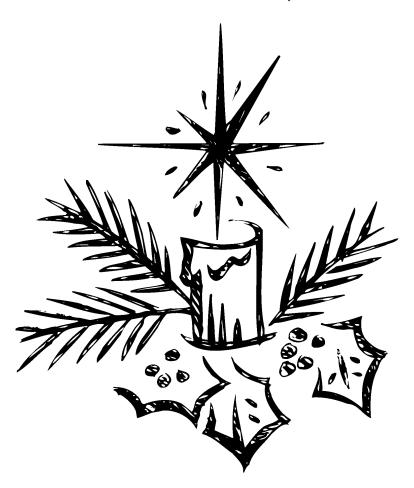
Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

December 17 & 18, 2022



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

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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

(the assembly stands as they are able)

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

- P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
- C: Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.
- P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

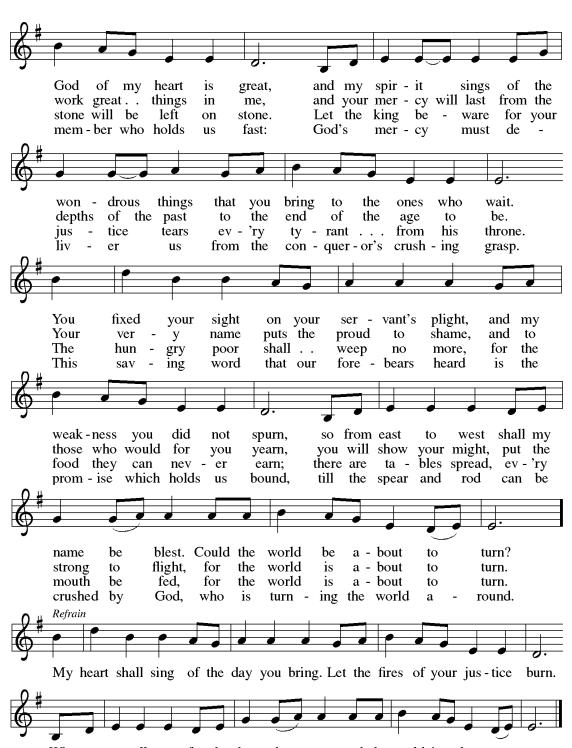
- P: God of new beginnings,
- C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.
- P: People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit, we are joined to this wonder. We have put on 中 Christ, and our sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
- C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Canticle of the Turning"

R723



Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784. Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

ADVENT CANDLE "He Came Down" (two times through)

R253



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;



he came down that we may have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

Text: Cameroon traditional

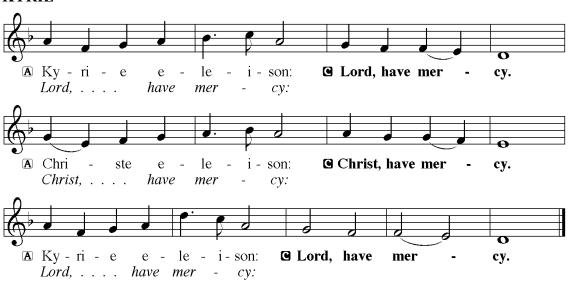
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

Arr. John L. Bell © 1986 Iona Community. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, 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 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

³Restore us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴O LORD God of hosts,

how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

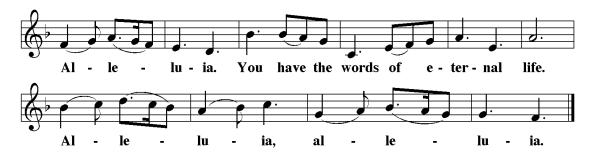
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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





P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

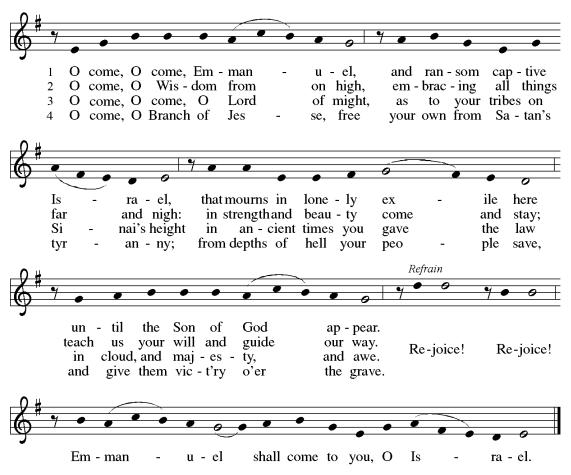
¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are able)



Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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: hear our prayer.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

OFFERING

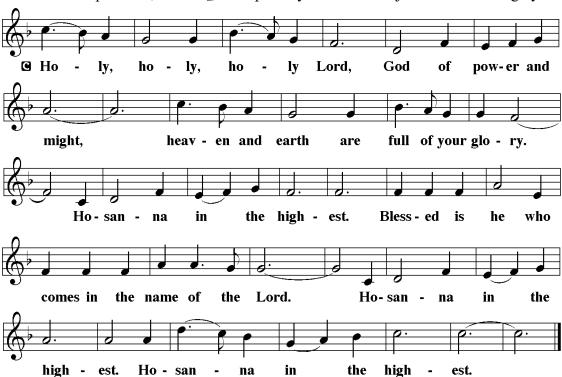
OFFERTORY (the assembly stands as they are able and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



P: Let us pray... Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. 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 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, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and

suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen

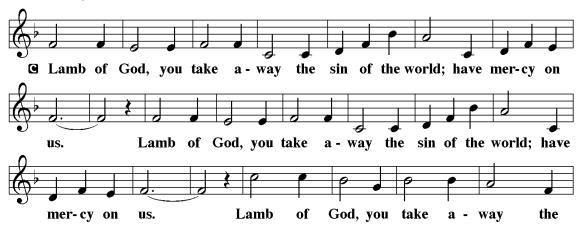
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Be strong, do not fear! Here is our God, who has come to save us.

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)





Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924

Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

This selection is in the public domain.

(the assembly stands as they are able)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray... Faithful God,

in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"The King Shall Come"

R260



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, to bear and fight and die
- 3 Oh, bright er than the ris ing morn when Christ, vic to rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright er than that glo rious morn shall dawn up on our rac
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes. but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky. and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes. the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Christ is near. 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

Budd Jobson, Jim Clemens, Harry Kautz, Lisa Wooll, Kristin Berles, Don Barnard, Rich McTaggart, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Joanne Nicholls, Deb Nitchman's Family, Diane Prevost, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Kathy Rettell -- Nina, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Jan & Walt Soltysiak, Ted Durany (Karen Gould's father), Jack Thompson, Candee and Neviah Fetty, Matthew & Rebecca, Tracy Hall (Alane Wills' daughter), Margaret Cousineau (Jobson's daughter), Pastor Mike Schaedig, Al Smolinski, Donna Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Gary Rich, Carl Ball, Joanne Coughlin, Sylvia Rouech, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Laura Bleau, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, and Joseph Hansen.

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).

PRAYERS - PEOPLE TO ADD

Forms for adding people to our prayer list are located at each entrance to the sanctuary. Give completed forms to the ushers for inclusion in the prayers during the service. Please be sure that you have the person(s)' permission to have their name read during public worship. And also remember that our worship and bulletin are available online so that it will be widely disseminated. Thank you. Names are on the list for the calendar month.

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Children's Worship Center at Trinity Episcopal Church. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: St. Peter Lutheran Church/Unionville, Rev. Jeffrey Bonn, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Jack Tucker, on his birthday (Dec. 18), given by his family.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - DECEMBER 18TH Apologies and Reconciliation

In July, Pope Francis offered apologies to Indigenous People of Canada for the church-run boarding schools in that country. The U.S. also had Indian boarding schools, government run and church-run, that attempted stripe away native language and culture from Native children involuntarily removed from families. This gives us the opportunity to talk about apologizing, forgiveness and reconciliation in both our personal lives and in our society. Join us at 11 in the Lounge for the class. See Pastor Tom if you are not getting the materials prior to class.

WORSHIP SERVICES CHRISTMAS EVE THROUGH NEW YEAR'S DAY With Christmas Day and New Year's Day Sundays, we have set this schedule:

- * Christmas Eve at 5 & 7:30 PM
- * Sunday Christmas Day at 9:30 AM our traditional Lessons and Carols Service with Communion in-person
- * Saturday December 31st no service
- * Sunday January 1st at 9:30 AM North/West Lower Michigan Synod Lessons and Carols Service. Livestreamed and also shown in our sanctuary for any who want to view in person.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - SOME HELP

If you are going to be at the 7:30 PM service and can help with some ushering, please see Matt Haske.

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your prayers, hugs, thoughts, and cards, to those who helped or donated items for the luncheon, and to Pastor Tom for his support for our family during this difficult time. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. -- Patti Tucker and Family

PLEASE CHECK DOORS WHEN ENTERING/EXITING BUILDING

If you are the last one leaving the building, please check to make sure that doors are locked AND LATCHED behind you. If you are entering or exiting the building and doors are already locked, please be sure that the doors latch behind you. Just letting the door swing back as you enter or exit **DOES NOT** ensure that the door will completely close and latch. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE - DECEMBER/JANUARY

NO Sunday School on the following dates: December 25, 2022, January 1, 8 and 15, 2023. Sunday School resumes January 22, 2023

OPERATION TOYS FOR KIDS/OPERATION HOLIDAYS DONATIONS

The Vietnam Vets of America 583 is continuing their 30 year tradition of providing help to children and families at this time of year. All their work is funded by donations. Any help you can give goes directly to the gifts for the kids. If you want to drop off money contributions that can be dropped off at their center in the Thunder Bay Shopping Center, down from Nieman's old location. They are there most days from 8 am to 8 pm. Or bring your contribution to church and we will get it to them. Their effort takes nearly \$100,000 each year. Thanks to these vets. Lets support them.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY - THANK YOU!

A big thank you goes out to Century 21 for their donation to the Little Food Pantry. Dawn Anderson and her crew brought in so many items that help those in need. We are so blessed to help others, especially at this time in year.

Besser School's donation last week was tremendous. Thanks to all who made it happen. Check out photos on the *LIFE OF GRACE* display in the Office Lobby.

We also have donations from many people in our community who just drop off items and we need to say "thank you". It is through this generosity that we fulfill our mission.

I would like to thank our volunteers who help every week with the pantry. A BIG thank you for those who work behind the scenes to fill our pantry. Almost every day someone is at the pantry to place items that can help people in our area on a short term basis. Their dedication has made another year of go by with so much success. Thank you for your support!

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.

COVID TEST KITS FOR AT-HOME USE

COVID test kits continue to be available in the church office. Just stop by or give us a call.

PLEASE RECYCLE BULLETINS

You can place your bulletin in the recycle bin by the elevator as you leave the sanctuary.

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







Anniversaries of Baptism



December 1 Andrea Matzke

December 4 Kevin Graham

December 6 Monica Jahnke Levi Konarzewski

December 7 Gary Grove

December 8Jewel Lancaster
Ryan Werblow

December 9 Cindy Suszek

December 11 David Dekett

December 12 Janie Hansen

December 13 Clarence Cross

December 14 Cheryl Lang

December 16 Polly Cook **December 17** Joel Gillard

December 21
Gracie Gillard

December 23 Melissa Chabot

December 24Riley Garant
Edward Jahnke

December 26 Erin Graham

December 28Jessica Konarzewski
Sherie McTaggart

December 30 Ethan McIntosh



December 2Laurie Slater
Ashley Timmreck-Walker

Birthdavs

December 3 Ricky 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

Decemer 18 Stephen Hansen December 19 Donna Czarnecki

December 20Gracelyn Gohlke
Reed Lappan

December 21 Charlotte Werth

December 22 Shane Jaroch Connie Stepanski

December 24Patricia Schultz

December 25 Matthew Freel

December 26 Taylor Agius

December 27 Jessica Timm

December 29 Verna Furze Kenda Yochum

December 30 Tom Lappan



Wedding Anniversaries

2nd Joseph & Dawn Gentry 19th George & Mary Rowader Dick & Barb Werle 21st Matt & Jessica Gillard 4th Mike & Tracey Urlaub 23rd Tom & Joan Brennan 7th Mike & Kim McCourt 29th Bob & Susan Stacey 16th Tom & Keri Bertrand 30th Tom & Mary Lappan

GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR NOVEMBER 2022

Average needed in November (4 weeks) to meet budget \$17,904.00 Monthly Giving - November 14,931.64

We received:

102 envelopes, 59 Simply Giving recurring payments, and 6 Give+ payments made from our website

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 18th

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

11:00 am Adult CE - Lounge

Monday - 19th

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday - 20th

8am-noon Church Office Open 9:00 am Sewing/Quilting

Wednesday - 21st

Church Office Open 8am-noon Bell Choir Practice 6:00 pm

Thursday - 22nd

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 pm Lounge Reserved

Friday - 23rd

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday - 24th

5:00 pm & 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

SERVING DECEMBER 17/18

SERVING DECEMBER 24/25

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director	Claire Schreiber
Accompanist	Amy Truth
Lector	Anne Gentry (24th - 5pm)
	Nancy Platt (24th - 7:30pm)
Communion	

Ushers......Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske Steve & Janie Hansen (Sat.) Greeters......Joel & Cindy Suszek (25th) Altar Guild......Gentry Family Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan

Assistants Wayne & Chris Christopherson

Charter, Don Barnard, Don LaBarre Counters......Clarence & Bonnie Cross Coffee Hour NO coffee hour this week

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640 Web Site: 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

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