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children's program



*Third Sunday of Advent
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
December 15, 2024
10:30 am*

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid”. We believe God has a purpose for you being here 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.

The Common Thread in Today’s Readings

Troubles are a part of life. Stuff happens. But in the midst of every storm, God is present. His love brings us peace and real quiet. Even in the storms of sin and the disquiet they bring, God brings still peace through his forgiveness. His salvation is near to sinners who fear, love, and trust him. So, we need not be anxious about anything, but may rest in the peace that passes all understanding, the peace that comes through a knowledge of Christ Jesus. As great as John the Baptist was, in the midst of his troubles, Jesus needed only to remind him of who he is.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Dawn & Ryan Scott Family

L: Last Sunday we lit the candles of Hope and Peace, two gifts and promises of our gracious God..

Today we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy. (Light Three Blue Candles).

L: Advent time is a joyful waiting time. Just as God’s chosen people awaited the coming of the long-promised Messiah, the Christ of Christmas, we now await the return of the Joy of Ages. We wait for the day where we can join our voices with the angels to sing “Joy to the World, the Lord has come again!” We wait for that great and glorious day when everlasting joy will be on all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior. We light this candle in Joy.

C: On this day, we cry out with all our souls, “Come, Lord Jesus! Breathe joy into our lives.”

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Opening Carol **“O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

LBW pg. # 41

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sin to God our Father, imploring him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for personal confession of sin)

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you that are penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Sunday School Christmas Program

The Good News Flash

Mary – Korah Ludwig

Angel – Maria Byrd

Shepherds – Spencer Copeland

Trevor Ludwig

Abby Stinebaugh

Reporters – Lucas Kirtley, Caroline Morris, Sam Scott

Joseph – Jax Shuff

Narrator – Harper Copeland

Inn Keeper – Grant Woolley

Chief Reporter – Spencer Serr

Nursery

Rocco Shuff, Bellamy Shuff, Ada Klopfenstein, Emerson Ludwig, Leland Paavola, Halden Doseck, Hyatt Doseck, Adelyn Harp

Teachers: Joyce Regula, Jen Woolley, Macy Klopfenstein

First Grade

Ian Pence, Jax Shuff

Second Grade

Cara Bailey

First/Second Grade Teachers: Darlene Woolley, Krista Withrow

Third Grade

Maria Byrd, Claire Garnett, Korah Ludwig, Josie Kirtley, Spencer Copeland

Fourth Grade

Emma Bailey, Lydia Byrd, Kate Lotz, Paige Lotz, Natalie Pence

Third/Fourth Grade Teachers: Elsa Stengel, Julie Klopfenstein

Fifth Grade

Sam Scott, Spencer Serr, Grant Woolley, Abby Stinebaugh, Bennett Withrow, Colson Withrow, Lucas Kirtley

Sixth Grade

Reagan Lotz, Tanner Hilbun, Harper Copeland, Hayden LaVan, Caroline Morris, Trevor Ludwig

Fifth/Sixth Grade Teachers: Deb Serr, Bonnie Kaufman

Seventh/ Eighth Grade

Archer Copeland Julia Byrd, Braxton Roberts, Bryson Scott, Ayden Wiswell, Lake Woolley, Kaydree Withrow

Seventh/Eighth Grade Teacher: Greg Woolley, Lori Wiswell

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

*The Prayers of the Church
Lord's Prayer

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

Installation of Officers

*Blessing Pastor Bert

Mission & Ministry Moments

Temple Talk LifeWise Academy Aimee Tully

*Sending Carol ***“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*** LBW pg. # 70

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all of those that helped make this program a success! Thank you to all the parents for getting their children to practice during Sunday School! We have enjoyed working with them and they have done a great job! Thank you to everyone that helped with all the behind the scene stuff. We would like to thank Darlene Woolley for playing the piano. We would like to thank Lori Wiswell and Becky Copeland for helping direct the program this year. Last but certainly not least, thank you to all the kids who worked super hard to make this play a success! We couldn't be prouder of the hard work and effort you have put into this program.

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.

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

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.

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.

December Holiday Worship Schedule

December 24: *Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship*

7:00 pm *Christmas Eve with communion.*

10:30 pm *Christmas Eve with communion & choir.*

December 25: *Christmas Day*

9:00 am *Christmas Morning Service*



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