

Beginning at Broken

Large Print Bulletin ***The Season of Advent, One**** **Grace Lutheran Church** **11am Traditional Worship** **November 9, 2025**

Good morning & Welcome to Grace

***Our mission is to invite and welcome all
to the fellowship of Christ in service to our community.***

**Once again this year, Grace is exploring an extended, seven-week Advent season. We're using the appointed texts from the Lectionary each week, but our focus is on the coming of Christ, in the stable, into our everyday lives, and at the end of all things. This is a practice that, while new for us, has gained traction in many mainline Churches over the past ten years. We are excited to invite you – again this year – into the journey with us.*

We are glad you are with us for worship today, and we offer a special welcome to any guests who may be with us this morning, and to all those who are joining us via Live-Stream.

Children are welcome in worship at Grace! The voices of children only enhance worship, and they are welcome in this space! There is a Children's Corner in the sanctuary and, if needed, a nursery off the lobby.

Our normal practice is to offer Holy Communion each week. Today, however, our Pastor is serving in her role as Dean at another congregation in our Conference. Therefore, we will not be offering The Meal this morning.

Please know that we will resume our normal schedule next weekend. Jesus welcomes all people to his Table, and so do we.

If you have questions about our worship service, please don't hesitate to ask someone around you. For more information about Baptism or Communion, about what Lutherans believe, or even about Grace Lutheran Church, please do not hesitate to reach out to our pastor.

Again, we're glad you're here! Welcome to worship!

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

PRELUDE

"I Will Arise and Go to Jesus"

arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God is here, and God sees through every defense that fools the world. Since we cannot hide from God, there is nothing left to do but to be honest with each other and humble before God. So, in humility, we confess our sins.

God, we have acted helpless, even when you called us to action. We have resisted your truth, even when our lies were exhausting. We have behaved as though we were alone, even when you were beside us. God, we have believed we were dying, even when you helped us grow.

God knows we can never undo the sins of this world. The stories of a painful past still echo here today. Yet before our first mistakes, God perfected the plan for salvation. God forgives your sins, all of them. Even when signs of our old lives remain, God's forgiveness is still at work. God ✚ sets us free to chart a new path. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN *"On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand"*

ELW 437

GREETING

Peace to you, and welcome, from the God who loves without boundary, the Savior who bridged death and life, the Spirit who subverts every barrier. **And also with you.**

THE ADVENT WREATH *Place the wreath under the Eternal Flame.*

As we journey into Advent, this Wreath serves as a marker of time. Each Sunday in November, we will see a new element of the Advent Wreath added to this Holy space. We, who are waiting for Jesus, the Light of the World, now also wait for the light of this Wreath.

As we begin to assemble our Advent Wreath, we must understand that, in deep blue darkness, a single light can create uncertainty. It dances around uncertain shapes, and the dark refuses to yield its secrets.

And yet, we trust that this Wreath represents the goodness God has hidden in divine darkness. In time we will come to know every blessing, hinted from ancient prophecies and prepared under the cover of deep darkness. But not yet. Not fully.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

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

FIRST READING

Job 19.23 – 27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God. And we read:

- ²³ “O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!
²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 17.1 – 9 *(read in unison)*

- ¹ Hear a just cause, O Lord; give heed to my cry;
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
² Let my vindication come forth from your presence;
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
³ Examine my heart, visit me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
⁴ I have not regarded what others do;
at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.
⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path;
and my feet do not slip.

⁶ I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those
who rise against them.
⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
⁹ from the wicked who assault me,
from my deadly enemies who surround me.

SECOND READING

2nd Thessalonians 2.1 – 5, 13 – 17

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel. And we read:

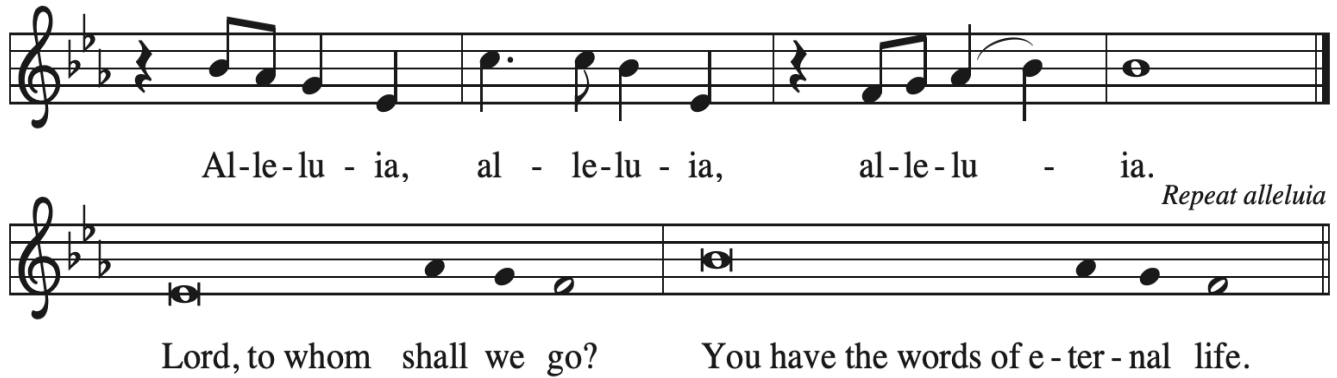
¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

Luke 20.27 – 38

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled. And we read:

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus]

²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.

³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

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

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Deep River”

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THE CREED ~ *Let us affirm our faith using the words of the 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSION & THE PEACE

The peace of Christ, be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of that peace, one with another.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD ~ We give thanks to God for the Gospel

CHANCEL CHOIR

"All Praise to Thee"

Marie Pooler

OFFERING & RESPONSE v.1 of "Thank You Lord" x2

ACS 1092

1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the response, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

OFFERING PRAYER

God, we cherished what we thought belonged only to us: our money, our time, our families and our freedom. Yet in a moment, we recognize that every truly good thing was a treasure we had taken from your open hand. We thought such treasures were ours to earn and to own. You grow what we give away. So we give you these gifts as a sign of your love and faithfulness. **Amen**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

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

BLESSING

As you leave from this place, adjust your expectations to God's promises. There is friendship after loneliness, there is hope after every last breath. There is already life in the desert. There is even delight in decline. For we tell the story of new life from the grave. In the world drained of color God arrives out of the blue.

SENDING HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon"

ELW 439

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **We will. Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Teresa Wilhelmi

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Refrain



Deep riv - er, my home is o - ver Jor - dan,

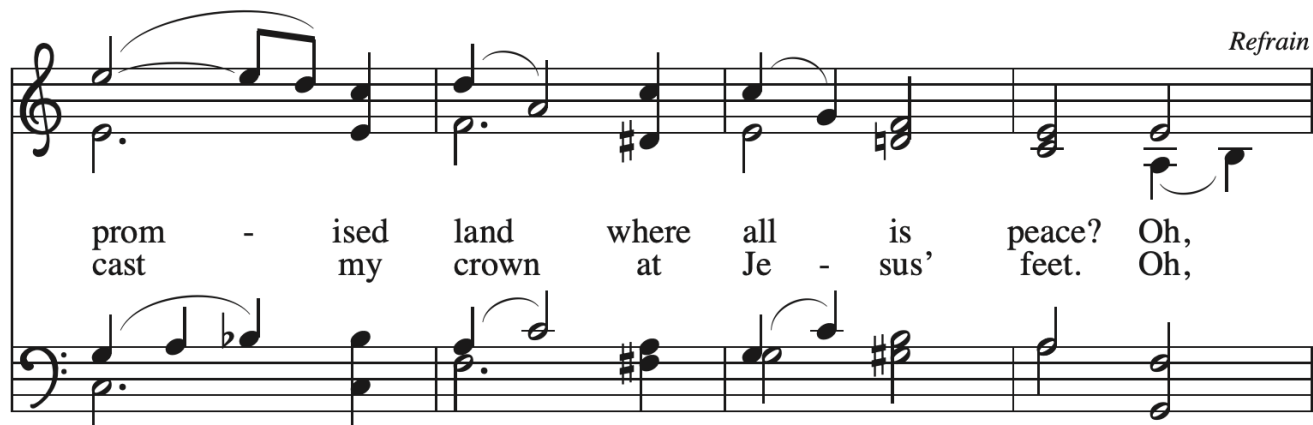


deep riv - er, Lord, I want to cross o-ver in-to camp-ground.



1 Oh, don't you want to go to that gos - pel feast, that
2 Oh, when I get to heav-en, I'll . . . take my seat, and

Refrain



prom - ised my land where all is peace? Oh,
cast my crown at Je - sus' feet. Oh,