

Advent Means the Lord Is Coming

ADVENT 1
November 28, 2021



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. David R. Clark, x303
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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmdale Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

Principal Joel D. Walker, x302
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Secretary, Alice, x301
secretary@graceglendale.org

WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
 - *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
 - *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.*
 - *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you are in need of hearing assistance.*
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OPENING HYMN: #8 – Come, O Precious Ransom, Come

**Come, O precious Ransom, come,
Only Hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to you all portals.
Come, your beauty let us view;
Anxiously we wait for you.**

**Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When you are my guest divine!**

**My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray you.
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay you,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, your merit through your grace.**

**Hail, hosanna, David's Son!
Help, Lord; hear our supplication!
Let your kingdom, scepter, crown
Bring us blessing and salvation
That forever we may sing
Hail, hosanna! to our King.**

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M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, today we begin a new Church year, the first season of which we call “Advent.” The word “Advent” means “coming.” During the season of Advent the Word of God bids us to prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Christ, which we celebrate at Christmas. Before Christmas we desperately need our Savior to come to us in grace. Without preparation we would surely perish in his coming in judgment. Therefore, let us use these weeks, beginning today, to focus more intently on the repentance of our sins, turning away from them and to the grace of God which will make his return joyous for each of us.

HOLY BAPTISM: (10:30) p. 12
Ethan Jacob Hammar

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION: p. 38

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your

unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us knows what day that will be.

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

One Advent candle is lit.

M: Let us pray:

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come.

Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST LESSON: The Lord is our Righteous Savior. Jeremiah 33:14-16 ¹⁴“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those

days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.'

ADULT CHOIR: (8:00)..... O Come, Immanuel
(Michael Wilde, cello)

GRACE NOTES: (10:30) Rose of Bethlehem

SECOND LESSON: It is time for us to prepare for the Lord's

coming. 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 ⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

VERSE OF THE DAY: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

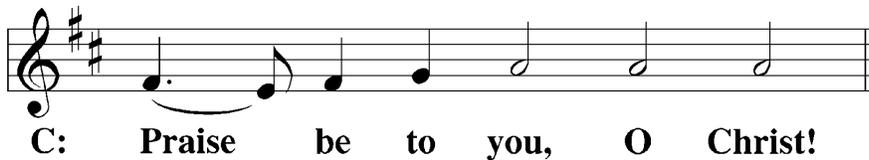
These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

(Please rise in honor of the words of Jesus.)

GOSPEL LESSON: The signs for his coming have already been fulfilled. Luke 21:25-36 ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”



HYMN OF THE DAY: #376 – Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

SERMON:Romans 13:11-14

¹¹And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴Rather, clothe

yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

TIME ROLLS ALONG UNTIL...

1. The night is far along.
2. The day draws near for Christ's return.

APOSTLES' CREED: p. 41

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER:..... p. 43

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN: #9 – Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes

**Jesus, your Church with longing eyes
For your expected coming waits.
When will the promised light arise
And glory beam from heaven's gates?**

**E'en now, when tempests round us fall
And wintry clouds o'ercast the sky,
Your words with pleasure we recall
And know that our redemption's nigh.**

**Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew,
Our sins forgive, our foes suppress,
Our rooted enmity subdue,
And crown your gospel with success.**

**Oh, come and reign o'er ev'ry land;
Let Satan from his throne be hurled.
Let nations bow to your command;
Let grace revive a dying world.**

**Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for your appointed hour,
And fit us by your grace to share
The triumphs of your conqu'ring pow'r.**

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PRAYER



BENEDICTION



CLOSING HYMN: #21 – Hosanna to the Coming Lord

**Hosanna to the coming Lord!
Hosanna to the incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King
Let earth, let heav'n hosanna sing.**

**O Savior, with protecting care
Abide in this your house of prayer,
Where we your parting promise claim,
Assembled in your sacred name.**

**O Advent King, our sins forgive;
Come in our lives and hearts to live,
And let our humble souls become
A temple worthy of your name.**

**Then in the last and dreadful day,
When earth and heav'n shall melt away,
Your flock, redeemed from sinful stain,
Shall swell the sound of praise again.**

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ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Don Petersen in memory of his father, John; and by Don & Denise Koehnlein in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.



Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 151; 10:30 AM – 99
Communion attendance: 8:00 AM – 130; 10:30 AM – 52
Sunday School attendance: Adults – 73; Room 1 – 15; Children – 18
Tue. *Topics* Class: 12
Senior ushers – 8:00 AM: Nicholas Lincoln
10:30 AM: Jerry Rovey
Organist: Jeff Wegner

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - **Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM;** Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Advent by Candlelight, 5:00 PM
MON - Adult Choir, 7:00 PM; Praise Ringers, 8:00 PM
TUE - Newsletter Assembly, 9:00 AM, **NO** Tuesday Bible class
WED - ABC @ IHOP, 8:30 AM; Pub. Sch. Confirmation, 6:30 PM; *Ezekiel* Bible, 7:00 PM
THU - Elders Meeting, 3:00 PM; School Board, 6:30 PM
FRI - Proverbs Class, 10:00 AM; School early release, 11:30 AM

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Carolyn Meyer – 4716 W Hayward Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85301-1535
(Home)

Alexandra Janosek – 3411 W Hayduk Road, Laveen, AZ 85339-2503
(Home)

Adrienne Siffring – 7319 W Sweetwater Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85381
(Home)

Ed Junas – 4001 W Tuckey Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1240 (Home)

Michael Lorenz – PO Box 33206, Phoenix, AZ 85067-3206 (Home)

Doris Rankin – 4708 W Las Palmaritas Drive, Glendale, AZ 85302
(Arrowhead Rehab)

Maggie Stevenson – 24399 N 87th Lane, Peoria, AZ 85383-1817
(Home)

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and December Bible-reading & activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.
2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for December 4th will be captained by Don & Eileen McDowell with Bob & Tess Franzmeier; Gina Gannon; Susan Greening; and Frances, Andrew, and Benjamin Wells.



HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS...The Holiday Gift Shop is November 30th to December 2nd. We need your help! Volunteers are needed to help students select and wrap gifts. Sign up TODAY! We can't do it without you! If you have questions, please contact Heather Kallies or Debbie Petersen @ 623-842-4704, ext. 322.



SCRIPTURAL CHRISTMAS CARDS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall before Bible class this morning. Greeting cards can be purchased singly and by the box. **2022 Scriptural Calendars** are also available.



CHURCH DECORATIONS will be put up after the 2nd service this morning. Please contact Steve or Patty Bischoff if you need more information.



WOMEN'S ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT is this evening at 5:00 PM in the fellowship hall. All ladies of Grace are invited to attend. Contact Bonnie Clark if you can help.



NO LIVING NATIVITY...Due to COVID-19, the Church Council has decided to cancel our Living Nativity presentation for 2021. See Don Petersen with questions.



SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING...At the November 16th Church Council meeting motions were passed to call an additional teacher as soon as possible and to hire a school administrative assistant. Both of these motions are in response to the incredible growth our school is seeing this year. In order to consider these motions as soon as possible, we will be holding a special voters meeting immediately after the second service on Sunday, December 5th. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY...On Tuesday, November 30th, the church monthly newsletter will be assembled starting at 9:00 AM. All are welcome to attend to help. It's a great bunch of volunteers, who do a wonderful job preparing the newsletter for mailing while enjoying fellowship with each other.



ABC IN DECEMBER...The Adult Breakfast & Coffee group will meet on Wednesday, December 1st at IHOP, 6601 W Peoria Avenue in Glendale at 8:30 AM. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex so that adequate seating can be arranged. The morning will consist of a devotion, fellowship, and breakfast (on your own)!



MEN'S CONFERENCE IN PHOENIX...The 1st Annual Arizona/California *Men of His Word Conference* will be held on Saturday, **Jan. 22, 2022, in Phoenix**. The theme is "More than Conquerors." Join us for a day of fellowship, encouragement, worship, and learning. Breakfast and lunch are included. A keynote speaker kicks off the conference, and you'll be able to choose from eight different breakout sessions. The conference is open to all men who would like to grow spiritually, be inspired by God's Word, and

fellowship with Christian brothers from the Southwest. Please visit <https://www.MenofHisWord.org/2022-phoenix.html> for more information, or to buy tickets. See the Grace November Newsletter for details and registration form.



DONATE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE! Scan this image using your phone’s QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or need help with setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the “Click Here to Donate Online” button. A phone app is also available for donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. *Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.*



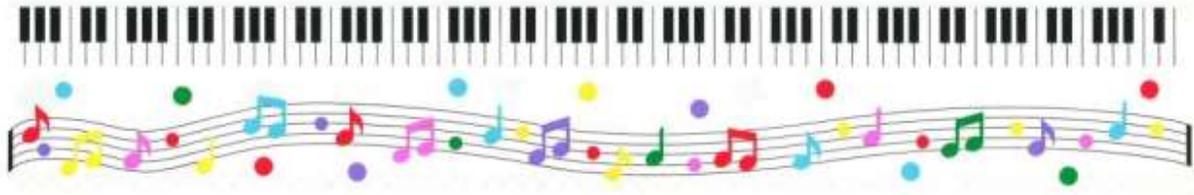
FINANCIAL UPDATE: Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$873,142.00 by 6/30/2022.**

Week ending 11/21/2021:		YTD 7/1/2021 through 11/21/2021:	
Weekly Need:	16,000.00	YTD Need:	336,000.00
Weekly Actual:	14,289.90	YTD Actual:	344,367.73
Weekly +/-:	-1,710.10	YTD +/-:	+8,367.73



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Christmas Decorating** – TODAY, November 28, 11:30 AM
- **Advent by Candlelight** – TODAY, November 28, 5:00 PM
- **Super Saturday #4** – December 11th, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- **Celebration of Christmas** – Sunday, December 12th, 6:00 PM
- **Children’s Christmas Service** – Sunday, Dec. 19th, 4:00 PM
- **Candlelight Services** – Friday, Dec. 24th, 5:00 & 7:00 PM
- **Christmas Day Worship** – Saturday, December 25th, 9:00 AM
- **Christmas Song Fest** – Sunday, December 26th, 9:30 AM
- **New Year’s Eve COMMUNION Service** – Friday, December 31, 2021, 6 PM



Dear Grace Members:

Please show your thanks to our fine organists and pianists who serve us throughout the year by making a financial gift to be divided among our musicians. We do not pay our organists, nor do we buy their music for them. At this time of the year, we all have the opportunity to show them what a blessing they are to us!

Our organists in 2021 were:

Denise Koehnlein
Terry Greening
Jeff Wegner
Michael Wilde

Our pianists in 2021 were:

Lara Johnson
Stacey Hill

Checks (payable to **Grace Ev. Lutheran Church** with “Organist Gift” on the memo line) or Cash (in envelope with your name &/or envelope # and “Organist Gift” written on the outside) may be placed in the offering plates or turned in to the office by December 31st.

**Thank you! And special thanks to our Organists and Pianists!
We are very BLESSED to have such a talented group of musicians!**

Sincerely,
Chris Kallies
President

