

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI
Worship Committee e-mail: gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com

Phone: (269) 945-9414
(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
Christ the King Sunday
November 24, 2019

A Ruler's Power

Rulers are defined by their power over others. They can levy taxes, conscript youth into armies, open or close borders, and enforce policies that direct the daily lives of the people in their realm. When Pilate interviews Jesus, he says to him, "Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" (John 19:10). It is something a ruler would say. In the outpost of the Roman Empire that is Judea, Caesar's power resides with Pilate.

As he is crucified, Jesus wields two powers that belong to kings. First, he offers pardon. He prays for the forgiveness of those responsible for his death. As God answers his prayer, those who have meant Jesus harm are absolved. It is just as if a judge, a president, or a monarch had pardoned them. They walk free.

Jesus also exercises the noble power of welcome. Who may come into a country? Rulers of each country decide the answer to this question. In our day, they enact their decisions with paperwork: passports, visas, and the like. Jesus exercises the power to welcome another into the rule of God. He spent his ministry welcoming people into that reign as he shared with them healing, forgiveness, food, and love. On the cross, he welcomes someone else. For the thief who asks, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42), Jesus authorizes a visa into paradise.

Christ the King's pardon is for us. We begin our worship acknowledging our sin and hearing the news that God has forgiven us. The Ruler's welcome is ours as well. We come to the table, received by Christ himself. Today we join him, the thief on the cross, and all the saints in a foretaste of the paradise to come. The Spirit sends us into the week ahead renewed in the knowledge that we are citizens of the reign of God and that our true Ruler is the one who welcomes and pardons: the crucified and risen Christ.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Please fill out our Participation Card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees. Sometimes there are additional questions on the back of the card, so don't forget to check both sides of the card.

Christ the King Sunday

November 24, 2019

Welcome to worship on our 75th Anniversary celebration. Israel longed for a true king to set things right. God gave Israel kings, but they yearned for the Anointed One (Messiah) the Son of Man who would be given all dominion. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We, as a congregation, have listened for more than 75 years to Christ Jesus, and we look forward to the day Jesus is given complete dominion, knowing that his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

White is the color of purity and completeness. On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music

Amazing Grace: A Musical Portrait for Organ and Piano

arranged by John A Behnke

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Arise in body or spirit

Gathering Song

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838 (red book)

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

☐ The grace of eternal God, the holy and living One,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you all.

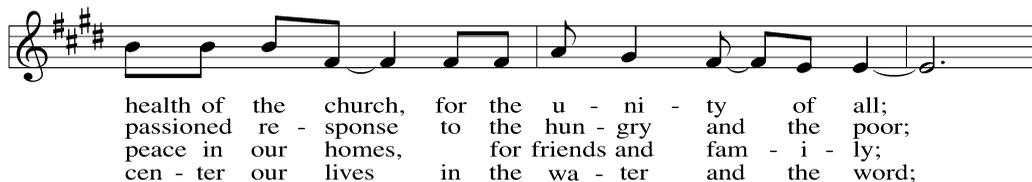
☑ **And also with you.**

☐ We come to worship the One who is the beginning and end of all that is good.

☑ **Let us share God's love with one another.**

Kyrie Eleison

Refrain



Refrain



Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Let us Pray...O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory.
- ☞ **Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sit

Choir

Fairest Lord Jesus

arranged by Derek Hakes

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

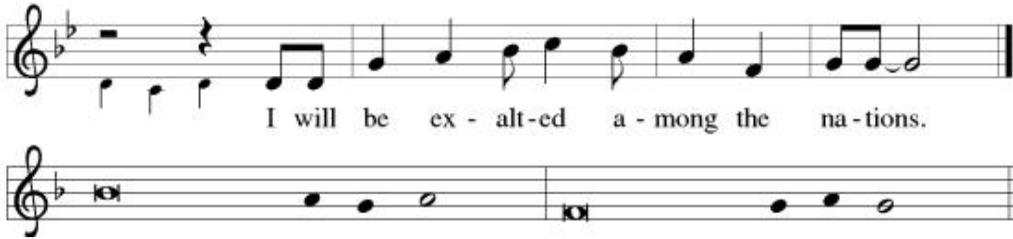
☞ A reading from **Jeremiah:**

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 46

- ¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.
- ²**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**
- ³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
- ⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**
- ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.
- ⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. ☒**
- ⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**
- ⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
- ¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”**
- ¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. ☒

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

☐ A reading from **Colossians**:

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

☐ The Holy Gospel, according to **Luke**:

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under

the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Time

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Silence for reflection

The Reverend Roseanne Anderson

Assistant to Bishop Satterlee

Arise in body or spirit

Song of the Day

Holy God, Holy and Glorious

ELW 637

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayer

☞ United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

☞ God, you are our righteousness. Fill us with the hope of steadfast love and shine light on places that were invisible to us, so that we see your kingdom made visible on earth. Guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne; our synod companion churches Bethany Lutheran Church, Kaleva; Our Lady of Great Oak, Bellevue; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of love,

☞ **Receive our prayers.**

☞ God, your reign extends from the black holes of the universe to a single grain of sand. Guide us to sustain and restore all of your creation, and to live in peace with this planet. God of love,

☞ **Receive our prayers.**

☞ God, you are exalted among nations. Protect the people in countries ravaged by violence, warfare, and hatred, and raise up wise and generous leaders to find their strength in you. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Zack Green (Mikolajczyks), Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley (Burdicks), Brandon and Stevi Kay Miller (McManaway), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls), and Julia Ehredt (Schrieners, Halsteads).* God of love,

☞ **Receive our prayers.**

A God of all generations, we praise you and thank you for children of all ages. From those who are days old to our oldest member here at Grace of 100 years old. We ask you to help us be open to your direction as we seek a Youth and Family Committee chair. We thank you for our interim chair God of love,

G **Receive our prayers.**

A God, you are our help in times of trouble. Like a shepherd who guards the sheep, watch over your flock: those who are sick and hurting in body, mind, or spirit, those who are mocked, and those who are lonely including, *Sue Ainsley, Cathy Balak, Robin Bennett, Gary Burdick, Penny Burdick, James Colvin, family of Becky Clifton, Irene Corr, Colleen Endsley, Wes Gillons, Opal Gillons, Karl Golnek, Cathy Hallaxs, Delmer Hansen, Ilene Hilson, Mike Hoppe, Soon Keller family, Darlene Martino, Linda Melcher, Purser family, Rick Sass, Milton Woods, George Ulrich Jr., Rusty Wilkins, Landon Yepez, Cameron, Vicky, Lauren, Lynnze, Lisa and thanksgiving for the people of this wonderful church.* God of love,

G **Receive our prayers.**

A God, you call us forth from this place to lives of service. Equip the outreach ministries of this congregation. Use our hands and feet, sharing Christ's love with neighbors in need. God of love,

G **Receive our prayers.**

A Be attentive, gracious God, to the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Almighty God, the beginning and the end, we rejoice that one day we will share in the inheritance of the saints. In thanksgiving, we remember those who have gone before us (*especially Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant, pastors in North America*). God of love,

G **Receive our prayers.**

P Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care.

G **Amen.**

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill it out and place a Participation Card in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

Arise in body or spirit

Offertory

We Are an Offering

We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Offering Prayer

- A** Let us pray . . . Living and true God, we give to you the things that are yours – our skills, our time, our possessions, our selves. Bless us and these your gifts.
- C** **Move us to works of faith and labors of love for the good of all people and the wholeness of your creation; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen**

Sharing the Peace of God

- P** The peace of Christ be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

The Great Thanksgiving

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by the glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Table Prayer

☐ Holy, living and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

☑ **You created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.**

☐ We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace.

☑ **You, Lord God, promise an end to injustice and harm.**

☐ 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, the sacrifice of Christ's life, death and the gift of resurrection,
☩ **we await with all the saints the loving redemption of our suffering world.**

- ☩ Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son.
- ☩ **Teach us your mercy and justice, and in Christ make all things new.**
- ☩ All glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
- ☩ **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

- ☩ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- ☩ **Our Father in heaven, holy 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

- ☩ God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.
- ☩ **Thanks be to God.**

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

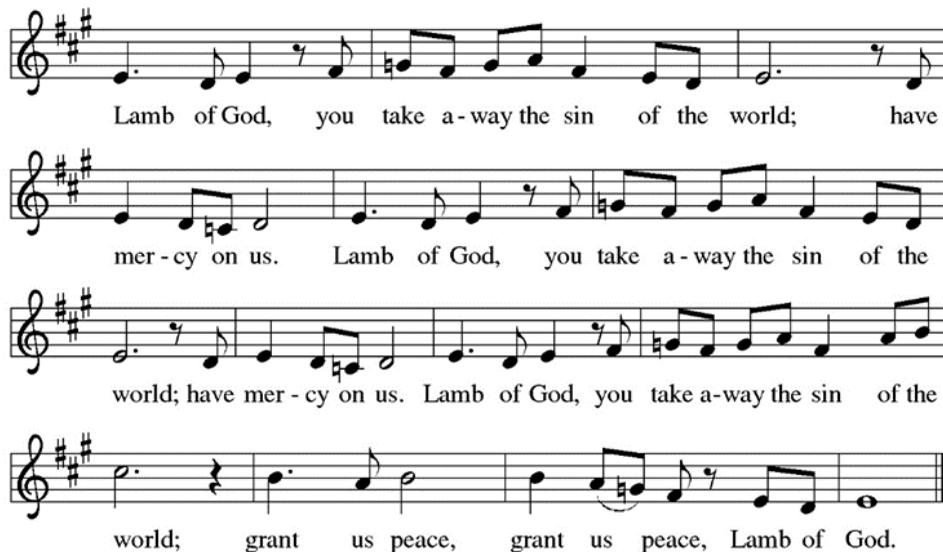
✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Shout to the Lord

ELW 821

My Song is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un-known, my Sav-ior's love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, sal-va-tion to be-stow;
3 Some-times they strew his way and his sweet prais-es sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
love to the love-less shown, that they might love-ly be.
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
re-sound-ing all the day ho-san-nas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

ELW 490

Prayer after Communion

- ▣ Let us pray . . . Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey.
- ▣ **Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit.

Blessing

- ▣ Gracious God, † Redeeming Savior, and life giving Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
- ▣ **Amen.**

Sending Song

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

Dismissal

- ▣ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- ▣ **Thanks be to God.**

Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 24 One Worship Service 10:00 am
Anniversary Celebration / Luncheon following
Community Thanksgiving Service 6:00 pm – Hope
United Methodist Church

Monday, November 25 LACS 6:00 pm

Today's Worship Leaders

10:00 am

Assisting Minister: Vickey Argo

First Reader: Pastor Michael Anton, **Cantor:** Anna Scheck, **Second Reader:** Pastor Mike Kemper,
Gospel Reader: Pastor Paul Kuhlman

Bread: Pastor Ken Scheck II **Common Cup:** Pastor Michael Anton & Pastor Roseanne Anderson

Pouring Chalice: Pastor Mike Kemper & Pastor Paul Kuhlman

Communion Tray Holders: Vickey Argo and Laura Scheck

Ushers: Mark Anton/ Gary Golnek

Greeters: Bill & Lorraine Freedlund

Table Guild: Deborah Wilke

Bread Maker: Jennette Markwart

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, December 1, 2019

8:00 am

10:45 am

Assisting Minister Chris Bush

Traci Wales

Cantor Jack Vos

Vickey Argo

Lector Carol Vos

Sandy Mosteller

Communion Server Jan Schreiner

Mark Anton

Acolyte/Crucifer Volunteer

Lance Ogden

Usher Tom and Cheryl Drumm

Joe Longcor / Gwen Hansen

Greeter/Coffee Hr. Tom and Cheryl Drumm

Eve Wright / Jeanette Markwart

Children's Church ~

Kate Watson

Table Guild Lisa Golnek

Bread Maker Laura Scheck

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 66 **Weekly Giving: \$3,169.00** Budget Amount: \$4,617.93

We welcome you to the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Grace today. We are pleased that Pastor Roseanne Anderson from the North/West Lower Michigan Synod is preaching today and for having our retired pastors of Grace participate in today's worship. All are welcome to stay for the meal.

Community Thanksgiving Service at Hope United Methodist Church, tonight at 6 pm. Pastor Ken will be preaching at this worship event, please join us as we gather with Methodists, Nazarenes, Episcopal, Lutherans and other Christians throughout the community of Hastings.

Wednesdays in Advent begin December 4, 2019. There will be Lasagna, salads and desserts. The *Barry County Flute Choir* will perform. Our meal will begin at 6:00 with the proceeds going to the choir. Our theme for worship that Wednesday will focus on ***Reflected Light***. The following week we will have tacos.

Holly Trolley – Thurs., Dec. 12, 5:00-8:00 PM We will again be handing out hot cocoa and cookies to people waiting to board the Holly Trolley on the evening of Dec. 12. Sign-up sheets are posted for donations of cookies (about 12 dozen needed) and volunteers to serve or transport items from the church to the courthouse lawn.

Adult Forum will begin a study on the book of ***Romans*** next week. Come join us in the conference room at 9:30 am.

Christmas Family Adoption – Gifts and Christmas dinner boxes We plan to adopt 6 families this year (18 children total). Gift boards are set up in the gathering area with tags for each child (2 gifts each) and instructions for returning gifts to the church. A listing of grocery donations needed is posted in the gathering area. All donations of groceries and gifts need to be returned to the church by Sunday, December 15th.

Giving Tree The Giving Tree provides an opportunity for members willing to donate clothing items for elementary-aged students. Please take a tag hanging from the tree listing the item requested and return the item to the church by the first Sunday in January 2020. Place items, unwrapped, under the tree near the coatroom in the gathering area.

Do you sing? Do you read in public? Do you love Jesus? The worship committee is preparing an intergenerational presentation of Christ's birth on **December 15, 2019**. At the 10:45 am worship we will experience ***All Ye Faithful***. Share your talent to the glory of God. There will not be a full run through or rehearsal, but on that morning, you can come early to practice your speaking part, sing in your group or play your instrument after the 8:00 am ADVENT worship. *We are asking the congregation to purchase and bring packages of diapers that will be presented to the Holy Child.*

Carl Schoessel is our mutual ministry contact for the week, please use the following cell phone number to reach him or leave a message: 269.838.8407.

Calling all men to join us for our annual B.O.G. Christmas Dinner Night Out on Tuesday, December 10th at 6:00 pm. Where? Yankee Bill's Saloon (formerly Blarney Stone). Be sure to see the signup sheet in the gathering area. Hope to see a lot of you there!