

**DECEMBER 15, 2024
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**



® THE
**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
Missouri Synod

**Sunday Worship
9:00AM
Sunday School
& Bible Class
10:30AM**

Rev Ryan J. Ogradowicz
Senior Pastor
pastoro@glcsbren.org

Rev. Isaac S. Schuller
Associate Pastor
Headmaster
pastorschuller@glsbrenham.com

Rev. William H. Holzer
Associate Pastor
Visitation
pastorholzer@sbcglobal.net

*“Go and tell John the things you
have seen and heard...”*



Grace Lutheran Church and School
1212 West Jefferson
Brenham, Texas 77833
www.glcsbren.org

Church: (979)-836-3475 School: (979)-836-2030
“Caring For People By Connecting Them With Christ Jesus”

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN as we gather for worship of our loving God, who spared not His own Son, but put Him upon the cross in payment for our sins. May all that we give and receive this day resound to His honor and glory. Members and especially GUESTS are urged to complete the registration card located in the pew rack. If you are visiting with us, we cordially invite your return. Our Pastors will be happy to speak with you.

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE – LSB page 151
+ In Nomine Jesu +

The Sacrament of the Altar will be celebrated today. Grace Lutheran practices closed communion, for God's Word teaches and we believe that communicants receive the very body and the very blood of Jesus in, with, and under the bread and wine. God's Word also teaches and we believe that one who eats and drinks while denying the real presence and the benefits and blessings of the Sacrament, eats and drinks judgment upon himself. As the Christian Church is charged with the responsibility of "stewardship of the mysteries of God," we therefore ask that all who are not communicant members of Grace Lutheran please speak with one of our Pastors before communing. Our Pastors will assist you in becoming a communicant member through instruction in all the articles of faith, give you opportunity to publicly confirm your faith, and shepherd you as a member in good standing of this congregation. Those guests who are members in good stead of a sister Missouri Synod congregation and have previously spoken to our Pastors need only sign a communion card which is located in the pew. We trust that all will respect God's Word and our practice in accordance with its teachings.

THE PRELUDE

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

"I'm But a Stranger Here"

748

THE DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE (Left Column)

page 151

The Introit (*Psalm 146:5-8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*)

P: Rejoice in the LORD always;

C: **Again I will say, Rejoice.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

C: **Whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

P: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

C: **Who keeps faith forever;**

P: Who executes justice for the oppressed,

C: **Who gives food to the hungry.**

P: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

C: **The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

All: Glory be 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.

P: Rejoice in the LORD always;

C: Again I will say, Rejoice.

The Kyrie

page 152-153

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

page 156

The Lessons and Responses

page 156-157

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all *your* heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your judgments, He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, *is* in your midst; you shall see disaster no more.¹⁶ In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.”¹⁷ The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet *you* with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”¹⁸ “I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, who are among you, *To whom* its reproach *is* a burden.”¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all who afflict you; I will save the lame, and gather those who were driven out; I will appoint them for praise and fame in every land where they were put to shame.²⁰ At that time I will bring you back, even at the time I gather you; For I will give you fame and praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I return your captives before your eyes,” says the LORD.

THE ANTHEM

“Savior of the Nations, Come”
(B.E. Austin)

GLS Handbell Ensemble

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the LORD always. Again I will say, rejoice!⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The LORD *is* at hand.⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 7:18-35

¹⁸ Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. ¹⁹ And John, calling two of his disciples to *him*, sent *them* to Jesus, saying, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?”²⁰ When the men had come to Him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, ‘Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?’”²¹ And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight.²² Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that *the* blind see, *the* lame walk, *the* lepers are cleansed, *the* deaf hear, *the* dead are raised, *the* poor have the gospel preached to them. ²³ And blessed is *he* who is not offended because of Me.”²⁴ When the messengers

of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵ But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶ But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is *he* of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.’²⁸ For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” ²⁹ And when all the people heard *Him*, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.³¹ And the LORD said, “To what then shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying: We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; We mourned to you, and you did not weep.’³³ For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ ³⁴ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ ³⁵ But wisdom is justified by all her children.”

THE HYMN OF THE DAY	<i>“Entrust Your Days and Burdens”</i>	# 754
THE SERMON		Luke 7:18-35
	- Pastor May	
The Nicene Creed		page 158
The Prayer of the Church		
THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT		page 160
The Sanctus-Prayer of Thanksgiving		page 161
The LORD’s Prayer – The Words of Our LORD		page 162
The Pax Domini – Agnus Dei		page 163
The Distribution		
THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	<i>“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”</i>	# 686
	<i>“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”</i>	# 683
The Post-Communion Canticle – Thank the LORD		page 164
The Post-Communion Collect – Benediction		page 166
THE CLOSING HYMN	<i>“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”</i>	# 709
THE POSTLUDE		

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Elders – George Breland, Fred Hein, Darrell Meier, Allan Moses

Acolyte – Wyatt Lunsford

Usher Team – Heath Byrd

Organist – Rev. Lee Kunkel

Altar Guild Assistants – Diane Young (Communion Ware)

Barbara Maurer & Bev Jaster (Parameters)



From
the
Pastor

Every Pastor worth his salt seeks to know the condition of his flock. Please make sure to inform the church office of any health-related issues in need of Pastoral care.

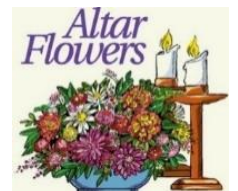
It is a blessed opportunity and privilege to serve the true Body and Blood of Christ to those saints unable to approach the altar. God continues to bring such saints to Grace. Therefore, we humbly ask worshipers to consider leaving the back row open for those needing Holy Communion brought to them in the Divine Service.



Third Sunday
of Advent

During the Advent Season, we again see the Advent wreath decorating the sanctuary. One candle is lit each week as we prepare for the celebration of our LORD's coming at His birth. May God bless your preparation to celebrate the birth of our Savior and LORD.

The Altar Flowers Today are given today by R.D. & Ginny Morrison in thankfulness for God's blessing of their marriage and of their children, grandchildren and great grandchild. The Morrises are using flowers belonging to the Altar Guild and making a donation to the Altar Guild in lieu of the cost of fresh flowers.



Today's Radio Broadcast has been sponsored anonymously "To spread the Gospel". The Sunday broadcast can be heard at 12:30 p.m. over KWHI 1280 AM.

Contribution envelopes for 2025 are available for you to pick up. They are located on a table in the Narthex hallway. To avoid confusion, please do not use these envelopes until January of 2025.



Practice for the Sunday School Christmas Eve Program will be held **Today**, 12/15/24 at 4:00 p.m. and then again on 12/22 in the Sanctuary. All Sunday School aged children of the congregation are encouraged to participate. Parental help and support are greatly appreciated.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: Philippians 4:5–6 “The LORD is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Wouldn't you like to be free from worry and anxiety? Isn't it worry and anxiety that often keep us from living the generous life God has called us to? St. Paul contrasts anxiety with prayer, supplication and thanksgiving in making our requests known to God. In other words, when you are tempted to anxiety and worry, pray to the LORD with a thankful heart and pour out your supplications before Him.

Men's Bible Breakfast is held on Tuesdays at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Pastor Ogradowicz is responsible for breakfast this week. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.



**Plan to attend the Mid-Week Advent Worship and
GLS Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 18**

“Grace at Christmas”

presented by
the Grace Lutheran School students
at

10:00am & 7:00pm



The last day to make contributions to be included on your 2024 contribution statement will be December 29. After that day all contributions will show up as 2025.

A Special Church Council Meeting & Voters' Assembly Meeting will be held on Monday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively. Items on the agenda are election of officers and board members, and approval of the budget for 2025.

Annual Report Information... It is once again time to gather information to be included in the Annual Report of the congregation. All boards, organizations and committees of the church should submit information to the Church office by Monday, January 13th. Reports may be emailed to carol@glcsbren.org.

The next Men's Club will be on JANUARY 28, 2025. It will be Sausage and Pancakes. Please bring FRUIT Toppings, Hors d'oeuvres & desserts.





Please plan to join us on Christmas Eve
at 6:00 p.m. for the Sunday School Christmas Program

Birthdays This Week:

- Today 12/15 – Noah Beisert
- Mon. 12/16 – Shirley Paetz, Sonny Schultz, Jan Taylor
- Tues. 12/17 - Jaxon Elliott, Onis Finke
- Wed. 12/18 – Patricia Jacobs
- Thurs. 12/19 – Florence Boehnemann, Rowdy Kramer, Hilliary Poehlmann
- Fri. 12/20 – Wilma Boeker, Karen Hart, Laura Raitz
- Sat. 12/21 – Sheila Green



Coffee and Doughnuts:



- Today – Holzer & Moses families
- Next Sunday – Dixie, Casey, Teresa & Molly Voskamp

ATTENDANCE

December 8: 283

Sunday School: 25 Teachers/Staff: 8 YABC: 4 ABC: 75 Visitors:

OFFERING

General Fund - \$ 12,853.00	Building Fund - \$ 65.00
Radio Ministry - \$ 85.00	Memorials - \$ 225.00
Missions - \$ 535.00	Other – \$ 6,225.00



Grace Lutheran Church

- In Memory of Darren Hinze given by Robert & Sandra Nobles
- In Memory of Teddy Boehm given by Randy & Rhonda Seward

Grace Lutheran School

- In Memory of Darlene Herrmann given by Ronnie & Judy Haevischer
- In Memory of Darren Hinze given by Larry & Debbie Hintz, Dixie Voskamp, Kenny & Ann Muchow
- In Memory of Leonard Finke given by Dixie Voskamp

Grace Lutheran Building Fund

- In Memory of Delores Gaskamp given by Delphine & Sandra Addicks
- In Memory of Emery Schulze given by Delphine & Sandra Addicks
- In Memory of Roy Schroeder given by Delphine & Sandra Addicks
- In Memory of Herbert Rust given by Jimmie & Barbara Maurer

You Have a Place at Grace

“Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers” 2 Corinthians 6:14

The word “yoked” signifies a relationship beyond just casual encounters and evangelism. Paul operated in pagan climates, a Jew engaging the Gentiles, and wasn't ignorant of real-world, vocational responsibilities pressing us into interactions with unbelievers. Indeed, we're “in the world, not of the world,” and this means engagements with those not like ourselves. We can, however, be smart with whom we associate, call our friends, and form relationships difficult to break, the most vivid example being marriage. It's probably wrong to treat this verse too narrowly, saying it only applies to this or that type of relationship. Better it is to see it as an overarching principle for the Church governing our relationships in the world. There's always a line, and we pray God shows it and guards us before being strapped to a yoke not easily undone.

Monasteries originated from Christian missionaries establishing cells, pockets of believers ultimately sanctioned by the church and supported as institutions of spreading the Word, serving the needy, and sacred teaching. Overtime bishops would emerge from these communities fostering simple lives of self-denial, labor, and a deep study and contemplation of Holy Scripture. From an evangelism standpoint, monasteries served a valuable purpose in expanding the Word to pagans and Christianizing large groups of people once living in darkness. These monastic Christians weren't yoking themselves to unbelievers but seeking sinners under the gentle yoke of Christ. However, by Luther's era, monasteries were a mess. The Lutheran Confessions state: “if these institutions will not serve this purpose [teaching and education], it is better to abandon them or tear them down than have their blasphemous, humanly invented services regarded as something better than the ordinary Christian life and the offices and callings ordained by God.” The very places once separated from the world were now yoked to it.

“And be separate, says the Lord, Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you” (2 Cor. 6:17). This can't be waved away as obsolete when Paul quotes it to the Corinthians. Separate from evil whenever possible, stay away from sin, flee idolatry. We should, as Paul writes “cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” We know from the Gospels where to find such purity, the same Source to Whom Paul appeals and preaches, calling people to repent and believe in Christ crucified and risen from the dead, the One sent to save, wash, and deliver, the One Who still speaks His Word bringing faith to our hearts and strengthening filthy sinners with His Word: “already you are clean because of the Word I have spoken to you” (John 15:3). Jesus wants you to Himself. “Take My yoke up on you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matt.11:29).

-by Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz,
You Have a Place at Grace – 12/15/24

Grace Lutheran Prayer Concerns For Church and Home



Members are encouraged to pray for each of the individuals on this list both in the times we gather together for worship and in our daily prayers.

“I urge first of all that, requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.... This is good and pleases God our Savior.” – 1 Timothy 2:1&3

Members of Grace who are hospitalized, ill, or have on-going needs

Recovering at home: Stan Standlee, shoulder replacement - successful surgery; Diane Merkel, knee

Prayers for wisdom and peace: for Allan & Colleen Symmank and their whole family as they make tough decisions regarding Allan's father



Prayers for Healing: Mary Ann Hrnicko; Linda Tarver; Ruth Duvall; Shirley Paetz; Geraldine Gloyna; Pastor Jacobs; Amelia Jones; Bonnie Wellmann; Nancy Boecker, macular degeneration of the eyes

On-going Needs: Shirley Boeker, Glenn Brenner, Russell Chambers, Onis Finke, Clarence Gaskamp, Butch & Ann Goldberg, Hanson family loved ones, Donald Hendrickson, Richard Jacobs, Karen Markwardt, Diane Merkel, Benjamin Moerbe, Kenneth Muchow, Blake Sacre, Marilyn Schroeder, Lisa Steck, Vernell Thane; August Degner

Members of Grace in Nursing Homes or Homebound

Nelly Barby, Florence Boehnemann, B.Y. Boeker, Russell Chambers, David Diver, Kurt Duvall, Ruth Duvall, Geraldine Gloyna, Reuben & Darlene Grassl, Al Novosad, Laura Raitz, Harold Rietz, Lee Rogge, Sonny Schulte, Dorine Stoelke, Linda Tarver, Edy McCoy





Those Who are Serving our Country
in the Armed Forces

- Lt. Col. Matthew Moerbe – son of Mark & Anita Moerbe;
U.S. Air Force, stationed at the Pentagon
- LTC Erich Roberts – son of David & Rose Roberts;
U. S. Army, stationed at Ft. Moore, GA
- Senior Airman Trenton Rylee Rutledge – grandson of Freddie & Linda Wellmann;
U.S. Air Force; now in North Dakota
- PFC Riley Baugh – grandson of Pastor & Tina Holzer;
U. S. Army, stationed at Ft. Bliss, TX
- SSGT Terrell Felder – son of Larry Felder;
U. S. Air Force, stationed at Goodfellow AFB, TX
- Cole Frazier – grandson of Tom & Doris Magee;
Offutt AFB, Nebraska
- 2LT Ivan R. Degner – grandson of August & Jo Ann Degner;
is serving in the 11th ACR at Ft. Irwin, CA.
- Sloan Snead – granddaughter of Allan & Colleen Symmank,
Navy Medic, stationed in Jacksonville, Florida (right now)
- SN Dylan James Hicks – grandson of James & Karen Studhalter
Just finished boot camp for Navy, stationed in Great Lakes, IL

Those Serving in the Mission Field Abroad

- Rev. Charles St-Onge & Family,
Rev. Samuel Bobby & Family serving in Latvia,
Rev. Micah Wildauer & Family,
Pastor James May and family serving in Kenya with Lutherans in Africa



Friends of our Congregation



Elaine King – niece of Billie Rogas
Harris Kubos, Jr. and Toni Navarre – friends of Eunice Drews
Blanche McMullen – sister-in-law of Billie Rogas
Tim Andrews – neighbor of Knodt's & Roberts'
Regan, Lesley & Beckett Adams – cousins of Joe Green
Marjorie Schroeder, sister; Janis Stayton, sister-in-law; Rick Hammitt, nephew (ALS);
 Travis Bartay, grandson (Diabetes I) – relatives of Shirley Boeker
Brynley Frazier – great-granddaughter of Magee's
Carolyn Zibilski, Mark Marburger, Dean Winkelmann, Scott Hodde
 – friends of the Johnnie & Marilyn Schroeder
Betty Maltby – aunt of Mike McArthur, sister of Mildred McArthur
Janice Eckhardt – daughter-in-law of Jimmie Eckhardt
Marcie Brighton – mother of Elizabeth Schuller
Kathy Hudson – mother of Tim Hudson
Hunter Mitchell – friend of Freddie Wellmann family, baby, eye cancer
Rebecca Dahmann – sister-in-law of the David and Michael Dahmann families
Delano Klausmeyer, very good friend of Judy Rudloff
Gloria Hanath – sister of Eunice Drews – prayers for healing
Deonna Moses – daughter-in-law of Dorothy Moses – diagnosed with cancer
Tom Insley – friend of Michael & Kimberly Parks, cancer
Hank Voelter – grandson of Don & Karen Voelter, battling leukemia
Jim Ripple – friend of Lance & Ashley Jahnke
Sherree Pence – niece of Delphine & Sandra Addicks, diagnosed with cancer
Donnie Eckhardt - son of Jimmie Eckhardt, Kimberly Parks' brother, in hospital in Houston
Tricia Kelm – friend of Richard & Diane Merkel
Edna Parks – mother of Michael Parks
Ernest Ware – friend of Cristine Weige, stroke, prayers for healing, long hard recovery
Caleb Reid – grandson of Alan & Linda Reid, still has issues, and now is in ICU with Covid,
 please pray for him and family
Tammy Hill – daughter of Elroy & Bonnie Wellmann – diagnosed with cancer
Bill & Peggy Miller – Johnnie Schroeder's sister & brother-in-law (prayers for healing);
Troy & Kathleen Schroeder - Johnnie & Marilyn Schroeder's son & daughter-in-law (prayers for healing)
Wanda Adams – sister of Carol Guebert & Nathan Walter - prayers for healing
 – recovering at home in Ft. Worth
Angelea Richardson – niece of Colleen Symmank – loss of unborn baby
Stacie Erickson – daughter of Charles & Jean Blake
The Hicks family — friends of Pastor O. — prayers for spiritual strength
Emily Kimes – Aunt of Daniel Vaughn – stroke, long recovery ahead
Lincoln Tiemann – friend of the Grawunder family – heart condition
Charles & Laura Young- lifelong friends of the Symmanks - Laura had heart surgery on 10/22/24
Coy Goodwin – friend of Lance & Ashley Jahnke
Matthew Merritt – nephew of August & JoAnn Degner - stroke on 12/5 – is in ICU in Colorado

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|| *Please review this Prayer List and notify the Church office of any changes.* ||

|| *We would like this list to be as up-to-date & as accurate as possible.* ||

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This Week at Grace...

Today, December 15

9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Monday, December 16

8:15 a.m.
12:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17

6:00 a.m.
8:15 a.m.

Wednesday, December 18

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.
4:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 19

8:15 a.m.

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21

Sunday, December 22

9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent

Worship w/Holy Communion
Confirmation
Sunday School & Bible Class
(Psalm 12:1 – 17:15)
Chapel
Trustee Meeting
Varsity Basketball Game @ Serbin
Newsletter Deadline
Council Meeting
Special Voter's Assembly

(Psalm 18:1 – 22:31)

Men's Bible Breakfast
Chapel

(Psalm 23:1 – 28:9)

Mid-Week Advent Worship
& Christmas Program
Teacher Luncheon
Confirmation
Daycare Closes
Choir Practice
GLSB
Mid-Week Advent Worship
& Christmas Program

(Psalm 29:1 – 34:22)

Chapel
Music Tour

(Psalm 35:1 – 41:13)

Pastor Ogradowicz's Day Off
NO SCHOOL & Daycare CLOSED

(Psalm 42:1 – 47:9)

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Worship w/Holy Communion
Confirmation
Sunday School & Bible Class

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Rev. Ryan Ogradowicz – 530-2260

Rev. Isaac Schuller – 408-817-0358 Rev. William H. Holzer – 251-7036

Mr. Tom Knodt (Cong. President) 203-5857

Mr. Aubrey Jaster (Elder's Chair) 421-2748

Mr. Casey Voskamp (S. S. Superintendent) – 251-2498

Mrs. Debbie Hintz (Caring Ministry Contact) – 203-347
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