

# *Advent is Caring for Others*

*The Season of  
Advent, One\**  
Worship with Holy  
Communion  
November 10, 2024

**Good morning & Welcome to Grace**  
*Our mission is to invite and welcome all  
to the fellowship of Christ in service to our community.*

*\*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 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.

**In thanksgiving to God for the saving grace shown to all of us in the death and resurrection of Christ, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion each week. All are welcome at the Table.** We do come forward to the front of the sanctuary for communion. The Pastor stands in the center of the aisle with the bread. Communion assistants are located on both sides of the sanctuary, with both **wine (red)** and **juice (white)**.

**For those participating from home, please have a small glass of wine or juice and a small piece of bread available for all who are planning to commune.**

**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.**

**⌘ See Screens Up Front**

**PRELUDE**

*“Contemplation”*

**Giamanco**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**⌘ CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*“For the Fruits of All Creation”*

**ELW 679**

**⌘ GREETING & THE ADVENT WREATH**

**⌘ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**FIRST READING**

**1<sup>st</sup> Kings 17.8 – 16**

*This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God’s saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath. And we read:*

<sup>8</sup> The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup> “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there, for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup> So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup> As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup> But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” <sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said, but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” <sup>15</sup> She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup> The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

**⌘ PSALM 146** *(read in unison)*

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 9.24 – 28

*The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day. And we read:*

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

<sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the holy place year after year with blood that is not his own, <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

## ⌘ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### GOSPEL

Mark 12.38 – 44

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

*After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow. And we read:*

<sup>38</sup> As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“Day by Day”

ELW 790

