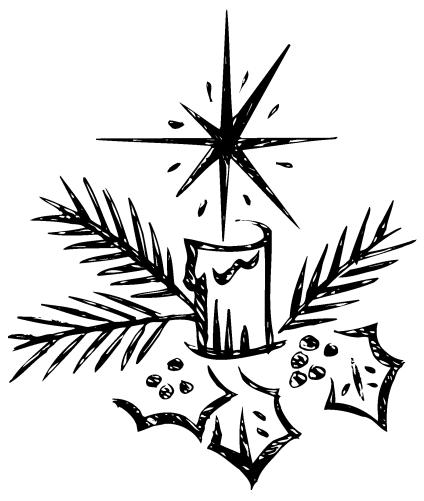
Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

November 29 & 30, 2025



Watch worship online - connect through www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME/PRELUDE

GATHERING

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Long-expected God,

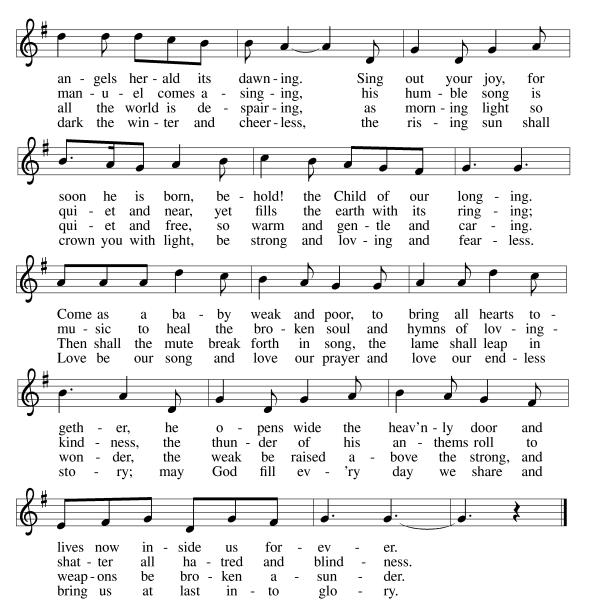
C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. + We are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" R242





Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

ADVENT CANDLE "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

R240



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.

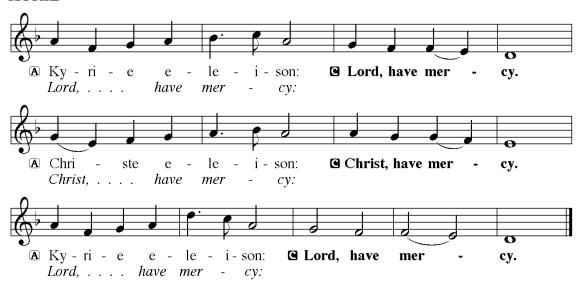


He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

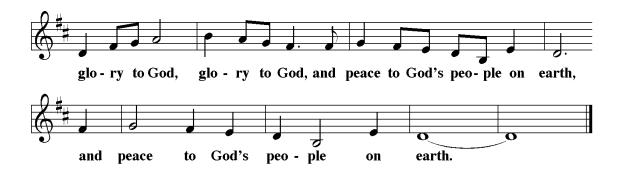
KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE







P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Ps. 122:1)

- ¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
- ² Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- ³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;
- ⁴ to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.
- ⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.
- ⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

Romans 13:11-14

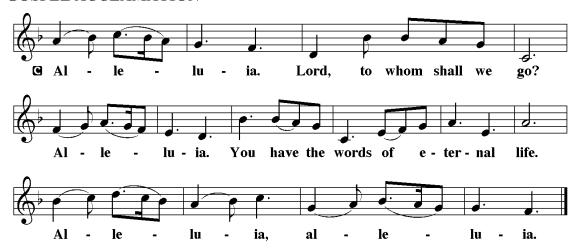
Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

- ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.
- P: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite

Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

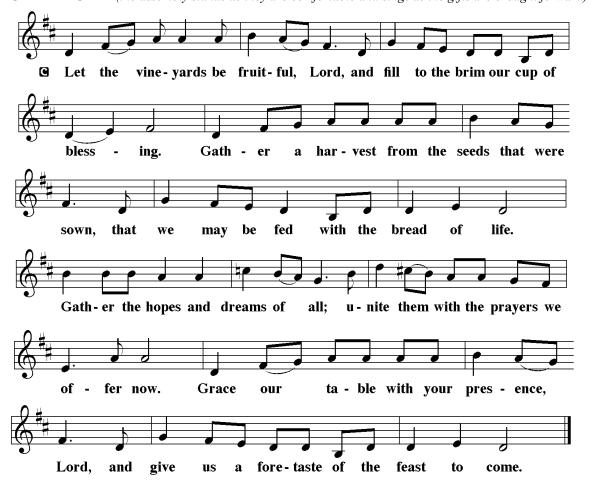
(Response after each petition)

P: Lord, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (the assembly stands as they are comfortable and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



P: Let us pray...Nourishing God,

C: you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

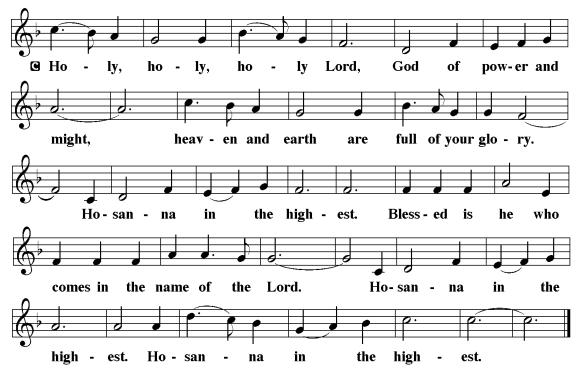
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...(concluding)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light . . .

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

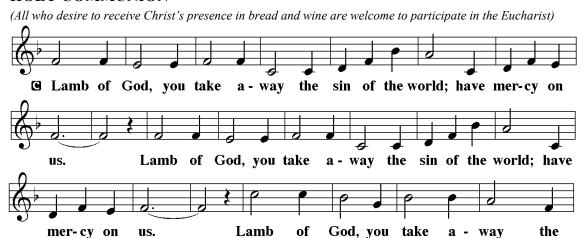
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
- C: Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

HOLY COMMUNION





Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt. Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay, b. 1925 Text and music © 1971 United Church Press.

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

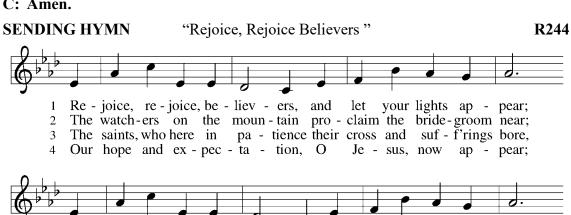
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray...God our host,

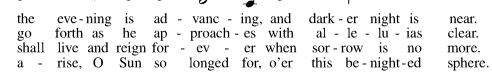
C: at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

BLESSING

P: May God who comes among us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, grant us patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C: Amen.







The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh. gates wide o - pen The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the stand. round the throne of Lamb they shall be - hold; glo - ry the hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to With see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry. glo - ry; the bride-groom is A - rise, O heirs of hand. tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold. in the of earth's re - demp - tion that sets vour peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune This selection is in the public domain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.



POSTLUDE



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Bonnie Cross, Anna Lewis, Darlene Freel, Hope Kamyszek, Bill Whitscell, Joanne Kindt, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Maria Shelton, Paul Kroll, Jim Marquardt, Aggie Jakubiak, Jerry McConnell, Lisa Creger, Lynsie, Becky & Dante, Lyle Beck, Candy & Tom Laughlin, Margaret Kamyszek, Michelle, Joan Vanover, Paige Lancewicz, Randy Thiem, Mychele Allmacher, Deborah Al-Duwaisan, Daphne Flack, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, Herb Schiller, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, and Joseph Hansen. Military: Will Stafford (Rich & Sherie McTaggart's grandson) and Amelia Berles - pilot training. We also remember the family of Harry Jakubiak, who passed away November 19th.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Justice and Peace Efforts at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Trinity Lutheran/Manton, Rev. Rosanne Anderson; and Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas and Synod Staff.

PRAYER LETTERS

Please sign the prayer letter(s) each week that we send out telling other churches and ministries they have been included in our prayers. Fill the page with our names. The letter(s) are on the podium by the table in the Office Lobby.

SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN PHOTOS

Send in photos of the family creche nativity you set up, how you decorate your tree or around the house. We will put them in a "Life of Grace" video to share with others. Send them to Peggy at officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org. Thanks

2025 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST TREE

A reminder that all gifts need to be returned by November 30th wrapped and labeled with the child's name and most important, have the code on the label. i.e., **TB249.** Thank you for your participation. United Way expects to serve nearly 400 children with basic needed items.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING - JOIN US NOVEMBER 30 AFTER WORSHIP

We're putting up the tree and the greens and the candles on Sunday, November 30th. Join in preparing the church for the season. We will have sub sandwiches following the decorating. Please sign the sheet in the Office Lobby so we have a count for the subs. If you would like to bring a salad or dessert to go with the subs, please notate that on the sign-up sheet.

BAKE SALE - DECEMBER 6

The Ruth Circle is planning a bake sale at Grace on **December 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Donations of baked goods, canned items and craft items from the congregation are greatly appreciated to make this a success. We depend on the bake sale money to enable us to donate to 11 charities from Grace Lutheran Church through the Ruth Circle. **Bake sale items can be brought to the church on Friday, December 5 beginning at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day until 5 p.m. Any questions, please call Darlene Freel at 989-464-0085. Please also let us know if you can help on Friday or Saturday. Thank you!**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING DECEMBER 14

You are invited to join in Christmas caroling around the community! There will be lunch provided after church on Sunday, December 14th and caroling will begin at 11:30am. A sign up sheet will be posted. We will be going to assisted living homes as well as homes of some of our members. Please join in the fun!

HELP US PUT A CARE PACKAGE TOGETHER FOR LOVING CARE MEMBERS

We would like your help putting a care package together for each of our Loving Care Members and delivering them in early December. WE WILL NEED TO PUT 15 PACKAGES TOGETHER. These packages will include: a regular cube of Kleenex (Meijer has one that has a winter/holiday scene this time of year), a can of soup like Chunky, Progresso, heart healthy or reduced sodium, a small Jello cup/pudding cup. An ornament made at Thanksgiving will be placed on each package.

If you would like to help with this project, please sign the sheet in the Office Lobby. Donated items for this project may be placed in the basket in the Office Lobby.

REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN CANDLE LIGHTING 6:30 p.m. Sunday, December 14 ~ Grace Lutheran Church

Please join us as we celebrate the life and memory of our children, of any age, that have passed. Questions: Karen 989.619.7728 or Polly 989.356.0849. Please see poster on bulletin board for more information.

THERE IS ONLY 1 BALLOON REMAINING!

Balloon No. 2 has touched the table. Get your guesses in for when No. 5 comes down. Last day to enter will be December 14th.

SAMARITAS LOOKING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Are you passionate about making a difference in your community? Samaritas Affordable Living of Alpena - a HUD-supported senior housing community - is seeking dedicated individuals to join our Board of Directors. As a board member, you'll have the opportunity to: share your experience and ideas to support our mission; advise and collaborate with our property management team; help shape the future of affordable senior housing in Alpena; and strengthen connections between residents and the wider community. We welcome individuals from all backgrounds - especially those with experience in community service, senior care, nonprofit leadership, finance, or housing-who are eager to lend their time and talents to support local talents. **Board meetings are held quarterly, throughout the year on the 3rd Monday of the month from 1:30** -2:30 pm at our Affordable Living Alpena property. If you're ready to make a lasting impact and help enhance the quality of life for older adults in our community, we'd love to hear from you! Contact: Jenny Edmonds, Property Manager at 989.356.6725 or email: jedmo@samaritas.org.







Anniversaries of Baptism



December 1 Andrea Matzke

December 6 Monica Jahnke Levi Konarzewski

December 7Gary Grove

December 8Jewel Lancaster
Ryan Werblow

December 9 Cindy Suszek

December 11David Dekett

December 13 Clarence Cross December 14 Cheryl Lang

December 16Polly Cook

December 17 Joel Gillard

December 21 Gracie Gillard

December 24 Riley Garant

December 28 Jessica Konarzewski Sherie McTaggart

December 30 Ethan McIntosh Birthdays

December 1Denise Timrick

December 2 Laurie Slater Ashley Timmreck-Walker

December 3Ricky Slater
Laura Thompson

December 5 Cody Suszek

December 7 Riley Garant Sophia Kamyszek

December 8 Hannah Kamyszek

December 9Paul Denstaedt

December 16 Stephanie Adamski Jerry Mudge

December 18 Stephen Hansen December 19
Donna Czarnecki

December 20 Gracelyn Gohlke Reed Lappan

December 21 Charlotte Werth

December 22 Shane Jaroch Connie Stepanski

December 24Patricia Schultz

December 25 Matthew Freel

December 27 Jessica Timm

December 29 Verna Furze Kenda Yochum

December 30 Tom Lappan



Wedding Anniversaries

2nd Joe & Dawn Gentry
Dick & Barb Werle
4th Mike & Tracey Urlaub
7th Mike & Kim McCourt

19th George & Mary Rowader21st Matt & Jessica Gillard

30th Tom & Mary Lappan

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sund	ay -	<u> 30th</u>

8:50 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship

Help decorate the church after worship!

Monday - 1st

KITCHEN RESERVED-BAKE SALE

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 pm Remembering Our Children - Hall

Tuesday - 2nd

KITCHEN RESERVED-BAKE SALE

8am-noon
9:00 am
Church Office Open
Sewing/Quilting
Pastors Text Study Lounge

Wednesday - 3rd

KITCHEN RESERVED-BAKE SALE 8am-noon Church Office Open 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

6:00 pm **Thursday - 4th**

KITCHEN RESERVED-BAKE SALE

8am-noon Church Office Open

Friday - 5th

KITCHEN RESERVED-BAKE SALE 8am-noon Church Office Open

Saturday - 6th

9am-12pm Bake Sale 5:00 pm Worship **SERVING NOVEMBER 29/30**

Ministers God's People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director Claire Witt
Recorded Accompaniment Kat Tomaszewski
Comm. Asst. Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Lector Joe Gentry
Ushers Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom,
Cindy Domrase (Saturday)
Greeters Mary Rowader, Cindy Domrase
Altar Guild Sandy Welch, Karen Slaght
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter,
Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
Counters Wayne & Chris Christopherson,

SERVING DECEMBER 6/7

Darlene Freel

Coffee HourJoe & Dawn Gentry

Pastor.....Rev. Tom Orth Recorded AccompanimentKat Tomaszewski Comm. Asst.....Joe Gentry, Stephanie Suszek, Cindy Domrase Lector Sandy Welch Ushers......Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske Wayne Lewis (Saturday) GreetersJoe & Dawn Gentry Altar Guild...... Gentry Family **Livestream Team....** Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble Counters......Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek, Stephanie Suszek

Large print worship folders & hearing assistance devices are available from ushers

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640 Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.or;

Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org Give online at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth

Pastor's Home 989-356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 989-916-8759

E-mail:

pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org View our services on YouTube



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