

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-1:00 pm

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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

November 24, 2024

Christ the King Sunday

November 24, 2024

Christ the King is the end of the season for the Christian calendar. Today's color is white representing the purity and glory due Jesus our king. We praise God for our servant king, who stands at the end of time welcoming us into the eternal kingdom of God's reign.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Welcome

Gathering Music

Arise in body or Spirit

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☐ The love of our Creator, revealed by Christ Jesus our Lord and sustained through the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Dialogue

☐ Come, let us celebrate, let us rejoice, let us give God the glory!

☑ **For the Lord our God reigns, Alleluia!**

☐ All nations come and worship you, Holy God.

☑ **Holy, holy, holy God, you are the beginning, the present and all that is to come.**

☐ All colors and races give hearty praise!

☑ **Let us share your love with all. Amen**

Song of Praise

Glory be to God

ELW pg. 204



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray... Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever.
- G** **Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
- Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

- L** A reading from **Daniel**:

⁹ As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne,
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

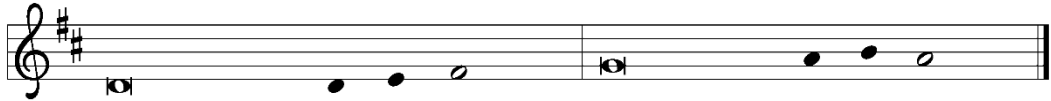
¹³ As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴ To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

- L** The word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 93



Refrain



Ev - er since the world be - gan, your




throne has been es - tab - lished.

¹ The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The LORD has made the world so sure that it can- not be moved.

² **Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.** 

³ The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴ **Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore. 

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

📖 A reading from **Revelation:**

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Reading

John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

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

Please arise in body or spirit.

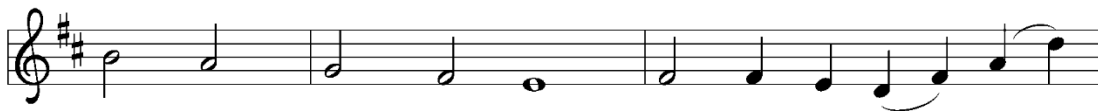
Song of the Day

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Please be seated.

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Merciful God.** The assembly prays, **Receive our prayer.***

Ⓐ Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence

Ⓐ Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders who teach and serve your people. Bless our leaders and collaborators in ministry, *especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companion Spruce Lutheran Church; Harvest Community Church, Lake Odessa; Hastings Assembly of God; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Merciful God,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf. Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), Seth Domke (Domke), and Nathen Schick (Markwart).* Merciful God,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration. Empower activists who advocate for change. Bring healing and wholeness to those for whom we pray, *especially Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Nola Edwards, Bonnie Ehredt, Ruby Gibbons (adoption process), Lisa Golnek, Joy Jenks, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Dana Lepien, Martha Misak, Dawn McElgunn, James Neiderheiser, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Rick Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Kathy Politis, Tammy Rodriguez, Cynthia Rudesill (pregnancy), Mike Shoemaker, Ron Smith, Deb Talsma, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson.* Merciful God,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons. Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent. Merciful God,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- Ⓐ In your eternal presence the saints sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God,
- ☑ **Receive our prayer.**
- Ⓟ We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- ☑ **Amen.**

Please arise in body or spirit.

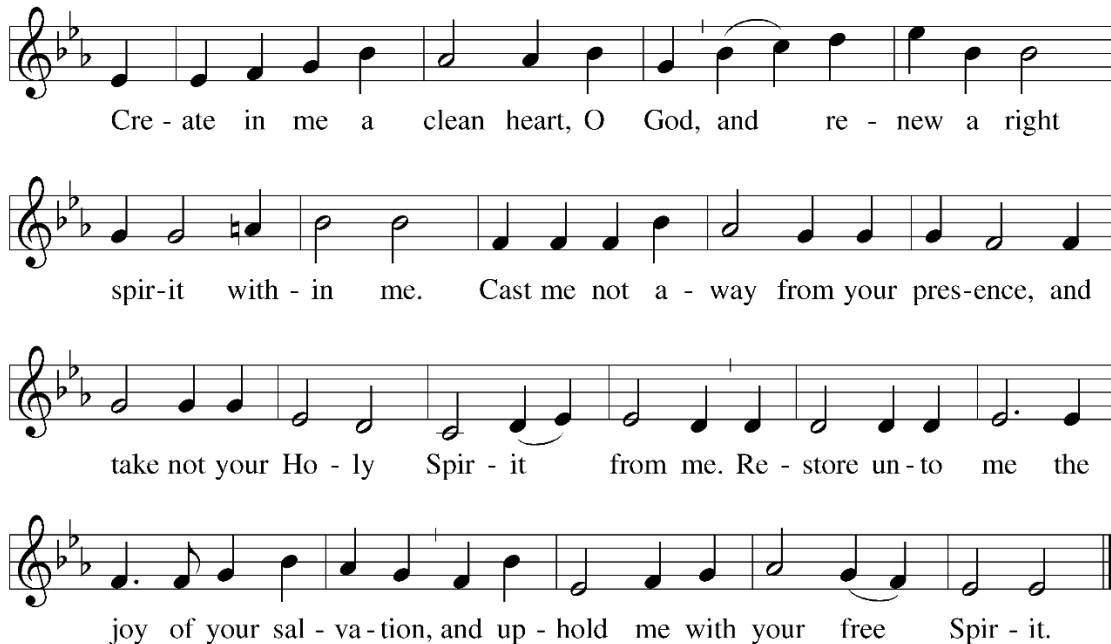
Sharing the Peace of God

- Ⓟ The peace of Christ be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.** *(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)*

Offering Song

Create in Me

WOV 732



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor.
- ☑ **Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

- Ⓟ The Lord be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

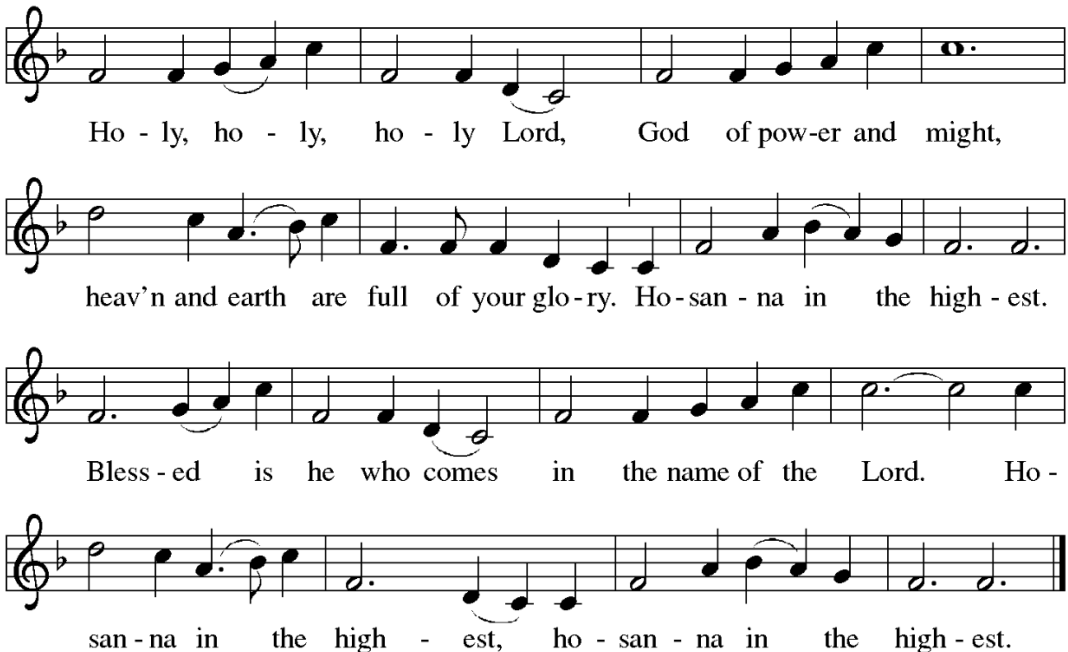
- Ⓟ Lift up your hearts.
- ☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**

- Ⓟ 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 his 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

ELW page 207



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

Table Prayer

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 Christ's love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. 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

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

C Thanks be to God!

Lamb of God

ELW page 208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Songs:

Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW 474

Refrain



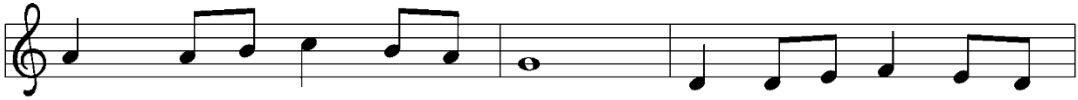
Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

Refrain



sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Prayer after Communion

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
- Ⓒ **In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

- Ⓟ Be strengthened with the power of God, ✠ the love of Christ, and the help of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- Ⓒ **Amen.**



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con - found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Sending

- A Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.
- B Thanks be to God.

Postlude

8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
 Lector – Dave Neeb
 Musician – Cindy Olson
 Cantor – Cindy Olson
 Pastor – Ken Scheck

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Anna Scheck
 Lector – Bill Freedlund
 Musician – Cindy Olson
 Cantor – Vickey Argo
 Pastor – Ken Scheck
 Fellowship – Paul Kuhlman

Grace-Filled Reign

Popular images of monarchs through the centuries have often emphasized their material wealth, excess riches, crushing power, and military might. Their opulent headwear, jewelry, and beautiful clothing are enough to impress even the wealthiest members of society.

We call Christ a “king” on this festival day of the year, but Christ’s reign is expressed very differently than those of the human rulers around the globe. Compassion, inclusive love, and restoration of justice are markers of God’s kin-dom here on earth. Jesus worked to make things right between God and people, and among us human beings. Today our worship recognizes his unique reign as providing the type of powerful mercy we truly need in our king.

Jesus often used metaphors to illustrate what God’s love and faithfulness look like in our lives: as sheep trust the guidance of their shepherd, we, too, pay attention to the care Jesus provides for us. As Christ the Monarch draws near to us, loves us, cares for us, and accompanies us through all of life’s hard times, we bow before divine mercy and splendor.

Christ may not be a “king” or “queen” according to the usual imperial standards, and perhaps that is for the best. Yet in Jesus God brings that wide-reaching, world-covering love that transforms us. Christ washes us in grace, forgives us generously, and is as close to us as water on our foreheads and bread and wine on our lips. Even when it feels like this kin-dom of God is still too far away, God reminds us of its presence among us already at the baptismal font and around the communion table. These gifts have been here for generations and will continue to comfort us in our struggles: Water! Bread! Wine! Our king providing grace and love for us along life’s way, today and always.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Hastings Women's Club is once again collecting plastic bags for a community project: making tote bags and selling them for \$15 each. All funds collected will be donated to the **Pierce Cedar Creek Institute's Science Strong** program. They bring **Environmental Programs** into the schools beginning at the 3rd grade level. If children are exposed to this issue at a young age, they are more likely to carry the benefits and practices into adulthood. The shopping bags should all be of the same plastic weight: think Walmart, Family Fare, Farm & Home, Tractor Supply, and Goodwill bags. All colors accepted. Just leave your bag of bags in the cardboard bin/box in the coat room; if it is full, please leave your bags next to it. Deborah Wilke will collect them and take them to the women's club. Thank you for your support of this outreach program.

Worship will be at 9:30 am starting December 1, Adult Forum following

Thanksgiving Community Service will be this evening at 6:00 pm here at Grace.

Advent Lessons and Carols service will be at 4 pm next Sunday, December 1 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. All are welcome to start off advent with this service of expectation for the Savior.

Advent Lessons and Carols Choir will rehearse at 3 pm on December 1 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church before the service at 4 pm. There will also be an informal rehearsal after the 10:45 service today for those who need it.

Women of Faith continues to meet at 11:00 am on Tuesdays here at Grace, but will not meet this week because of Thanksgiving festivities. Join us in December. We are studying the women of the New Testament. All women are welcome.

Ecumenical Advent Lunches are an opportunity to connect with the greater community for a noon meal and fellowship with a Bible study or worship component. The first one is at Green St UMC on December 4, then Nashville UMC on December 11, and finally here at Grace on December 18.

Midweek Evening Advent Dinners will be December 4, 11, and 18 with a meal at 6 pm in the fellowship hall, and a short service of evening prayer at 7 pm. Our first meal will be Breakfast for Dinner provided by the council. Proceeds from the meals will go toward Green Gables Haven, which is a safe haven for those who endure domestic violence.

Jesus Birthday Party and White Elephant exchange will be after the 10:45 service on December 8. The Social Activities Committee is sponsoring the fellowship time and there will be delicious goodies to eat. You are invited to bring a wrapped gift that is either regifted or a value of \$5-\$10 if you're buy something new. We will then play the game of choosing one wrapped gift each, or if someone else's pick looks better to you, you can steal it!

December Blood Drive: save the date for our Ugly Sweater / Cookie Exchange blood drive on December 30. Registration is open, call 1-800-733-2767 or go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html>. If you would like to help with snacks for donators or working the check in table, sign up in the Gathering Area.

Grace is looking to have people share in ministry. Grace is currently looking for servants of God to share the ministry of Jesus Christ by finding a Stewardship Chair, an Outreach Chair, and a "fulltime" Treasurer. If you are interested in sharing ministry in any capacity, please let Tim Schoessel know.

Parish Administrator is Anna Scheck, and she is in office 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship Jesus, who is our King and the one who gives us second chances.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 51
Weekly Giving: \$1,470.00

Views: 180
Budget Amount: \$4,173.03

Pasty Sale Profits: \$1,148.71 Adopt a Family: \$400.00

Grace Projects Goal \$ 25,252.00
Received To Date - \$ 3,155.00
Total Needed \$ 22,097.00

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$0



Hand2Hand donations for November are due today! Thank you so much for the robust support of this program this month. December needs are microwave popcorn, granola bars, Slim Jim's, Yoo-Hoo chocolate milk, Snack Pack pudding cups, and individual hot chocolate mix. December donations are due December 15, which is an earlier deadline than most months because of the winter break.

Calendars are available in the Gathering Area for \$5.00 each.

Advent Devotionals are available in the gathering area.

BOG Christmas Night Out will be on Thursday, December 12 at 6:00 pm at the Riverdog Tavern in Middleville. Sign up on the bulletin board – all men are welcome.

Christmas Baskets We are also beginning to collect items for our Christmas baskets. Once again, we are planning to feed and gift 5 families. We still need: 4 hams, 6 boxes each of adult and kids breakfast cereal, 10 boxes of mac and cheese, jelly, 5 cake mixes, 5 cans of frosting, 6 6-roll packs of toilet paper, 5 jugs of laundry soap, 5 bottles of liquid dish soap, 5 sets each of adult and kid shampoo and conditioner, ~~stuffing~~, ~~peanut butter~~, ~~5 5lb. Bags of Potatoes~~, ~~5 Family Sized Jars of Applesauce~~, and ~~5 Boxes of Holiday Cookies~~. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.

The nursery is available weekly during the 10:45 worship service. Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service.

Adult Forum Please join us at 9:30 am today with Pastor Ken, with a study on the book of Philippians.

Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:30 pm on December 24, the first 30 minutes is preservice music.