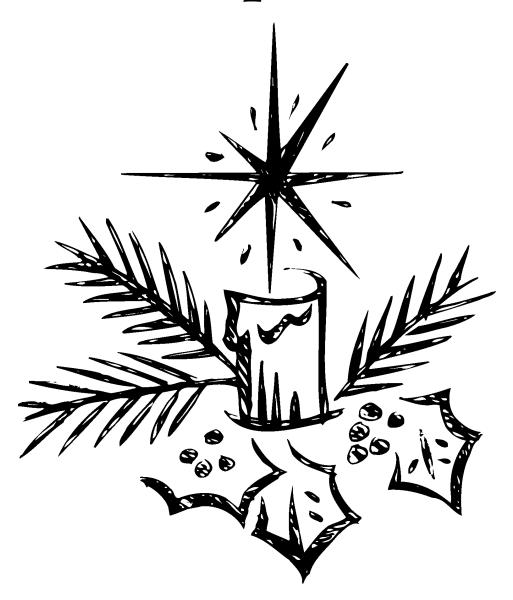
# Worship Folder



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

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# Grace Lutheran Church December 11 & 12, 2021

# **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 you are able)

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

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God. *Silence is kept for reflection*.
- P: God for whom we wait.
- C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.
- P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + our sins are forgiven. We are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens us anew to follow the way of peace.
- C: Amen.

#### **GATHERING HYMN** "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" Α wake! Α wake, and the new for greet morn, 2 To us, to all in sor row and fear, Em 3 In dark est night his com ing shall when be, Re joice, take heart though joice, re in the night, an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing your joy, for out man - u - el comes a sing - ing, his hum - ble song is de the world is spair - ing, as morn - ing light so cheer - less, dark the win-ter and the ris - ing shall sun hold! the Child of be long soon he is born, our ing. ring - ing; car - ing. qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its qui - et and gen - tle free, so warm and and fear - less. crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and Come as weak and poor, bring all hearts to ba by to mu - sic bro - ken soul hymns of lov - ing heal the and to Then shall the break forth song, the lame shall leap mute in in and our prayer and love our end - less Love be our song love geth - er, kind - ness, he pens wide the heav'n - ly and 0 the thun der of his an - thems roll to a won - der, the weak be raised bove the strong, and sto -God fill ev 'ry day share may we and ry; side lives now in for us ev er. Text & Music: Marty Haugen © 1983 shat - ter all ha tred and blind ness. GIA Publications, Inc. Permission to reprint/ stream this music obtained from OneLicense weap - ons be bro ken a sun der. #A-708784. All rights reserved. bring us at last in - to glo ry.

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



3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;



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

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

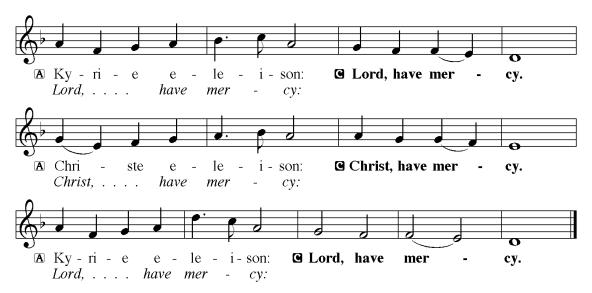
Arr. John L. Bell © 1986 Iona Community. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

#### **GREETING**

P: From the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty: grace, light, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

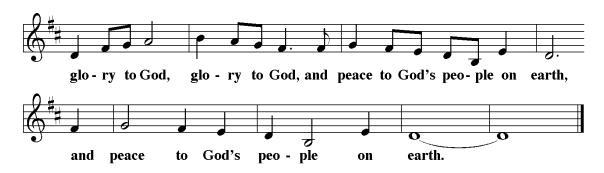
#### **KYRIE**



#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**







P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **Zephaniah 3;14-20**

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup>I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

# <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

<sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

# <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

#### Philippians 4:4-7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (The assembly stands, as you are able, for the Gospel)



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

#### Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

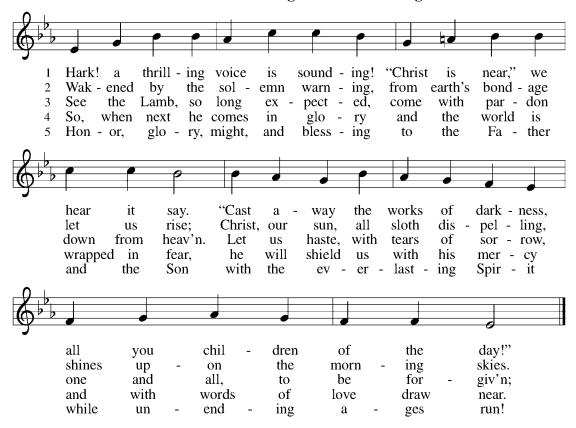
<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." <sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ. (The assembly may be seated)

**HOMILY** 

(The assembly stands as you are able)

#### HYMN OF THE DAY "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

Music: MERTON , William H. Monk, 1823–1889 This selection is in the public domain.

#### **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**

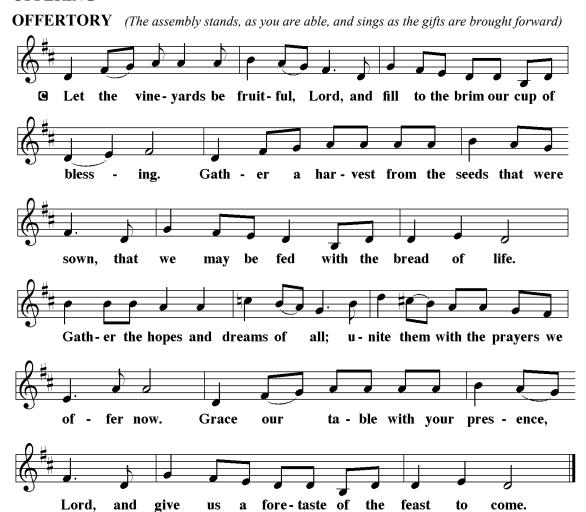
(Response after each petition)

**P:** Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

# MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

#### **OFFERING**



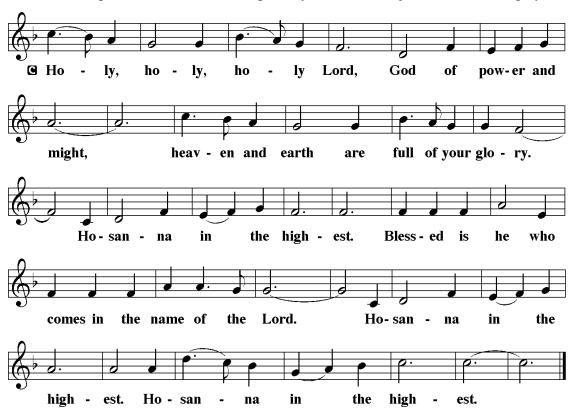
- P: Let us pray...God of our waiting and watching,
- C: we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

#### **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**

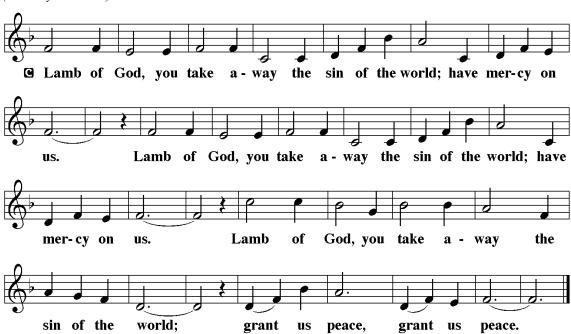
P: Holy, mighty and merciful Lord...(concluding)...almighty Father, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 

#### 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**

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine/juice are invited to participate in the Eucharist) (You may be seated)



#### COMMUNION HYMN "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"



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

Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 This selection is in the public domain.

The assembly stands as you are able)

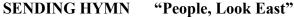
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray...Most High God,
- C: you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

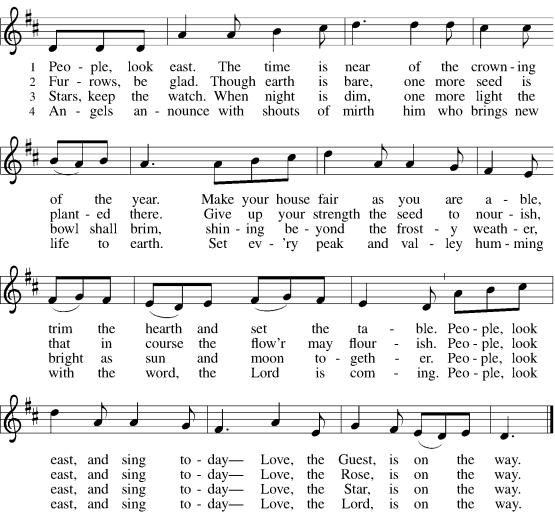
### **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

P: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

#### C: Amen.





Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965 Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from CCLI #11295441/20816990.

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

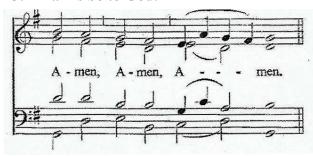
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.



#### **POSTLUDE**



#### IN OUR PRAYERS

Patti Tucker, Cindy Domrase, Susan Stacey, Myra Cross, Mike & Donna, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Charlotte Werth, Hannelore Duenkel & Family (Charlotte Werth's niece), Dorothy Hansen, Larry Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Joanne Nicholls, Deb Nitchman's Family, Diane Prevost, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod staff, Rose Schreiber, Tiffany Bailey, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Avril & Charlie Phillips and newborn son Spencer, Jay Nowak, Gus Gillard, Jennifer Rottweiler & Family (Nancy Platt's daughter), Ann Haske, Gary Rich, Carl Ball, Amanda Lema (Betty Dulebohn's granddaughter), Lyn Marshall, Joanne Coughlin, Sylvia Rouech, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Laura Bleau, Sharon Anderson, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, 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).

Prayer concerns received by the church office by Tuesday each week will be included in the coming weekends bulletin. Please do have the person's permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than our congregation will know about it.

#### MASKS ARE OPTIONAL - WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO WEAR THEM

If you are more comfortable wearing a mask, we welcome your doing so. Let us take care of each other and help end this pandemic.

#### PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Prayer Group at Trinity Episcopal Church. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Mamrelund Lutheran Church/Kent City, Rev. Michael Conklin.

#### CHRISTMAS CAROLING - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

You are invited to join in Christmas caroling around the community! There will be lunch provided after church on Sunday, December 12 at 11:00 am and caroling will begin at 12:00 pm. We will be going to assisted living homes as well as homes of some of our members. As we will be singing and around those who are vulnerable, we ask those participating to wear a mask. Please join in the fun!

#### **RUTH CIRCLE MEETS DECEMBER 15**

The Ruth Circle will meet on Wednesday, December 15, at the church. We are having a potluck lunch at 12:30 pm with a Bible Study to follow. We invite all women of the church to join us! -- Ruth Circle

WORSHIP SCHEDULE ON CHRISTMAS' AND NEW YEAR'S WEEKENDS With Christmas day on Saturday, there will be NO Saturday evening worship on December 25. The Sunday worship on December 26th will be a recorded lessons and carols worship provided by the Synod that will be shown online at our YouTube channel like our Sunday worship is at 9:30 AM and available afterwards, too. For any who would like to view this service at church with others, we will be showing it on the large screen tv at the usual time of 9:30 AM Sunday. On Saturday, January 1, we will not have the usual evening worship. Our Sunday, January 2 service, will be our own lessons and carols service here in our sanctuary at 9:30 AM with communion.

#### TAKE HOME COMMUNION

Communion will again be offered for your pickup and have with family at home on Tuesday, December 21st from 1 to 2:30 pm and Wednesday, December 22 from 11 am to 1 pm. Please notify the office (989.354.2640) of which day you would like to pick up the packages and for how many people. Thank you.

#### LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Blessings and the Little Food Pantry has many! Our community has many needs when it comes to food insecurities and donations have been coming in to fill some of those needs. Thank you to Besser school children for their donations and recently the Lions Club for donations of potatoes. There are many donations that have come in and we just don't know who they are. We thank you and want you to know that they are disappearing very quickly As a short term pantry, we help people get food for that few days that they might need a little extra help.

#### BAKE SALE THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who helped, baked and donated items. It made our bake sale a great success. With God's blessing and many hands, we made \$712. Thanks to everyone. -- Ruth Circle

#### WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE WEDNESDAY AT 9AM FOR BULLETIN

We ask that any announcement for the bulletin be to the office in a written form or by email by 9 am Wednesday. The information is sent out in multiple forms - printed bulletins, email blast, Facebook and on our webpage - so that it reaches everyone who participates at church or attends worship in person or online. We offer all these means for everyone to be aware of all that is going on and for the chance to be involved in our work for God's Kingdom. Thank you.

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to Ruby Haske for coordinating and to all who helped with and donated to our Thanksgiving meal. We served 38 meals and collected \$305 in donations. All food for the meal was donated so monetary donations will be allocated for the Little Food Pantry.

#### **NEW ADDRESSES**

Polly Cook Scandia Village Apartments 10554 Applewood Rd. #224 Sister Bay, WI 54234 David Delano 26 Charles St. Ext. Belfast, ME 04915

#### 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.

#### PLEASE RECYCLE BULLETINS

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

#### **GENERAL FUND GIVING**

Average needed each week to meet budget \$4,489.00 Weekly giving - December 5 \$4,050.00

We received:

23 envelopes, 13 Simply Giving recurring payments, and 1 Give+ payment made from our website

Candlelight
Worship
Christmas
Christmas
5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

Communion offered at both services

We will NOT have worship on Saturday, December 25 and Saturday, January 1







# Anniversaries of Baptism



**December 1** Andrea Matzke

**December 4** Kevin Graham

**December 6** Monica Jahnke Levi Konarzewski

**December 7**Gary Grove

**December 8**Jewel 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

**December 21**Gracie Gillard

Joel Gillard

**December 23** Melissa Chabot

**December 24**Riley Garant
Edward Jahnke
Kristina Wilson

**December 26** Erin Graham

**December 28** Jessica Konarzewski Sherie McTaggart

**December 30** Ethan McIntosh

# Birthdays

**December 1**Denise Timrick

**December 2** Laurie Slater Ashley Timmreck

**December 3** Ricky Slater Laura Thompson

**December 5** Cody Suszek Amy Townsend

**December 7** Riley Garant Sophia Kamyszek

December 8 Hannah Kamyszek

December 9
Paul Denstaedt

**December 16** Stephanie Adamski Jerry Mudge

**Decemer 18** Stephen Hansen Jack Tucker **December 19** Donna Czarnecki

**December 20** Gracelyn Gohlke Reed Lappan

**December 21**Charlotte Werth

December 22 Shane Jaroch Connie Stepanski

**December 24**Patricia 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

#### **HAPPENING THIS WEEK!**

#### Sunday - 12th 9:30 am Worship 11:00 a.m. Lunch/Caroling Monday - 13th CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Tuesday - 14th 8am-noon Church Office Open

### 6:00 pm Wednesday - 15th

9:00 am

Church Office Open 8am-noon Ruth Circle Potluck & 12:30 pm Bible Study

Council

Sewing/Quilting

#### Thursday - 16th

8am-noon Church Office Open

#### Friday - 17th

8 am-noon Church Office Open

#### Saturday - 18th

5:00 pm Worship

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

#### **SERVING DECEMBER 11/12**

Ministers God's People				
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth				
Music DirectorClaire Schreiber				
Accompanist Amy Truth				
LectorBob Greene				
Communion				
Assistants Wayne & Chris Christopherson				
Ushers Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom				
GreetersJoel & Cindy Suszek				
Altar Guild Gentry Family				
Livestream Team Phran Ludington, Dawn				
Anderson, Jan Charter, Don Barnard				
CountersCheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek				
Coffee Hour Roger & Jeanne Pankey				

#### **SERVING DECEMBER 18/19**

Ministers	God's People			
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth			
Music Director.	Claire Schreiber			
Accompanist	Amy Truth			
Lector	Ruby Haske			
Communion	•			
Assistants W	Vayne & Chris Christopherson			
Ushers Gary	& Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom			
	Cindy Domrase (Saturday)			
Greeters	Roger & Jeanne Pankey			
Altar Guild	Gentry Family			
Livestream Team Phran Ludington, Dawn				
Ander	son, Jan Charter, Don Barnard			
Counters	Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek			
Coffee Hour	Joel & Cindy Suszek			

#### 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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