

Second Sunday in Advent



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 9, 2012



**830 N. First Ave
Tucson, AZ 85719**

Worshiping Sunday Morning
at 7:45 & 10:00

Welcome to Grace!

Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.



**9950 E. Rees Loop
Tucson, AZ 85747**

Worshiping Sunday Morning
at 10:00

www.GraceTucsonWELS.com

As We Gather

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord and the Savior of all mankind. We are delighted that you have chosen to spend this hour of worship with us and pray that your faith will be strengthened and your spirit lifted as we exalt the Lord our God.

A Prayer Before Worship

Lord God, Ruler of heaven and earth, cleanse our lives and purify our hearts so that your Son, the King of glory, may come in and lead us rejoicing to your heavenly city, where with the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Few Notes About Our Service

The Order of Worship

God does not restrict us to specific orders of worship. We are free to worship him in many different ways. From ancient times Christians have chosen to use a "liturgy" to guide them in worship. The word "liturgy" means service. Liturgies are orders of worship which provide a solemn setting for songs and expressions of praise, repentance of sins, attentiveness to God's word, public profession of our faith, prayer, and support for his kingdom.

The Purpose of Worship

Preaching the gospel is the chief purpose of worship at Grace Lutheran Church. It is through the gospel that the Holy Spirit works faith in a believer's heart (Romans 10:17). It is not only the pastor that preaches the gospel in his sermon message, but the entire congregation. We proclaim the gospel in the songs we sing, the words we say, and even in our standing and sitting. If you would like to know more about our worship practices, please speak with the pastor after the service.

Advent—A Time to Wait

Sometimes perhaps, but not always. Especially not now at the beginning of a new church year. It's Advent again, that perennial four-week season of the year that Christians set aside to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Advent is a Latin word that means "coming." Coming implies waiting. Advent is an invitation to wait—quietly, patiently, expectantly, joyfully—not only to remember a Savior who has come, but one who will come again.

MORNING PRAISE FOR ADVENT

This order of service is based on the historic order for morning praise known as Matins. This contemporary setting is from Christian Worship: New Service Settings.

WELCOME

HYMN

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful *Christian Worship #55, stanza 1*

Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
come ye, oh, come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels. Oh,
come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh,
come, let us a - dore him, — Christ — the Lord.

STAND

RESPONSIVE SENTENCES

L: Leader C: Congregation

L O Lord, o - pen my lips.

C And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

L Hasten to save me, O God.

C O Lord, come quickly to help me.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Congregation sings the refrain and verses.

Refrain

Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,

let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;

come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,

come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

Verses

1. You are a great and a wondrous God,
 2. Come, let us worship and, bow - ing low,
 cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
 kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.
 You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
 You are the God whom we call our own,
to Refrain
 you made the seas and the dry land.
 we are the flock that you shep - herd.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

“See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap.

Malachi 3:1-4

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years. (NIV)

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

PSALM 63

Please join in singing the refrain. Repeat the refrain after the vocalists sing each verse.

Refrain

In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
 sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
 you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

1. O God, you are my God; for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. **Refrain**
2. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **Refrain**
3. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON

I Corinthians 4:1-5

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. My conscience is clear, but that

does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. (NIV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 3:4,6 (cf. NIV)

L: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia.

STAND

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching

a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.'" (NIV)

BE SEATED

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Christian Worship #16

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift

es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
 nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
 uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
 us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on

for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings.
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.

5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
 Whose advent has our freedom won,
 Whom with the Father we adore
 And Holy Spirit evermore.

SERMON

Malachi 3:1-4

Who Can Endure the Day of His Coming?

Copies of the sermon are available in the back at the information table and will be posted on the Grace website.

“A Prophet’s Perspective”

- ◇ 12/2 – Jeremiah’s Righteous Branch
- ◇ 12/9 – Malachi’s Messenger
- ◇ 12/16 – Nehemiah’s Revival
- ◇ 12/23 – Micah’s Peace

STAND

SONG OF ZECHARIAH



1. Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes in love and
2. Re - mem - ber - ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from
3. In ten - der mer - cy God will send The Day - spring from on



pow'r, Who rais - es from the roy - al house De -
fear, That we might serve in ho - li - ness And
high, Our ris - ing sun, the light of life For



liv - 'rance in this hour. Through ho - ly proph - ets
peace from year to year; And you, my child, shall
those who sit and sigh. God comes to guide our



God has sworn To free us from a - larm, To
go be - fore To preach, to proph - e - sy, That
way to peace That death shall reign no more, Sing



save us from the heav - y hand Of all who wish us harm.
all may know the ten - der love, The grace of God most high.



prais - es to the Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank You!

STAND



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

L In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you;
be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYERS

L: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

L: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and reaffirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy. Fill us instead with the joy and peace of the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ your Son. Direct our eyes both to the manger and to the skies, where we will see Jesus coming again in glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Special prayers may be included here.

L: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Christians stand for congregational prayer showing the freedom of God's children to come boldly into his presence. The Christian theologian Augustine (400 AD) adds, "We pray standing...as a sign of the Resurrection."

Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

*The Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is a unique communion of Christ and the individual believer as well as a coming together of people who hold to the same beliefs. Because of these Scriptural truths, we practice **Member Communion** at Grace. Those who are confirmed members of Wisconsin Synod congregations (WELS) are invited to receive the Lord's Supper with us.*

If you are not a WELS member but have an interest in receiving Holy Communion, please speak with one of our pastors after church today or at another time. We are aware that there are a number of other teachings about Holy Communion, and we want it to be a blessing for you, so we would look forward to sharing with you what God says about this Sacrament.

STAND



L Let us praise the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



L The Lord bless and keep you.



C A - men.



L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



C A - men.



L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

BE SEATED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

When All the World Was Cursed
Christian Worship #20

1 When all the world was cursed By Mo - ses' con - dem - na - tion,
 2 Be - fore Saint John was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who bears the world's trans - gres - sion,
 4 Oh, grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,

Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.
 Con - fess - ing him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.
 Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.
 The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pent - ance voic - ing,

With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er one he named,
 By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,
 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,
 That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way

And him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.
 He tes - ti - fied of him Whom proph - ets had fore - told.
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.
 Un - til we live with him In his e - ter - nal day.

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Grace-Vail Announcements and Upcoming Events

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leader Pastor Colin Rieke
Accompanist Jonathan Rovey
Vocalists Pastor Rieke & Sue Sargent
Sound & Recording Tech Christian Watson

Worshiping at
9950 E. Rees Loop
Tucson, AZ 85747
9:00 AM—Bible Class &
Sunday School
10:00 AM—Worship
Service

Phone: 343-9881

Pastor:

Colin M. Rieke
revcmr@gracetucsonwels.com

Read Ahead for Next Sunday:

Nehemiah 8:9-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Help with Take-Down and Clean-Up

If you have extra time following the service and would like to help break down the worship area and put equipment away, it would be appreciated. The more hands we have helping, the faster it gets done. Please speak with Pastor Rieke or Jason Watson (the guy working the sound table) if you have questions.

Nursery Available

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Therefore, we welcome children in our worship service. If, however, you feel the need to calm or feed your young children, we do have a nursery available. Follow the signs through the south entrance doors to find it.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Grace Lutheran Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular and special offerings. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. When holidays, travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Online Giving lets you go to www.gracetucsonwels.com at any time to set up an automatic offering plan, change your offering plan, make a one-time offering or view your online offering history. You can also access the online giving page by using your smart phone to scan the image you see to the right:

If you prefer, you may also enroll in online giving by completing an authorization form available in the church narthex, office and fellowship hall.



Grace-University Announcements and Upcoming Events



Grace Students in ALA Concert

Arizona Lutheran Academy will present their annual Christmas Concert this Friday at 7:00 PM. Five Grace students at ALA will be part of that concert: Nathanael Dyjak, Tyler Koehler, Sarah Oberhofer, James Pauley, and Ariana Weinstein. ALA is located at 6036 S. 27th Avenue in Phoenix.

The concert will also be streamed live online at www.alacotyotes.org.

Zanotti Christmas Party

Members of Grace are invited to the home of Shirley & Tony Zanotti (7847 E. Jack Oak Road) this Friday, December 14 at 5:30 PM for a Christmas party. Food and drinks will be provided. **Please RSVP by this Tuesday, December 11 to the Zanottis (722-7036).**

Upcoming Voters' Meeting

The next voters' meeting is Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 PM. Pastor and Council reports can be found on the Grace-Vail welcome table. The report keeps members informed and helps voters prepare for the meeting. Included in the reports are a proposed 2013 Ministry & Spending Plan and the candidates nominated for Church Council positions.

Christmas Cantata

Next Sunday, December 16 at 7:00 PM the Grace Worship Choir will present "Shout the Good News!" This work shares the Christmas message in Scripture and song. Join us in the Grace Fellowship Hall for a lasagna dinner at 5:00 PM before the concert. Dinner is served until about 6:30 PM. The concert will begin at 7:00 in the Church. You are invited to contribute to a freewill offering. The offering will be used to offset the cost of the dinner and of this and future musical performances. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall and on the Grace-Vail welcome table for anyone who would like to help with various aspects of the dinner.



Advent Services and Suppers

Midweek Advent Services will be held on December 12 and 19 at Grace-University at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. *Advent Through the Fathers' Eyes* is our theme as we consider the Savior's coming into the world through the eyes of God the Father and Jesus' earthly father, Joseph. These services are designed to help us prepare our hearts for the celebration of our Savior's birth on Christmas.

You are invited to join your brothers and sisters in Christ for supper at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall prior to each of these services.

**830 N. First Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719**

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Music Coordinator:

Beth Kassulke
music@gracetucsonwels.com

This Week at Grace (12/9/12 - 12/16/12)

Grace—University

TODAY

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children’s Sunday School 8:45a
 Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study*..... 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study:
 • *The Life of Christ: Jesus’ Miracles* (Fellowship Hall)..... 9:00a
 WELS TCM Bible Study: *The Trinity* 7:00p

Monday

English as a Second Language Classes 6:30p

Tuesday

Handbell Practice 5:30p
 English as a Second Language Classes 6:30p

Wednesday

Midweek Advent Worship 10:00a
 Wind Ensemble 11:00a
 Advent Supper in Fellowship Hall..... 6:00p
 Midweek Advent Worship 7:00p

Thursday

Women’s Bible Study: *Philippians* 9:00a
 Worship Choir 6:30p

Friday

Zanotti Christmas Party 5:30p
 ALA Christmas Concert 7:00p

Saturday

Children's Christmas Eve Service Rehearsal 9:00a-12:00p
 Worship Choir Practice at Grace 1:30p

Sunday

Worship Services/Communion 7:45 & 10:00a
 Coffee Fellowship following both services
 Children’s Sunday School 8:45a
 Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
 Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study*..... 9:00a
 Adult Bible Study:
 • *The Life of Christ: Jesus’ Miracles* (Fellowship Hall)..... 9:00a
 Lasagna Dinner in the Fellowship Hall..... 5:00p
 Worship Choir Cantata in the Sanctuary 7:00p

Grace—Vail

TODAY

Bible Study & Discussion 9:00a
 Sunday School 9:00a
 Worship Service/Communion 10:00a
 "Meet & Greet" Fellowship..... after worship

Monday

Bible Study at Vail Golf Club: *Book of Acts*..... 9:30a

Thursday

Financial Peace University at Cottonwood Elem 7:00p

Sunday

Bible Study & Discussion 9:00a
 Sunday School 9:00a
 Worship Service 10:00a
 "Meet & Greet" Fellowship..... after worship



[www.facebook.com/
GraceTucsonWELS](http://www.facebook.com/GraceTucsonWELS)

Winter Visitors

If you are staying in Tucson for the Winter, please include your local address and phone number in the Friendship Register (located in the red folder at the end of the row). We are glad to have you with us, and we invite and encourage you to participate in the congregational activities here at Grace while you are in town. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church please contact Pastor Clemons in the church office, 623-6633.

Caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab

The Grace Extension Group is going caroling at Sabino Canyon Rehab on Sunday, December 23 at 1:00 PM and invites everyone to join them! Sabino Canyon Rehab is located at 5830 East Pima Street. Plan to arrive a few minutes early. We hope you will join us!

Support the Lifeliners

The Lifeliners, members of our high school youth group, are selling Entertainment Coupon Books (\$30) and Bible Verse Calendars (\$8 or 2 for \$15). Entertainment Book sales will conclude today, so be sure to contact Pastor Kassulke if you would like one at 623-6633. Calendars will be sold while supplies last. All proceeds support Lifeliner activities.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Midweek Advent Services

Wednesday, December 12, 19
at 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM
with a supper at 6:00 PM.

Christmas Day Festival Worship

Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 AM at
both Grace-University and Grace-Vail.

Christmas Eve Children's Service

Monday, December 24 at 7:00 PM at
Grace-University. No service at Grace-Vail.

New Year's Eve Worship

Monday, December 31 at 7:00 PM at
Grace-University. No service at Grace-Vail.

WELS TCM Bible Study Tonight

WELS Tucson Campus Ministry will be meeting tonight at 7:00 PM in the Student Center located in the Grace-University basement. The topic will be *The Trinity*. We invite all college students and others of approximately college age to join us.

Tuition Tax Credit

Students from Grace at Redeemer Lutheran School and Arizona Lutheran Academy have received over \$24,000 this year in tuition tax credit awards. You can help support Lutheran education and receive a credit on your Arizona state income taxes (up to \$503 per person and up to your income tax liability). Donations made to the HELP Scholarship Foundation before the end of the year will be awarded to students in early spring. Please make use of this program if you are able to do so. If you have any questions, please speak to Stephanie Weinstein (623-3759) or one of the pastors. **Pick up a flyer and a donation form brochure in the Fellowship Hall.** New this year, if you have further tax liability, you may be able to donate an additional \$500 per person to the "Plus" scholarship program and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit. Donations to HELP may be recommended for one of the students from Grace.

Grace currently supports 11 of our active members who are students enrolled at Redeemer and 6 at ALA.

Scrip Now Available Here at Vail!

Do you spend money? Of course you do. Do you buy groceries, go out to eat, buy gifts, gas for your vehicle, travel? We all do. If you already spend the money, why not have a percentage of it donated to Christian education or our congregation at no additional cost to you? Does it sound too good to be true? There is a way to do it and it is called **Scrip!** The Arizona Lutheran Academy (ALA) Scrip Program was set up to raise money for ALA and other Arizona WELS schools and churches and is used by many of our churches all over the state. How does it work? You buy gift cards from our Scrip representatives for the stores, restaurants, hotels, or airlines at which you want to shop. Use the cards to make your purchases. It's that easy! The hardest part is remembering to do it and knowing what you want in advance. Our scrip reps try to make it easy for you. They have lists available for you to choose your retailers. They have many cards on hand and have them available each Sunday or you can meet up with them during the week. They will work with you to help you get what you want. Grace has three Scrip Representatives. Vic & Lois Thornton and Debbie Koehler sell at our University site and **Jen Watson sells at our Vail site.** We are all trying to make our money go farther and we are not asking you to spend extra money. Plan ahead, use Scrip and help raise money for Christian Education and our congregation. If you have questions please ask!

