

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Office: 937-596-6516 ~ (*Open M – F, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm*) ~ Fax: 937-596-0516

E-mail jcgracelutheran@outlook.com ~ WEB Address: www.jcgracelutheran.org

Pastor Bert Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1037

Pastor Shelly Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1761

~ Email: jcgracepastor@outlook.com

Nikki Tontrup, Secretary Rhonda Burch, Janitor: John Pence, CAC President:

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*First Sunday of Advent
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
December 1, 2024
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

“The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the good promise I made...”Thanks, God, that we can depend on your promises. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

Focus for Today

We are saved, not by our own righteousness or goodness but, by the Lord’s righteousness. Despite our transgressions, God is our salvation. We truly live by taking our stand in him, established in the blamelessness of his holiness—not our own piety. Jesus is the only sign of salvation we need in which to place our hope. He alone is our redemption, a deliverance that is drawing nearer every day.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude **“Angels from the Realms of Glory/ Emmanuel”** Praise Band

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Krista Withrow Family

L: Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope.

(Light First Blue Candle)

L: We put our hope in Jesus the Christ, true God and true man, who brings good news of salvation through the forgiveness of sin. We hope in this Christ, this Messiah, the One who will lead us to walk in the light of the LORD, through the darkest valleys to the highest mountain tops, and all places in between.

We light this candle in Hope.

C: On this day, we hopefully pray: “Come Lord Jesus!”

*Baptism Hymn

“Holy Water”

Baptisms of Jason Allan Helton Jr. & Nathan Joseph Cummins

Green Insert

Reception of New Members

Grn. Bk. # 198

*Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

ESV pg. 662

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-10 (read responsively)

25 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

3 Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

6 Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Praise the Lord!

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

ESV pg. 987

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

ESV pg. 881

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Shelly

Sermon **“Terror & Trust”**

Pastor Shelly

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

* Prayers of the Church and The Lord’s Prayer

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Blessing

Ministry and Mission Moments

*Closing Songs **“O Come All Ye Faithful”**
“Sing, Sing, Sing”

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve
Ministry and Mission Moments

Your offering to the Lord's work through Grace. There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord's work.

Today at the 10:30 am worship service we welcome to the family of Jesus Christ at Grace Lutheran through the sacrament of Holy Baptism Jason Allan Helton Jr. & Nathan Joseph Cummins. We also receive into Grace as fellow Disciples the following persons: Jim Kirtley, & Holly Landreth.

Thrivent Choice dollars need to be designated for next year, Thrivent members can designate by going online to thrivent.com.

Official Results from the 2025 Ballot

CAC: John Pence, Dianna Davis, Andrea Kirtley

Nominating Committee: Michelle Shuff, Chair, Rick Sailor, Deb Serr

SS Superintendent / Asst.: Doug Hinegardner, Toni Leininger

SS Sec. Treas.: Barb Wical

Reminder from the Endowment Committee: **Match Day 2024** started November 8th and ends December 3rd. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to provide a gift to Grace Lutheran's mission objectives and have it "matched" (up to a total of \$5,000) by the Community Foundation. Material with additional information is at the back of the church.

Grace Carol Service

You are invited to the annual Carol Service here at Grace. The Carol Service is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at the 8:00 worship service. The program will feature: devotional readings pertaining to Advent and Christmas; anthems sung by the adult choir; and of course, the singing of many of our favorite and cherished Christmas carols. Plan to join the Grace choir as we worship, sing, and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior at this year's Carol Service on December 8 at 8:00 am.

Adult Sunday Morning Sunday School at 9:15

As you have read through the New Testament Gospels, or listened to them in worship, have you noticed that each one begins with the story of Jesus? But each one is quite different. You may wonder if each author is talking about the same person. The month of December we will be studying the beginning of Jesus' life from the view of the four different Gospel authors. And we will be asking questions of the authors – Who is Jesus? Who is the audience? What is the author's purpose?

December 1 Matthew 1

December 8 Mark 1

December 15 Luke 1-2

December 22 John 1

Joining Jesus on His Mission – An Adventure for Your Life

“Will alter the way you see your life as a follower of Jesus and take you beyond living your life *for* Jesus to living life *with* Jesus. Simple, powerful, and applicable insights show you how to be on mission and recognize where Jesus is already at work.” Greg Finke

This once-a-month group will meet again on Sunday, December 15 at 3:30 pm at Grace Lutheran. Take the next step in your spiritual journey with Jesus.

Circle one will be eating out for their December 4th at 12:00 at Mama J's Pizza in Jackson Center. Members and guests can meet at the restaurant.

The Backpack program is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups (mac & cheese cups). There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.