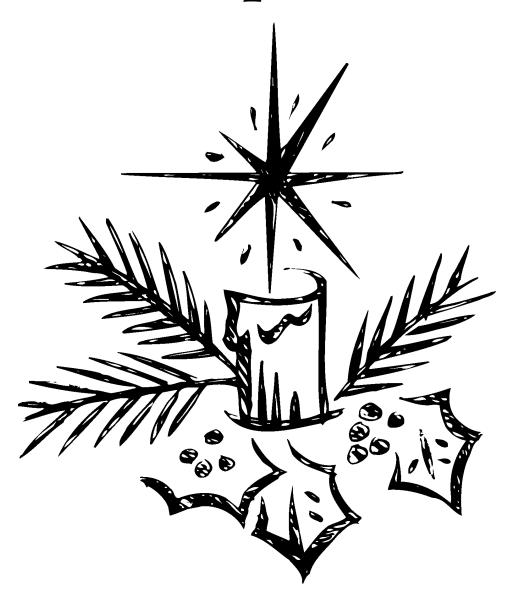
Worship Folder



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

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Grace Lutheran Church December 18 & 19, 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

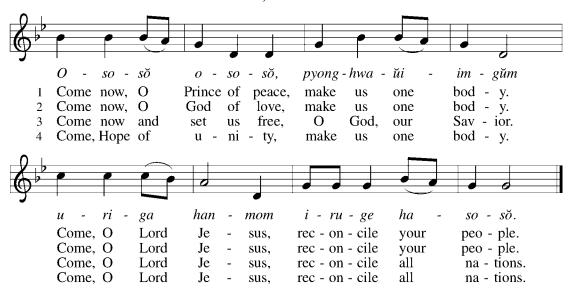
PRELUDE

(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 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"



Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Music: OSOSO, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

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



4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



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

Text: Cameroon traditional

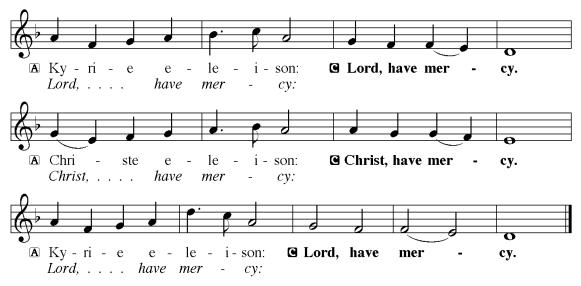
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

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.

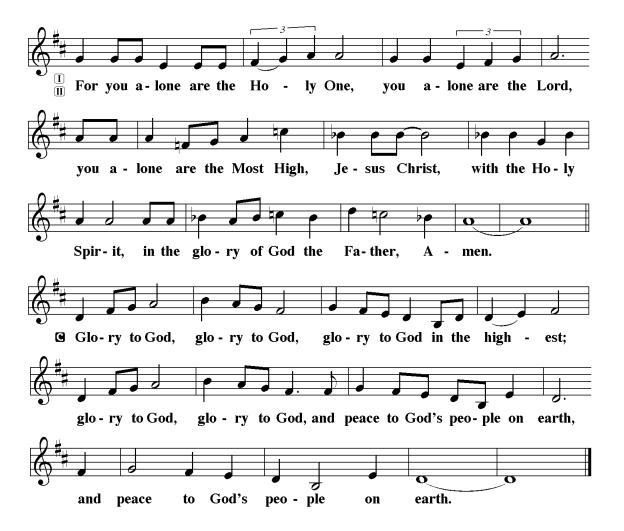
KYRIE



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

Micah 5:2-5a

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 80:1-7

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. ${\bf R}$

Hebrews 10:5-10

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." ⁸When 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), ⁹then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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 1:39-45 [46-55]

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

P: The Gospel of Our Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

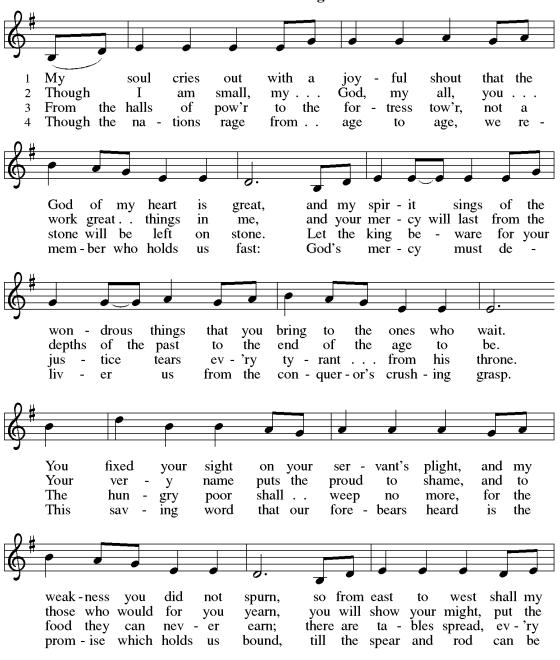
(The assembly may be seated)

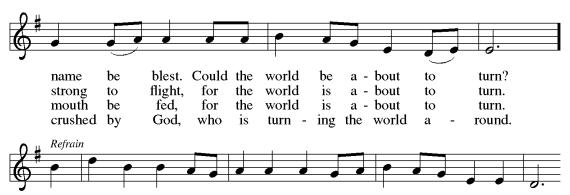
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HOMILY

(The assembly stands as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY "Canticle of the Turning"





My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



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

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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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 you are able, and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



- 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.

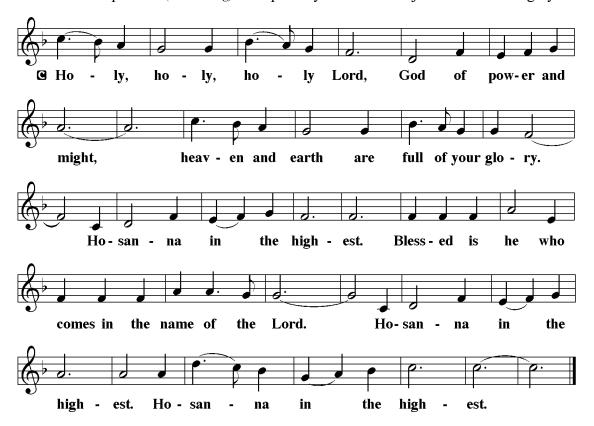
P: Lift up your hearts

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

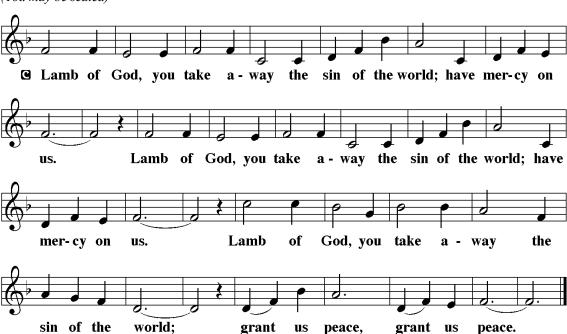
P: Holy, mighty and merciful Lord...(concluding)...almighty Father, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

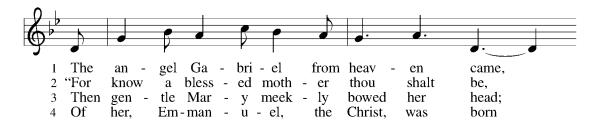
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

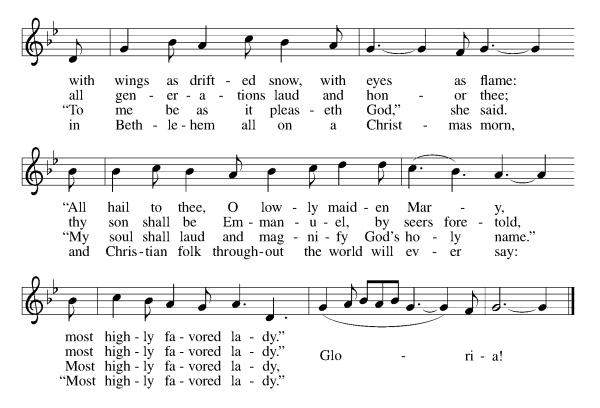
HOLY COMMUNION

(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 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"





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 you are able)

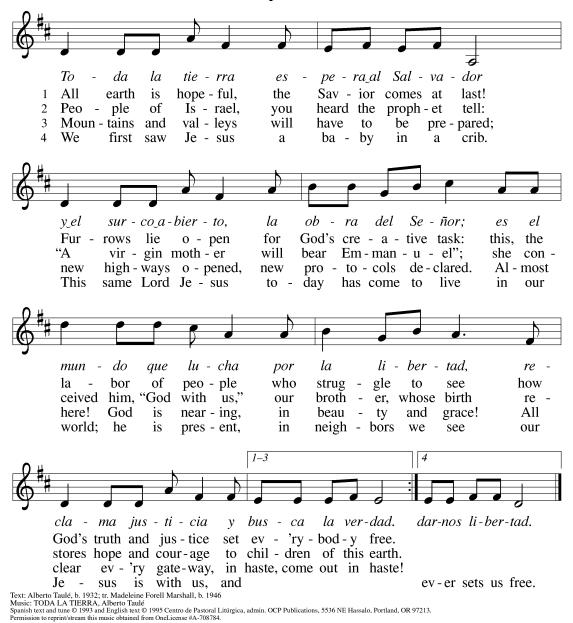
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray...Most High God,
- C: you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus,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

SENDING HYMN "All Earth Is Hopeful"

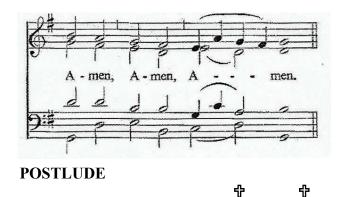


ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.



THANK YOU

Thank you to Rev. Laraine Sundin for leading worship and preaching this weekend.

骨

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, Jay Nowak, Gus Gillard, Jennifer Rottweiler & Family (Nancy Platt's daughter), Ann Haske, Gary Rich, Carl Ball, 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. We also remember the families of Pat Malaney, Raymond Ellsworth (Deb Wcisel-Ellsworth's brother), and Mary Jo Lyon, who passed away this past week.

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.

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for all who work on Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: Ascension Lutheran Church/Kentwood, Father Michael Wernick, Episcopal.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Mildred and Ingvar Larsen, given by Eleanor Coddington.

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR TOM

I appreciate all the concern and support I have received from the people of Grace Lutheran and our community after my TIA/mini-stroke incident at this past week's Council meeting. The care I received was excellent and I am doing fine. MRI imaging results indicate no lasting injuries. Again, thanks so much to everyone. God's Grace and Peace to all.

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.

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.

TORNADO DISASTER RELIEF

Lutheran Disaster Relief has sent out a special appeal for funds to help with the recovery. They are committing that 100% of the funds designated for "U.S. Tornadoes" will be used to help people until the response is complete. We will take up collections until January 9th and send it in immediately.

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.

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.

PERSONAL CARE KIT ITEMS NEEDED

An Epiphany Gathering is being planned for Sunday, January 9, 2022 following our 9:30 a.m. worship service. As part of this gathering, we are hoping that some of these "gifts" will be brought for personal care kits. The gifts should not be wrapped and please choose from the following list:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (20"x40" to 52"x27"), dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap)
- One sturdy comb (no picks or fine toothed combs); remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

These kits will be assembled and sent to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed where needed throughout the world.

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.

NEW ADDRESSES

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

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

December 24th $\sim 5:00 \& 7:30 \text{ p.m.}$

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

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget \$4,489.00 Weekly giving - December 12 \$5,115.00

We received:

18 envelopes, 36 Simply Giving recurring payments, and 3 Give+ payments made from our website

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 19th

9:30 am Worship

Monday - 20th

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday - 21st

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

Wednesday - 22nd

Church Office Open 8am-noon

Thursday - 23rd

8am-noon Church Office Open

Friday - 24th

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

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

Saturday - 25th

NO Worship Today

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

SERVING DECEMBER 18/19

Ministers God's People
PastorRev. Laraine Sundin
Music DirectorClaire Schreiber
Accompanist Amy Truth
Lector Ruby Haske
Communion
Assistants Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Ushers Gary & Kay Grove, Rick Engstrom
Cindy Domrase (Saturday)
Greeters Roger & Jeanne Pankey
Altar Guild Gentry Family
Livestream Team Phran Ludington, Dawn
Anderson, Jan Charter, Don Barnard
CountersCheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Joel & Cindy Suszek

SERVING DECEMBER 26

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director	Claire Schreiber
Accompanist	Amy Truth
Altar Guild	Gentry Family
Livestream Team Phran Ludington, Dawn	
Anderson,	Jan Charter, Don Barnard
CountersCh	neryl Lang, Cindy Suszek

PLEASE RECYCLE BULLETINS

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

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.

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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