



® 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

JANUARY 5, 2025
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

“When they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him.”



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 THREE – LSB page 184
+ 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 HYMN OF PRAISE ***"Hail, O Source of Every Blessing"*** # 409
THE DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE (Left Column) page 184-185
The Introit (*Psalm 45:6-8a; antiphon: Psalm 45:17*)

P: I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;

C: Therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

P: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your Kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

C: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

P: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

C: Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

P: I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;

C: Therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

The Gloria Patri - Kyrie
The Gloria in Excelsis
The Salutation and Collect of the Day
The Lessons and Responses

page 186
page 187
page 189
page 190-191

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

60 Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.² For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you.³ The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴“Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather together, they come to you; Your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at *your* side.⁵ Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.⁶ The multitude of camels shall cover your *land*, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall proclaim the praises of the Lord.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

3 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles— ²if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, ³how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, ⁴by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), ⁵which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: ⁶that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, ⁷of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. ⁸To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; ¹⁰to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, ¹¹according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” ³When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people

together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ” ⁷ Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”⁹ When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. ¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

The Nicene Creed		page 191
THE HYMN OF THE DAY	“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”	# 395
THE SERMON		Matthew 2:1-12
	“Christ for All Nations” - Pastor Ogradowicz	
The Offertory		page 192-193
The Installation of Officers		
The Installation of Magdalena Obersat		
The Prayer of the Church		
THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT		page 194
The Sanctus		page 195
The LORD's Prayer		page 196
The Words of Institution – Pax Domini		page 197
The Agnus Dei		page 198
THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”	# 621
	“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”	# 411
The Nunc Dimittis		page 199-200
The Thanksgiving –Salutation-Benedicamus-Benediction		page 200-202
THE CLOSING HYMN	“As with Gladness Men of Old”	# 397
THE POSTLUDE		

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Elders – Paul Schulze, David Dahmann, Fred Hein, Darrell Meier
 Acolyte – Charles Henderson
 Usher Team – Steve Malek
 Organist – Rev. Lee Kunkel
 Altar Guild Assistants – Barbara Maurer (Communion Ware)
 Susie Thaler (Paraments)



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.

The Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God by Freddie & Linda Wellmann in loving memory of Cora Mickan, Linda's mother. In lieu of the cost of fresh flowers they are using Altar Guild arrangements and are making a donation to the Altar Guild.



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.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: Luke 2:40 – *“And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.”* At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

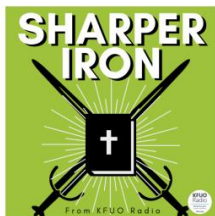
We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to the family of Nelly Barby. Nelly passed away on December 31. The Christian burial service will be here at Grace on January 11, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Please keep the Barby family in your prayers.

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

Ladies Afternoon Circle will meet on Thursday January 9th at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are the officers: Dorothy Holle, Sally Blum, Marilyn Standlee, Ruth Schoppe.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

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.



Our very own Pastor Ogrodowicz will once again be a guest on the Sharper Iron radio program with Host Pastor Timothy Appel. It will air on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 8:00 a.m. CT. It is a study on "Isaiah: the Fifth Evangelist" Isaiah 14:1-32 Listen Live or On-demand at: kfu.org/sharperiron

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.



Birthdays This Week:

- Today 1/5 – Yvonne Shafer
- Mon. 1/6 – Tricia Sacre
- Tue. 1/7 – Tabitha Hudson, Brandon Parks
- Wed. 1/8 - Vernell Thane
- Thurs. 1/9 – Shannon Robertson
- Fri. 1/10 – Niccole Faske
- Sat. 1/11 – Dorothy Moses, Carter Poehlmann, Clarence Ruemke



Anniversaries This Week:

- Mon. 1/6 – Ryan & Hanna Goerlitz, (7th)
- Tue. 1/7 – Jonathan & Elizabeth Harris, (2nd); Timothy & Tabitha Hudson, (18th)



Coffee and Doughnuts:



Today – Joe & Sheila Green

Next Sunday – ??????

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Grace Lutheran Church

- In Memory of Shirley Paetz given by Brenda Anthony, Dianne Strickland, Vicki Fowler, Alvin Casey
- In Memory of Darren Hinze given by Jo Ann Brieden
- In Memory of Monty Blacklock given by Billy & Susie Thaler

Grace Lutheran School

- In Memory of Mindy Moses & Tony Moses given by Tray & Sandi Moses
- In Memory of Darren Hinze given by Larry Felder
- In Memory of Shirley Paetz given by Herbert & Diane Faske, Kenny & Ann Muchow
- In Memory of Nancy Sharp given by Herbert & Diane Faske
- In Honor of Don Voelter's 80th Birthday given by Larry & Virginia Hillman



It is the start of a new year and that is a great time to update the prayer page and thank God for all the blessings of good health and healing that He has given. Please take a moment to review the names on the prayer list and let the office know of any changes or updates that need to be made.

You Have a Place at Grace

Iconoclastic Controversy

A controversy in the 8th century erupted over icons in the church. On one side that included the Emperor Leo III, icons and images only spawned idolatry. His concern wasn't without merit, for there were Christians, especially in the East who saw icons as "channels through which Christ was speaking to them and through which God was blessing them." It's almost as if such things had become sacramental to those seeking connection with the Divine.

But not everyone saw it this way, including the theologian named John of Damascus. John saw value in images and pictures to serve as a visual book for the laity, especially the illiterate. Pictures could serve a purpose in depicting biblical stories and events. He also saw a distinction between "veneration" and "worship" alongside the difference between the likeness of an object and saying it's the equivalent. Similitude and equality aren't the same thing, argued John. The Second Council of Nicaea would convene to handle the controversy and eventually sided with John on the matter, carefully delineating between venerating an object depicting Christ and serving as a reminder of His Gospel testified in the Bible and the actual worshiping of an object as something divine in some perverse sacramental manner.

This distinction affirmed by the Second Council of Nicaea is still sound and helpful. Images, icons, and statues can certainly depict and remind us of our Lord's work, such as the beautiful crucifix calling to mind Jesus' suffering and death as testified in the Bible. It's important to note images and icons exist in the Church where the Word is front and center, never to be replaced by statues and images. Stained glass, beautiful paraments with biblical iconography, the children's book full of detailed pictures reflecting a bible story: these things have a place upon the foundation of the written and proclaimed Word of God. Without question worshiping any image or statue, making it something God never promised is the idolatry the Iconoclasts were concerned about.

Today many churches have worship spaces that appear more like auditoriums or fancy meeting rooms minus any allusion to Christ crucified. Images, crucifixes, and stained glass almost seem taboo in these places. Part of this could be an aversion to God working through creation. Such churches also deny the efficacy of the sacraments, God working through bread, water, and wine in Baptism and the Lord's Supper. This theology visualizes itself in sanctuaries giving no impression of the Divine being amongst congregants when, to the contrary, He certainly is when His Name is spoken. Our task as Christians is to take idolatry seriously, not dismissing the concern of the Iconoclasts, but also appreciating and reflecting upon the wise council of those theologians like John of Damascus who saw benefit in those pictures of Christ and other biblical events. Finally, we can't throw the baby out with the bathwater. It's true God doesn't work through statutes to communicate Himself—there's no such promise in Scripture. Still, we find such promises in particular places decreed by Him, in the bread, water, and wine of those Sacraments Jesus has instituted and to which He still bids us to look for true consolation and peace.

-by Rev. Ryan J. Ogradowicz,

You Have a Place at Grace – January 5th, 2025

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

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; Geraldine Gloyna; Pastor Jacobs; Amelia Jones; Nancy Boecker, macular degeneration of eyes; Bonnie Wellmann; Diane Merkel

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



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

PRAY FOR OUR



MILITARY

**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

1LT 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
Stacie Erickson – daughter of Charles & Jean Blake
The Hicks family — friends of Pastor O. — prayers for spiritual strength
Lincoln Tiemann – friend of the Grawunder family – heart condition
Coy Goodwin – friend of Lance & Ashley Jahnke
Matthew Merritt – nephew of August & JoAnn Degner - stroke on 12/5 – is in Rehab in Colorado
Delores Guthman – mother of Diana Stephens – prayers for healing, cancer
Terry Morrison – brother of R.D. Morrison – battling cancer

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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, January 5

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Monday, January 6

Tuesday, January 7

6:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 8

8:15 a.m.

4:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 9

8:15 a.m.

2:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

Friday, January 10

8:15 a.m.

3:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11

Sunday, January 12

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

The Epiphany of Our LORD

Worship w/Holy Communion

Confirmation

Sunday School & Bible Class

(Psalm 119:1-176)

No School or Daycare – Christmas Break

(Psalm 120:1 – 125:5)

No School or Daycare – Christmas Break

Men's Breakfast

PTL Meeting

(Psalm 126:1 – 134:3)

Chapel

Confirmation

Elders Meeting

(Psalm 135:1 – 137:9)

Chapel

Ladies Afternoon Circle

Varsity BB Game – Serbin @ Grace

(Psalm 138:1 – 143:12)

Pastor Ogradowicz's Day Off

Chapel

Vespers

(Psalm 144:1 – 150:6)

The Baptism of Our LORD

Worship w/Holy Communion

Confirmation

Sunday School & Bible Class

.....
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) – 203-3470
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ATTENDANCE

December 29: 196

Sunday School: 12 Teachers/Staff: 5 YABC: 6 ABC: 73 Visitors:

OFFERING

General Fund - \$14,170.00

Radio Ministry - \$85.00

Missions - \$100.00

Building Fund - \$

Memorials - \$355.00

Other – \$6,400.00