

# NAME OF JESUS



*January 1, 2023*

*10:00am*

# GATHERING

<b>Prelude</b>	The Old Year Has Passed Away	J. S. Bach
<b>Welcome</b>		
<b>Hymn</b>	Once in Royal David's City	#269
<b>Greeting</b>		
<b>Hymn of Praise</b>	Angels We Have Heard on High (Verses 1 & 2)	#289

## Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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## WORD

### Children's Message

#### First Reading: Numbers 6:22–27

- <sup>22</sup>The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>23</sup>Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,  
<sup>24</sup>The Lord bless you and keep you;  
<sup>25</sup>the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
<sup>26</sup>the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
<sup>27</sup>So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### Second Reading: Galatians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**The Gospel for today is from Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.  
Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

<sup>21</sup>After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn of the Day** O Little Town of Bethlehem

#279

### **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 Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

### **Prayers of the Church**

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

*A brief silence.*

... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

**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.**

### Offertory Prayer

God of abundance,

receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

### Blessing

God bless you and keep you,

† Jesus grant you grace and truth,

and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

#288

### Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness

J. S. Bach

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**Minister:** Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

**Reader:** Stacey Geist

**Assisting Minister:** Bev Page

**Organist:** Elaine Mann



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Upcoming Services

There will be a worship service on January 1 at the regular time, 10am. The following week, January 8, will be a shortened service in order to give time to a full discussion on the future of Grace Lutheran Church's ministry and mission. Please see the next news item for more details.

## After Worship Conversation to Come

Our congregation is at a point where it is very important to be clear about what our primary vision is for ministry and mission. We long to not only survive, but also thrive in our faithfulness for years to come. Part of what that means is imagining what role key parts of our building will play in making our vision sustainable (for example, the aging education building, what should be its purpose? At the moment it is both an asset and also a liability). We invite you to begin to gather your hopes and dreams for Grace so that we can start formulating this together. On Sunday, January 8th, immediately after a shortened service, we hope you will share your thoughts with us all.

## Office Closures

Due to the holidays falling on Sunday this year, the church office will be closed both December 26 and January 2. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

## Judy Rosenau

With much sadness we must announce that Judy Rosenau passed away this week. A memorial service will take place in the spring when key family members will be able to attend. We give thanks to God for Judy's voice in our choir, her concern to feed the hungry, the love she shared with Paul as well as with her Grace family, and her endurance in the face of many hardships. We entrust her into the hands of the God whose praises she has sung.

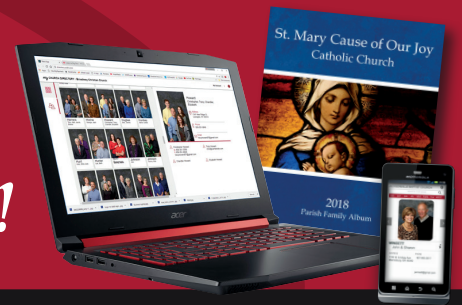
## Sunday School

Due to the first Sunday being January 1st, Sunday School in January will be on the 8th and 22nd. The normal schedule of first and third Sundays will return in February.

- January 8
- January 22
- February 5
- February 19

Sunday school will take place during the service right after the Children's Sermon.

# Dear Church family, It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.  
Connecting families.  
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

*Directory Committee*

## Connections Event

***Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.***

- **Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.**  
If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- **Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!**
- **Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church!**  
You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

**Set your appointment with Universal today!**



*Gathering families,  
Connecting generations.*



**Online Scheduling Available! Photo Dates Tuesday & Wednesday, February 7 & 8**

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply scan the QR code to the right. Or go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) and click the "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login" button. Enter **wi234** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" field. Note: The Church Code & Password are case sensitive. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family, please use 2 time slots. The online scheduling option is not available Saturday or Sunday because we will be doing paper sign-ups at church. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**





## Adult Education Opportunity

You are invited to attend “How Does Liturgy Mean?” a three-session education study beginning Sunday, January 15, at 11am and continuing the next two Sundays in January (22 & 29). We will meet in the Grace Chapel.

We will explore the relationship between what Lutherans hold to be true and our order of worship we call the liturgy. In other words, how does our liturgy express our theology?

Session One will focus on our Liturgy of Preparation - Confession and Forgiveness. Session Two will center on the Liturgy of the Word. Session Three will concentrate on the Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal.

How Does Liturgy Mean will be led by Don Wisner, Grace member, former Luther Seminary Professor of Worship and retired pastor of University Lutheran Church at the Ecumenical Religious Center on the UW-Eau Claire campus.

Education, Youth & Family Ministries

## Ministry Reports

If you are writing a ministry report for the 2022 Annual Report, please have it completed and sent to Andrew in the office by January 12 so he can compile and print them in time for the meeting. Thank You.

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org)

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: [pastorphil@grace-church.org](mailto:pastorphil@grace-church.org)

If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the “Our Ministry” section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

### Televised Service

Sunday 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Thursday 1:30pm Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

### Radio Service

Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org) or by calling the office at 715-832-9713