes, but our church services will be live-streamed on YouTube instead of using Zoom. The image and sound is better. The eblast will give you a link to watch the service live or to watch it at a later time on Grace's YouTube channel. You can download the bulletin from the eblast.

### **How do I reach someone at the church if I have questions?**

You can call the Parish Office at (815) 777-2590 and leave a message at any time. The message log will be checked regularly. You may contact either Warden by phone, text or email. You may also email the Parish Office at: [gracesec@gracegalena.org](mailto:gracesec@gracegalena.org).



# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Prayers are Requested. *Please include the following concerns during worship today and throughout the week:***

## **Cycle of Prayer:**

The Most Rev. Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury and for our companion Parishes:  
Glory Parish in the Diocese of Renk and La Santa Cruz parish in the Diocese of SE Mexico.

## **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Paula, our Bishop-Elect; Chilton, our Assisting Bishop;  
and all members of Grace Church.

## **We pray for those who are sick or in need:**

Leila (Anwar), Mary (Bennett), Barbara (Bolsen), \*Bob (Burton), Rose (Buttall), Bishop-Elect Paula (Clark),  
\*Kathy (Doig), Matthew (Dowe), \*Renee (Dowe), \*Al (Elsbree), Greg (Elsbree), Eunice (Ferguson),  
\*Jennie (Fjelde), Janet (Groezinger), \*Barb (Hooper), Maria (Kallback), Ginger (Komiskey),  
Verity (Liljedahl), \*Elizabeth (Ludescher), Terry (Maglich), Liam (Malone), \*Diann & \*Robert (Marsh),  
JoAnn (Mikelson), \*Mary (Nelson), Tom Nelson, Ruth (Niendorf), \*Bill (Norton), \*Rev. Linda (Packard),  
Carol & Roger (Peterson), Bernie (Pint), Anne (Poston), Lanise (Sanders), \*Greg (Serwich),  
\*Karen (Serwich), Melody (Serwich), \*Mary Lou (Smith), Emma (Storey), \*Pat (Terry), Joe (Watts),  
Ashley (Winess), Paulette (Zais), Mina, Patricia, and Robyn.

## **We give thanks for the many blessings we have received:**

Max (Vollkommer) and Matthew (Morel) serving in the military; the birthdays of Joyce (Davis),  
\*Bill (Boehler), \*Dave (Mikelson), \*Mary Lou (Smith) and \*Carol (Most); our Outreach partners: the  
United Thank Offering, the Galena ARC, the United Churches Food Pantry, Episcopal Relief and  
Development, Shelter Care Ministries, Dubuque Rescue Mission and all who worship in this place and  
those who have not yet walked through these doors.

**We pray for those who have died, especially Andrew McClean and Beverly Haase.**

**and remember the anniversary of the deaths of:**

Dorothy Grenier, Earl Lind, Eugene Berningham and Virginia Merton.

# Ministers of the Service

\* Members and Guests, *Celebrants*  
\* Rev. Diane Luther, *Preacher*  
\* Tom Van Gelder, *Officiant*  
\* Greg Serwich, *Lector*  
\* Charlotte Stryker, *Greeter*

\* Robin French, *Music Director*  
\* Nancy Cook, *Erben Organist*  
\* Eric Kallback, *Vestry Coordinator*  
\* Ann Berry & Amy Hardwicke  
*Altar Guild*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*for the week of December 5th, 2021*

## **Christmas Family Adoption 2021**

- Boy age 12: Clothing size Adult Large, Pants 36x32, Socks, Books, movies, Video Games,
- Boy age 10: Clothing size Medium, Pants-18, Books, Art Activities, Wrestling, Socks
- Boy age 5: Clothing size 4-5 L Ninja Turtles, Legos, Cars/Trucks, Socks
- Dad: Size 2XL, movies, games for family,
- Mom: Size 3XL, household kitchen items

**Household Items:** Cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, dish soap, shampoo, body wash, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, washcloths, or anything else you would like to donate. There will be a donation box in the Narthex.

**Holiday Dinner Basket:** Green Beans, Corn, Potatoes (instant or real), Scalloped Au Gratin Potatoes, Corn Bread Mix, Stuffing Mix, Macaroni & Cheese or any other holiday menu item, Holiday Plates and Napkins

**Deadline for donations is Sunday, December 12th.**

Questions? Please contact Teresa Burke, (608) 732-8628, or [tmb2000@hotmail.com](mailto:tmb2000@hotmail.com)

*Thank you in advance for your support in this annual project!*

## **Heifer Project**

It's Advent! For over 20 years, Grace Church has been supporting Heifer International, a charity that provides animals and training to people everywhere to end poverty and hunger, create sustainable futures, empower women, improve the environment, and strengthen communities. Please make your checks payable to Grace Church and note "Heifer" on the bottom. Ask for a gift card if you would like to give someone on your Christmas list the gift of helping to end hunger.

## **Pledging for 2022**

If you did not bring your pledge on Sunday, November 21st, you may put it in the collection plate on Sunday, December 5th or mail it to the church office. It would be helpful if all the pledges were received by **December 6th**.

## **Search Committee:**

Small group conversations are completed. The Search Committee will tabulate all the ideas gathered.

## **Ministry of Care**

Because of the many volunteers willing to help out with calls, rides, errands, meals, etc., the Ministry of Care won't miss a beat while our search for a new rector is ongoing. Please don't hesitate to contact Bonnielynn Kreiser at 815-777-1468 or 815-291-9005 if you are in need. Also know that our clergy are available to meet your spiritual needs as well.

## **Poinsettia Orders**

There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall entry and in the Narthex for Poinsettia Orders for Christmas. The plants are \$15.00 each. Any questions, please call or email Ann Berry,

**Social Hour** has been suspended due to COVID upsurge.

**Zoom Poetry Meeting** A Zoom Poetry group is meeting on Mondays at 2:00pm. If you are interested, write Carol Poston at [poston@sxu.edu](mailto:poston@sxu.edu) or call her at **815-777-0220** to receive information about the meeting.

**Service of Compline** is Tuesday, December 7th at 8:30pm on Zoom.

**Mid-Week Morning Worship** is this Wednesday, December 8th, at 7:30am in the church and online.

**Wednesday Morning Study Group** will meet next at 10:00 am, Wednesday, December 8th both in the Parish Hall and, for those not able or wanting to attend in person, on Zoom. We are a group that studies spiritual subjects, including the Bible. All are welcome to join us to enhance their knowledge of spirituality and explore how to apply it to their lives. Currently we are studying the Gospel of Luke. Meetings (in the Parish Hall and on Zoom) begin at 10:00 a.m. (Those in the Parish Hall need to wear a mask.) Anyone needing a Zoom invitation can contact Greg Serwich ([gserwich@gmail.com](mailto:gserwich@gmail.com)).

**Meditative Prayer** meets Friday, December 10th, at 9:00am online. You are welcome to join, and gentle guidance will be provided for those unfamiliar with this practice.

**Scripture Readings for December 12, 2021**  
***Third Sunday of Advent***

Zephaniah 3:14-20	Luke 3:7-18
Philippians 4:4-7	Canticle 9

**Music Copyright Information:**

*Diapason Movement; John Stanley*  
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grace episcopal church  
galena, illinois

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop-Elect of Chicago  
The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev. Linda Packard, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Diane Luther, Deacon  
Nancy Kenney, Parish Administrator

vestry

Lynn Giles  
Jim Berry

Sr. Warden  
Treasurer

Richard Luther  
Crystal Mason

Jr. Warden  
Clerk

Charlotte Stryker (2019-22)

Nancy Cook (2020-23)

Crystal Mason (2021-24)

Elizabeth Ludescher (2019-22)

Eric Kallback (2020-23)

Phil Jackman (2021-24)

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