



## Grace Lutheran Church

9<sup>th</sup> & Logan Street Wayne, Nebraska 68787

Phone: 402.375.1905      Office email: [kwiser@gracewayne.com](mailto:kwiser@gracewayne.com)  
[www.gracewayne.com](http://www.gracewayne.com)

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**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 19, 2021**

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**Welcome:** We are glad that you are here or are watching our worship service online. May you be blessed through this time of worship. We pray you find today's service a source of encouragement and strength. For those worshipping in person please take time to register your attendance using the slips in the pew rack. These can be placed in the offering plates by the door as you exit.

**Prayer Requests** are always welcome. To have someone included in our prayers during worship, please call the pastor or church office or write down the request and give it to the pastor.

**Lectionary Summary:** The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.

**Order Of Worship**  
**Divine Service – Setting Two LSB 167**

**Preservice Music**

**Welcome and Greeting Time**

**Ringling of the Bell**

♪ **Opening Hymn: “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”**

*LSB 366*

- 1** It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav’n’s all-gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.
- 2** Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav’nly music floats O’er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov’ring wing,  
And ever o’er its babel sounds The blessèd angels sing.
- 3** All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low,  
Who toil along a dreary way With painful steps and slow:  
Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing,  
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the angels sing.
- 4** For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old,  
When down into the circling years Came Christ as was foretold.  
His word of peace shall to the earth God’s ancient promise bring,  
And all who take this gift will hear The song the angels sing.

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*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**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.*

**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.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

**♪ Entrance Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

*LSB 357 sts. ref, 7*

**7 O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

*Public domain*

**Kyrie**

*LSB 168*

**♪ P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**♪ C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**♪ P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**♪ C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**♪ P** 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 mercy.**

**♪ P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**♪ C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**♪ P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**♪ C** **Amen.**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 172

♪**P** The Lord be with you.

♪**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Micah 5:2–5*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle

*Hebrews 10:5–10*

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” <sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

♪ Alleluia and Verse

- C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 1:39–45*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

♪ **C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**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.

*Sit*

**Children's Message**

♪ Sermon Hymn: “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

LSB 350

- 1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!  
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all portals.  
Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for Thee.
- 2 Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.  
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.  
Ah, what riches will be mine When Thou art my guest divine!
- 3 My hosannas and my palms Graciously receive, I pray Thee;  
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay Thee,  
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.
- 4 Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!  
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown, Bring us blessing and salvation,  
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.

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Sermon “From Ancient Days”

Pastor Erik

*Stand*

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

- 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.

Collect For Peace

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,  
give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts  
may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the  
fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your  
Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and forever.

♪ **C** Amen.

## Benediction

LSB 183

**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.

**🎵** Amen.

*Sit*

## **🎵** Closing Hymn: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LSB 361

- 1** O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
  
- 2** For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond’ring love.  
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
  
- 3** How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv’n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav’n.  
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.
  
- 4** O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

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### Acknowledgments

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**WE REJOICE** with the following members of Grace who are celebrating this week.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Bradley Longe, Mallorie Mathieson, Tiffany Maturey, Kimber Roeber, Mark Niemann, Kennedy Stowater, Aprill Bodlak, Eric Bodlak, Aaron Daum & Aaron Ocampo

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Roger & Denise Fredrickson and Chad & Kristi Young

**LAST WEEK** our offerings were \$8,837.

**NURSERY:** A nursery room has been created to help parents with young children. The nursery is located in the first room west of the upstairs fellowship hall. Please feel welcome to use the room to quiet your child.

**PARENTS OF LITTLE CHILDREN:** Books which your children may enjoy are available in book bags located near the doors at the east end of the sanctuary. **Bookbags have been updated with seasonal material. Pick one up to see the fun new material.** Please return the books after the worship service. Thank you.

**ONLINE WORSHIP:** Livestream of our Sunday morning services is being offered each week. Check the church's website [www.gracewayne.com](http://www.gracewayne.com) or Facebook page for the link which should be available on Sunday morning. A recording of the service is still available to watch later in the day or week. May God bless your worship time.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Jesus performs an amazing miracle in “A Resurrection Sign.” Mary and Martha’s brother, Lazarus, falls seriously ill. When word of his illness comes to Jesus, He delays two days, assuring His disciples the disease would not lead to death but to God’s glory. Despite death threats, Jesus reassures the disciples when deciding to return to Judea. They set out for Bethany, arriving four days after Lazarus is placed in the tomb. Jesus tells Martha that He is the resurrection and the life, as she boldly confesses, “I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God” (John 11:27). Deeply moved by their grief, Jesus calls Lazarus back to life.

**LUTHERAN HOUR: "Rite of Passage"** -- Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
Life proceeds in stages marked by rites of passage. Dr. Zeigler talks about the changes we go through, and the Savior Who goes with us. Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on KTCH AM next Sunday at 7:30 am. **Lutheran Hour sponsors are needed for 2022. The cost is \$20. Call the church office to reserve your specials dates for 2022.**

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS:** The Wednesday morning class is on a winter break through December. The class will resume its study of First Samuel, Jan. 5.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES:** Christmas Program Practice will take place today, the 19<sup>th</sup> as we get ready for the Christmas Program during our 6pm service on December 24<sup>th</sup>! Practice will take place immediately after our late service, with a small snack in between service and practice. Practice will run until about 1pm. Thank you for having your kids involved with sharing the love of Christ with our congregation and your families!

**MIDWEEK CLASSES CANCELLED:** Remember there are no Midweek classes on December 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Enjoy some time off to be with your family! See you all January 5<sup>th</sup> as we pick back up with Midweek Classes for 2022 at 6:30pm! Again, if Wayne Schools are cancelled for any reason Midweek classes will be cancelled as well.

**SPRING SEMESTER SUNDAY NIGHT DINNERS:** The Spring Schedule for our College Sunday Night Dinners has been posted on the church door. Please take a few seconds to consider signing up to cover one of these meals. I know that our college students truly appreciate the love! Have a wonderful day and Merry Christmas!

**GIVING TREE:** Grace Ladies Aid and Sunday School will sponsor the "Giving Tree" in the church basement. We are requesting socks, underwear, undershirts, hats, and new or gently used snow boots in all sizes to be given to Orphan Grain Train. We will also have collection baskets upstairs by the exit doors. We will be collecting the month of December. Thank you for your donations.

**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Church offering envelopes for 2022 have been prepared and should be distributed in church mailboxes. If you did not receive a set or would like one, please contact the church office. The use of offering envelopes allows contributions to be made confidentially and allows the church to provide a receipt of contributions at year end for tax purposes. Please use only the envelopes for the current year when making contributions since envelope numbers can change year to year.

**NYG HOLIDAY HAM SALE:** Thank You to everyone who purchased and helped support our Youth Holiday Fundraiser! Because of your generosity we sold 200 Holiday Hams and are hoping to have raised around \$1500. Our total budget for our upcoming trip to Houston, TX is \$22,800 and we have raised \$13,500 not including the money we raised through the hams. So, as you can see, we will be busy fundraising through the rest of the year, but your generosity and support means the world to our youth! Hams were delivered December 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received your ham, please contact Pastor Erik or the youth you purchased from for more information. Thank you again for your support!

**NYG RUNZA FUNDRAISER:** Currently we are in the process of scheduling a new fundraiser with the Runza in town. Our Youth Group will be responsible for greeting customers, delivering orders, and cleaning tables at Runza from 5pm to 8pm on either January 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to come soon on which of these days we sign up for. But our group will get 15% of all proceeds during that time. Please consider coming out and supporting us while also treating yourself to a delicious meal!

**AIR CONDITIONER REPLACEMENT PROJECT:** At the annual voters' meeting it was reported that the air conditioning units for the sanctuary and church basement fellowship area need replacement due to their age and various leaks. A fund for air conditioner replacement was approved. The Mission Council has received two bids for this project and has approved proceeding with the project so the work can be accomplished during the winter when the units are not utilized. The total needed for the project is approximately \$80,000. Approximately \$17,000 has already been designated for this project. Additional gifts for this purpose are welcome and can be designated "AC replacement."

## **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**PASTORS:** Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor's phone: 402.833.1071 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Erik Christensen, Associate Pastor

Pastor's phone: 979.204.0752 Email: pastorerik@gracewayne.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

**ELDER ON DUTY:** Lonnie Matthes (8:00) Troy Stowater (10:30)

**ACOLYTES:** Brodrick Tiedtke & Hunter Ruwe (8:00)

Cloey Young & Graycen Trautman (10:30)

**LAY READER:** James Simpson (8:00) Brian Kesting (10:30)

**GREETERS:** Chuck Potosnyak and Louise Green (8:00)

Don & Lisa Nelson (10:30)

**FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL:** Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Sara Ruwe – 402.369.2661

**LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR:** Beverly Hansen

## **THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

<b>TODAY</b>	8:00 am.	Worship
	9:15 am.	Sunday School
	9:15 am.	Bible Class
	10:30 am.	Worship
	11:30 am.	S.S. Practice
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:00 pm.	Choir
<b>FRIDAY</b>	6:00 pm.	Christmas Eve Children's Program
	8:00 pm.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10:00 am.	Christmas Morning Worship/Communion
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	8:00 am.	Worship/Communion
	9:15 am.	Bible Study
	9:15 am.	Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship/Communion

**Join us for our continuing celebration of the Savior's birth!**

**Christmas Eve Children's Program**

Friday, December 24, 2021 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Services**

Friday, December 24, 2021 8:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day Festival Communion Worship**

Saturday, December 25, 2021 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday Morning Worship with Communion**

December 26, 2021 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**New Year's Eve Communion Worship**

Friday, December 31, 2021 6:00 p.m.