

GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n's - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

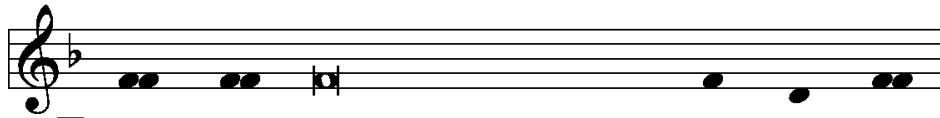
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

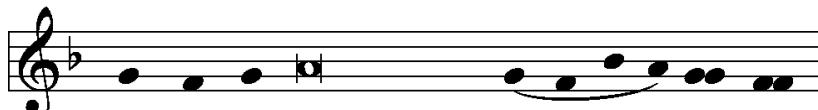
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

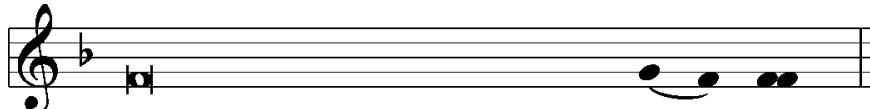
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

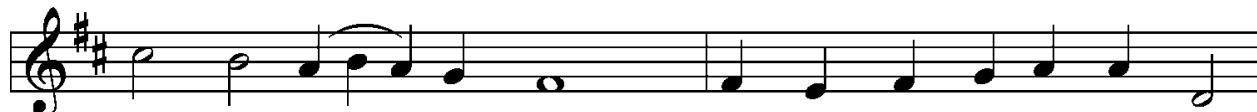
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

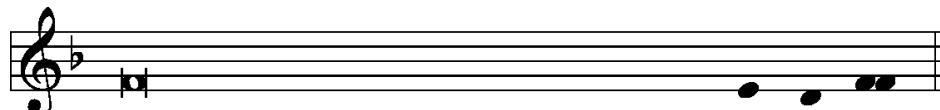
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Church
Missouri Synod



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Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

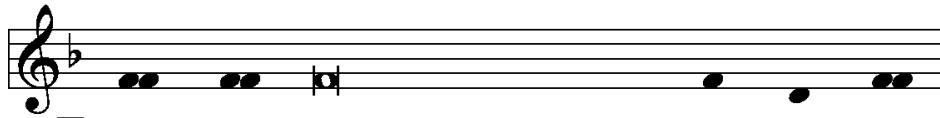
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Public domain

Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

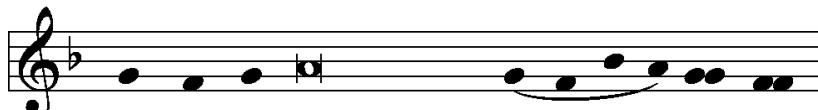
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

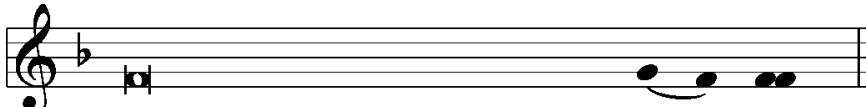
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

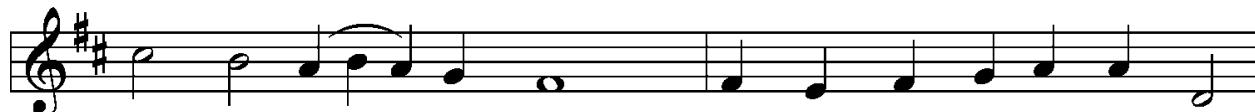
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

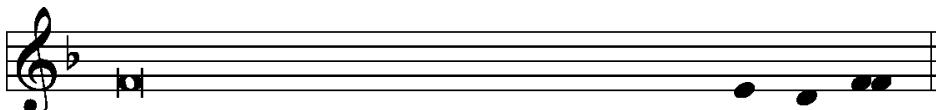
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

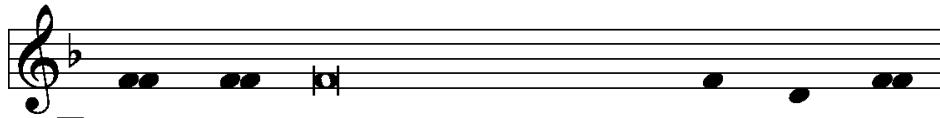
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

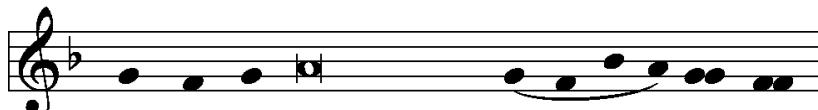
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

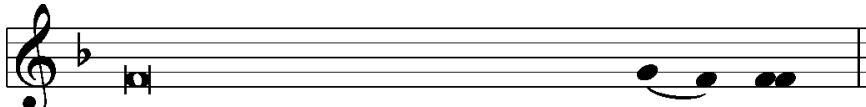
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

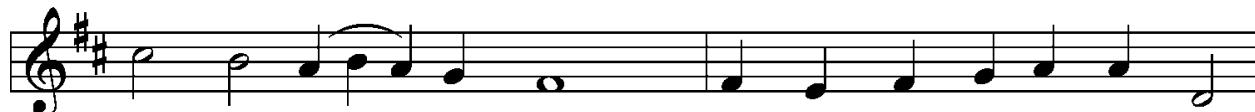
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

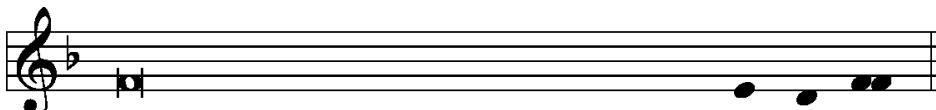
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

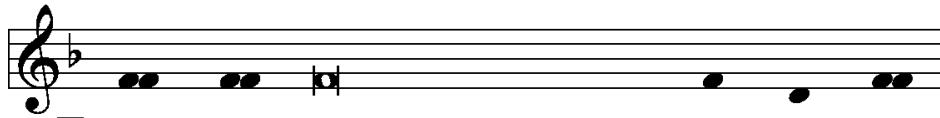
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

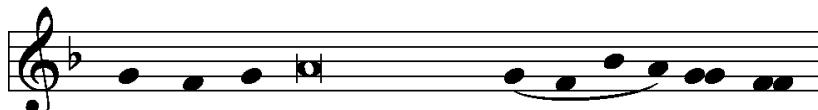
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

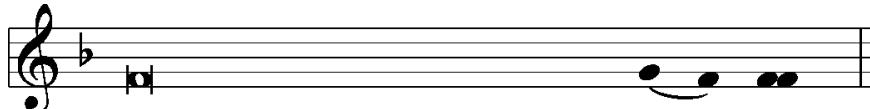
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

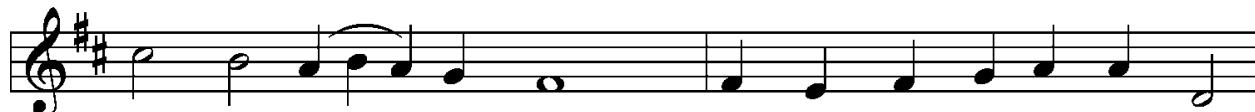
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

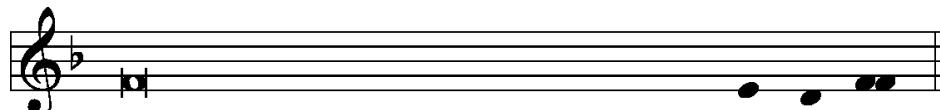
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

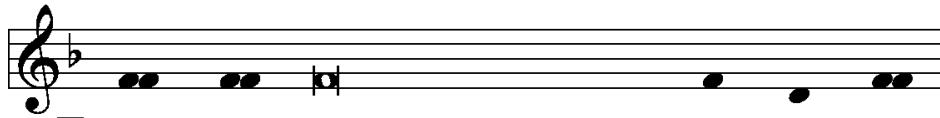
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Public domain

Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

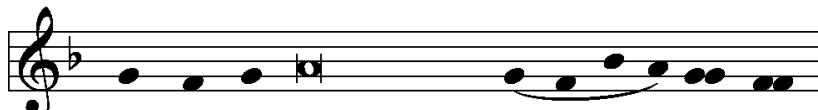
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

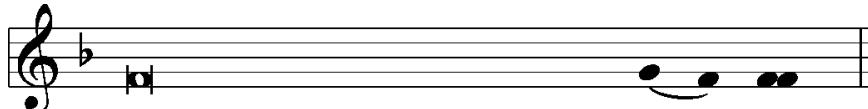
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

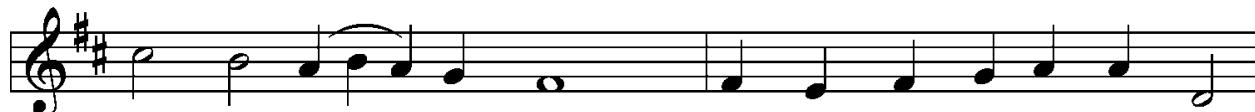
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you

and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

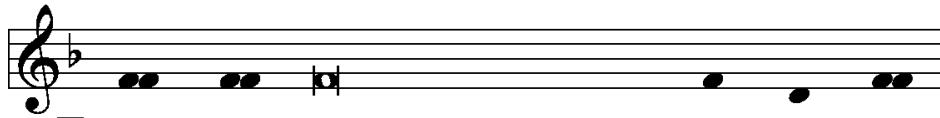
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

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¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

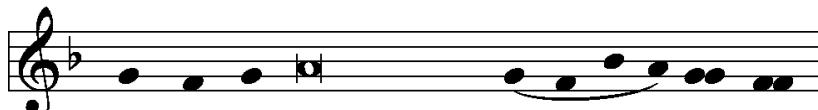
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

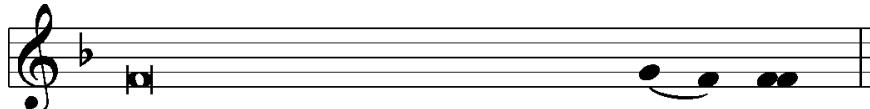
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

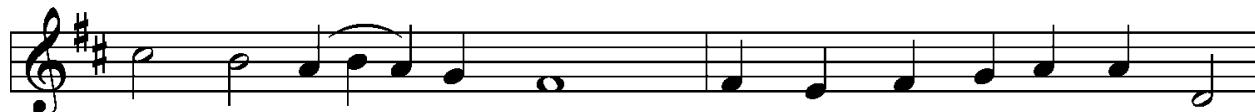
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

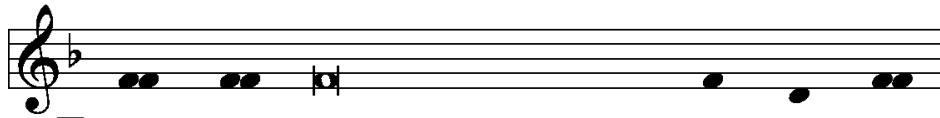
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

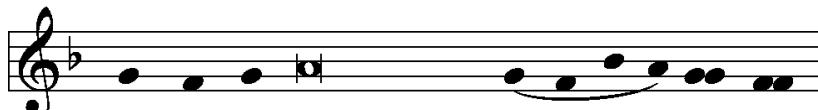
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

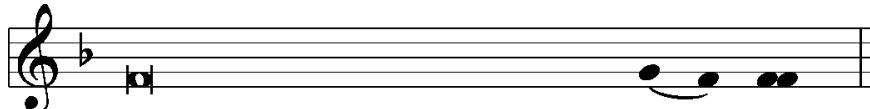
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

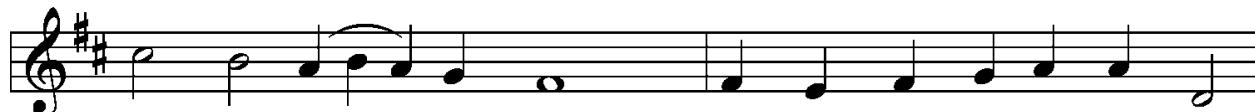
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

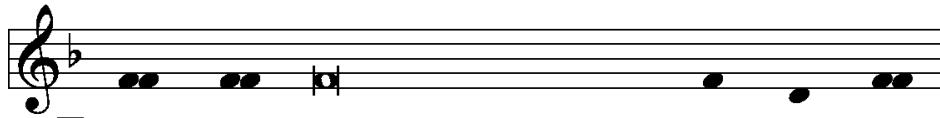
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
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Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

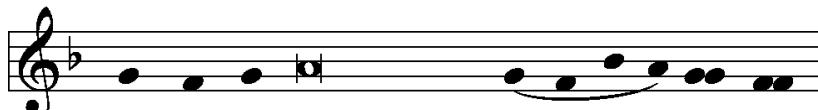
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

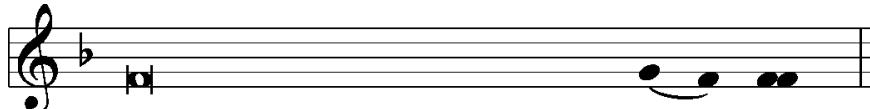
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



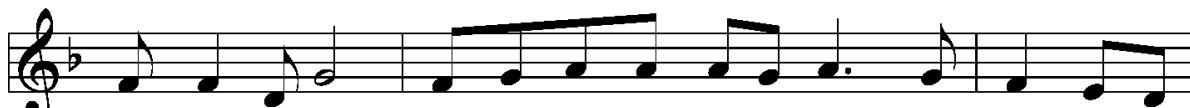
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

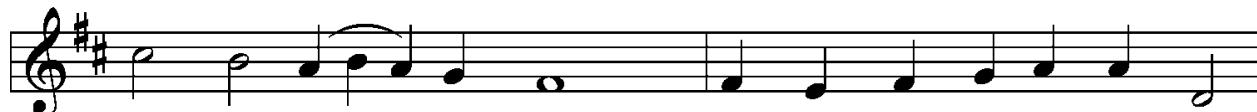
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

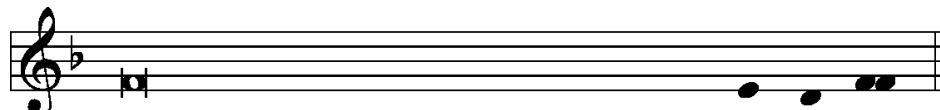
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

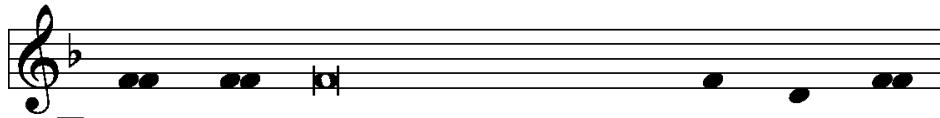
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

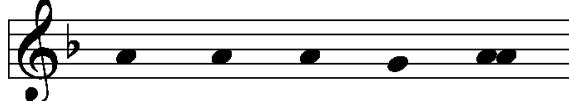


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

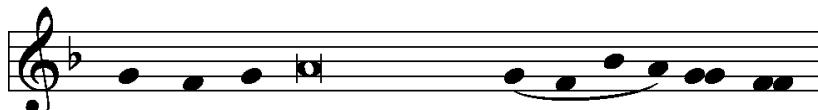
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

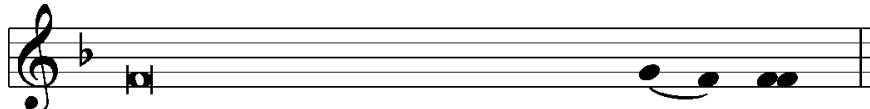
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

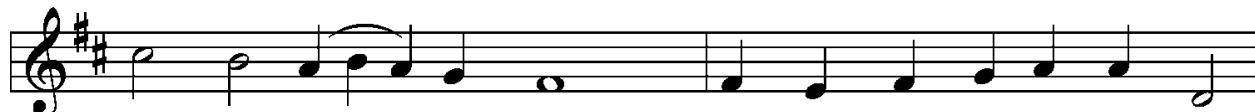
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

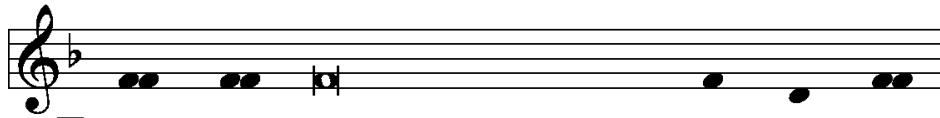
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

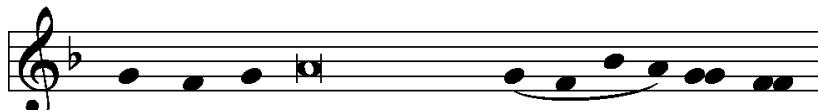
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

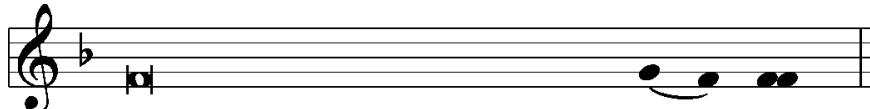
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



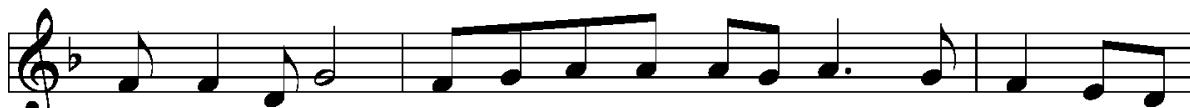
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

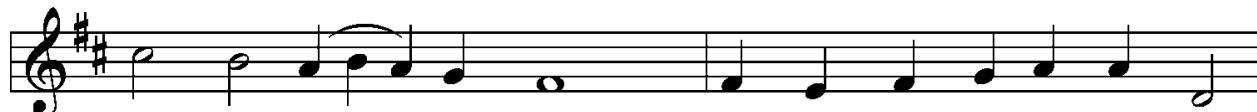
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

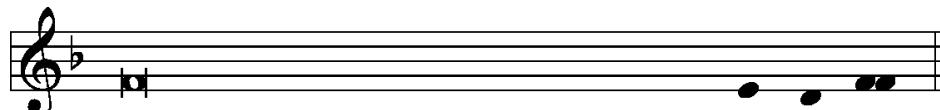
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

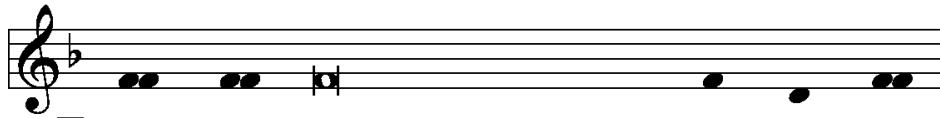
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly

and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

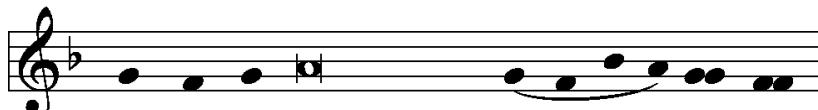
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

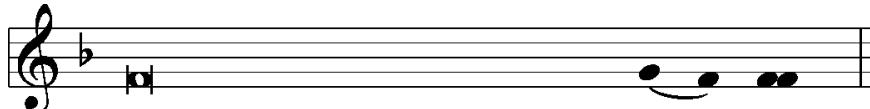
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

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The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

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 A priestly food and priestly meat;
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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

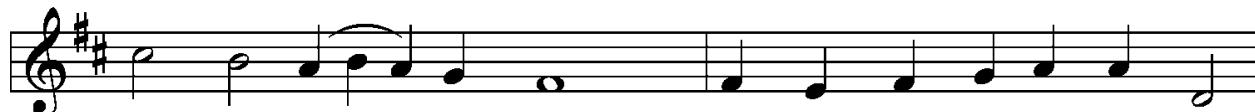
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

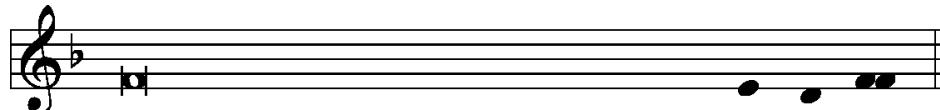
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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GRACE

Lutheran
Church
Missouri Synod



Divine Service (Setting one)

December 15, 2019

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome in Jesus' name.

Grace Lutheran Church
3201 Central Avenue
Columbus, IN 47203
812-372-4859 OFFICE
812-799-7274 PASTOR
office@gracecolumbus.org
www.gracecolumbus.org

Rev. John Armstrong, Pastor (Hm. 372-3162)
Deaconess Julie McPeak, Dir. of Family Life
Jinhee Kim, Dir. of Music & Organist
Taylor Brown-Fickenscher, Deaconess Intern

Russell Davies, Office Manager
Sylvia Smith, Bookkeeper

Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is intended for all who have been instructed in the articles of our Lutheran faith, who repent of their sins and who desire God's forgiveness. Please note our Communion statement on page 15 and please speak with Pastor Armstrong if you desire the Sacrament. There is additional information about our communion practice on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Preparation

Scripture exhorts us to examine ourselves before partaking. The questions on page 329 of Lutheran Service Book (LSB) may be helpful.

Hymns & Music

The hymns and liturgical music in the bulletin are melody only. If you wish to sing in SATB "parts" we encourage you to follow along in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB) which you can find under the pew in front of you.

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

To our Guests and Visitors:

Welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today. Please pick up a *Welcome* folder before you leave. They are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged in worship. Indeed, from ancient times they have been an important part of the worshipping community (Joel 2:15-16). If needed, however, there is a nursery available in the East Wing (near the main entrance).

Prelude: *A Rose E'er Blooming* by Evelyn R. Larter (b. 1953)
Violin, Ryan Lauer

Confession and Absolution

Please stand, if able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

- P** In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

I John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer

Taken from an Irish Fiddle Tune

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the Worlds is here!

Cantor

1. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple set a - part
2. Re - deem - er come, with us a - bide; our hearts to thee we o - pen wide;
3. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won;
4. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.
5. O come, De - sire of Na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;

from earth - ly use for heav'n's - em - ploy; a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
from us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in us re - veal.
e - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be of - fered Sav - ior to Thy name!
That mourns in low - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

(Violin,Handbell) All

Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be - hold, the king - of glo - ry waits;

the King of kings is draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of - the Worlds is here!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

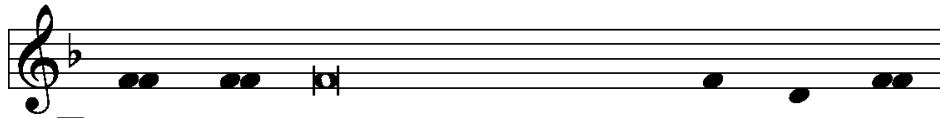
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
 It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able.

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon notes:

The doubts of a man of God (Matthew 11:2-19)

- I. Doubt/conflict arises when there is a gap between our _____ and our _____.
 - A. Doubt vs. unbelief.
 1. Doubt = _____ (v.3; James 1:8). It is both “yes/no.”
 2. Unbelief = the _____ of faith (John 20:25).
 - B. Jesus exposes the _____ of unbelief (vv.16-19).
 - C. Doubt arises from a _____ of God, from a faith malformed or malnourished.
 1. So far, Jesus had fulfilled none of John’s promises (Matthew 3:7-12).
 2. God routinely acts in ways we do not expect (v.12; Matthew 5:3-12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:8-9).
- II. Don’t be ashamed of your doubts.
 - A. Share them with someone older and wiser.
 - B. John took his doubts to _____ (v.2-3).
 1. Seeing what Jesus _____ and hearing what He _____ is the only way to create faith (vv.4-5; Romans 10:17).
 2. Jesus does not minimize John; He exalts the disciples (v.11).
 3. Jesus _____ John in spite of his doubts (vv.7-15; Isaiah 42:3).

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Sermon

See sermon notes on page 9

Please stand, if able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

We give thanks for:

- the words and deeds of Jesus, God's answer to our doubts;
- the Lutheran Church of East Africa;
- our altar guild;
- our Sunday School leaders, teachers and students;
- our School Scholarship Fund for Lutheran primary education;
- the faithful stewardship of our members and friends;
- our Men's Bible Study (Wednesday 6:30-7:30 am).

We pray for:

- world peace;
- those we are inviting to Sunday Divine Services; Advent and Christmas Eve Services and the Alpha Class;
- those struggling with addiction;
- marriage and families of Grace;
- our nation and our leaders;
- our confirmands, their mentors and parents;
- all who seek healing...

Hunter Jessie, Gordy & Bev Franks, Curtis Waggoner, Maxine Harris, Bob Elkins, Barbara Davies, George Nentrup, Josh Jacob, Tricia Busch, John Battin, Pastor Lou Vician, Ruth Boxman, Jay Kell, Chloe Crockett, Tammy Mocas, Bruce Otte, Marilyn Bulthuis, Vivian Schroer, Pam Moorman, Terry Galbraith, Mary Ann Denninger

Please be seated.

Offering: (10:30 a.m.) *Mary Did You Know?* by M. Lowry (1958) - Darrah Franks,
Hannah Davies

Please stand, if able.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

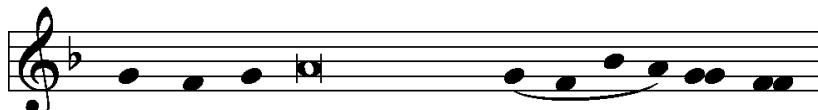
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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;
and 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

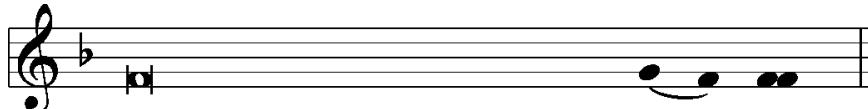
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{\text{+}}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



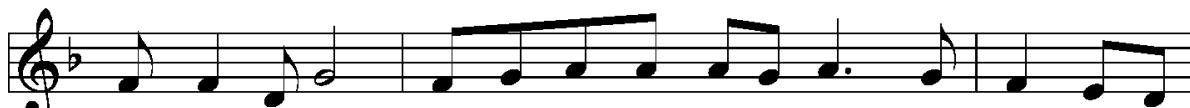
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Statement

Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran

Together with Holy Scripture and the early Christian church, we Lutherans confess that in the Lord's Supper, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. **We value your presence among us and are genuinely interested in your spiritual welfare. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at our altar (1 Corinthians 10:17), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who**

hold beliefs differing from that of this congregation, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor. May God's richest blessings be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. If you take an individual cup, please hold it until the Common Cup passes. The Pastor will then know who wants the Common Cup.

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

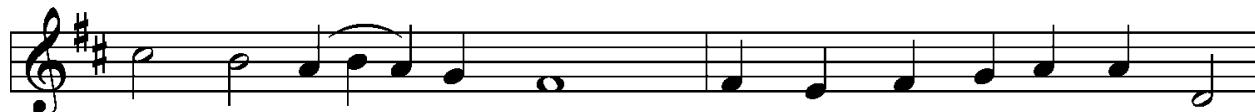
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Please stand, if able.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Postlude: Prelude in C Major, BWV 549 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services:

“A People Prepared”

December 18, 6:30 pm

(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Children’s Christmas Program

December 22, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Late Service w/ Holy Communion

December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year’s Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

December 31, 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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