

✠ **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT** ✠

Saturday, 5:00 p.m., December 21, 2019 ~ Sunday, 9:30 a.m., December 22, 2019

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

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

HYMNS

G-R248
Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
D-R265
C-R272
S-R267

People, Look East
(Psalms begin page 339)
The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Joy to the World

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Welcome to our guests and visitors who are with us today. We hope you feel at home in our midst and look forward to seeing you again. If you would like more information about Grace Lutheran, the pastor or ushers can help you. Please consider your presence to be your gift to us. No other is necessary or expected. Thank you for worshiping with us today.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 5 LARCC parishes. This weekend we pray for Environmental Sensitivity/First Congregational Church.

PRAYERS

Gary Grove, Joanne Nicholls, Gordon Hansen, Alec Kennedy, Deb Nitchman's Family, Kay Zinsli, Diane Prevost, Tammy Furze, Julie Troy, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Karlene Trump, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Bill Estlack, Kim Branch, Nick Wittman, Dave Stebbins, Barb Agius, Betty Kelly, Duane Schultz, Maria Shelton, Mary Ann Czarnecki, Cassie Newman, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, Dewayne Nail, Edna Delano, Yvonne Stoll, Bill Carr, Joseph Hansen, Scott Coddington, Cody Gustin.

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).

**CHRISTMAS EVE
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS MEETING**

All worship assistants are meeting after worship for a Christmas Eve walk through.

THANK YOU

Our family is touched beyond words by the kindness extended to our mother and to us since her passing by Pastor Tom and our church family. The visits, cards, flowers, food, gifts, hugs and kind words were all greatly appreciated. Her funeral service was a beautiful tribute to our wonderful mom and the luncheon was well received with many compliments. Your thoughtfulness is a gift we will always treasure...God bless you all!

With warmest thanks,

The Family of Jeanette Grove

LOCAL BENEVOLENCE NEEDS

There have been many in need this holiday season/time of the year and the needs will become greater during the winter months. Our fund balance is very low at this time. If you would like to make a donation to help those less fortunate during the upcoming winter months, please mark your donation "Local Benevolence" and place in the offering plate or give to Peggy in the church office. Thank you.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE
DECEMBER & JANUARY**

December 22 - Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

December 29 - No Sunday School

January 5 - No Sunday School

January 12 - No Sunday School

January 19 - Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

January 26 - Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR
COMMEMORATION 2020**

La'Ron Williams, Award winning African-American Storyteller and Workshop Trainer will be presenting programs in Alpena schools the week of January 13 through 17.

On Thursday January 16, he will present a community program entitled "**Racism is *NOT* That Guy in the Pointy Hood**" at ACC Room CTR 106 (opposite Granum Theater) from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. The program driven by a strong personal vision of a supportive and inclusive community in which everyone can freely participate, will be a blend of storytelling, interactive exercises, lecture, and dialogue to help us identify the major illusions that prevent us from effectively, and even joyously, working to achieve harmony across racial lines. The community is invited. For more information contact 354-6031

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,382.00
Weekly giving - December 14-15	5,007.81
Year-to-date over/(under)	\$ (13,074.54)

Large print worship folders, including hymns and weekly bulletin are available from ushers.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 22nd **Noisy Offering Weekend**
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Choir - Lounge
9:30 a.m. **Worship**
11:00 a.m. Adult CE – Lounge

Tuesday - 24th

Church Office Closed
5:00 p.m. **Worship**
7:30 p.m. **Worship**

Wednesday - 25th
Church Office Closed

Thursday - 26th

Church Office Closed
Sanctuary Reserved
5:00 p.m.

Friday - 27th
Church Office Closed

Saturday - 28th
5:00 p.m. **Worship**

SERVING DECEMBER 21-22

Ministers..... God’s People
Pastor..... Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director..... David Delano
Lector..... Mike Urlaub
Communion Assts..... Phran Ludington
Ushers Wayne Lewis, Clarence &
Bonnie Cross, Corky Gates,
Mike, Tracey, Adam & Allie Urlaub
Greeters..... Rick & Sharon Engstrom
Hospital..... Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild..... Denstaedt Family, Gentry Family
Counters..... Gary & Kay Grove
Coffee Hour..... Dawn Anderson, Phran Ludington
Cookie/
Doughnut Pick Up..... Joe & Dawn Gentry

SERVING DECEMBER 24

Ministers..... God’s People
Pastor..... Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director..... David Delano
Lectors Vicki Denstaedt (Early), Corinne Fraley (Late)
Communion Assts..... Dale Schultz, Joe Gentry,
Vicki Denstaedt (Early)
Jeanne Pankey, Vicki Denstaedt
(Late)
Ushers Wayne Lewis, Clarence &
Bonnie Cross, Corky Gates,
Mike, Tracey, Adam & Allie Urlaub
Greeters Joe & Dawn Gentry (Early)
Gary & Kay Grove (Late)
Altar Guild..... Denstaedt Family, Gentry Family

SERVING DECEMBER 28-29

Ministers..... God’s People
Pastor..... Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director..... David Delano
Communion Assts..... Phran Ludington
Ushers Wayne Lewis, Clarence &
Bonnie Cross, Corky Gates,
Mike, Tracey, Adam & Allie Urlaub
Greeters Mary Rowader, Phran Ludington
Hospital..... Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild..... Denstaedt Family, Gentry Family
Counters..... Gary & Kay Grove
Coffee Hour..... Joel & Cindy Suszek
Cookie/
Doughnut Pick Up..... Joe & Dawn Gentry

FIRST READING **Isaiah 7:10-16**
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.”

PSALM 80:1-7,17-19

(Psalms begin page 339)

SECOND READING Romans 1:1-7

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.

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

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.

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Phone: Office 354-2640

Pastor’s Home 356-8729

Pastor’s Cell Phone 916-8759

Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth

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