



*Advent Seven**
**Grace Lutheran Church
Christmas Music Sunday
with Holy Communion
11am, December 21, 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. This morning, however, we're also setting aside the normal reading of the Good News, for our annual proclamation of the Gospel in music. On this **Christmas Music Sunday, we'll hear from our Bell Choir and our Chancel Choir, as well as from you, the assembly, the promise of the coming of the Messiah –in the stable, into our everyday lives, and at the end of the ages. We are excited to invite you – again this year – into the journey with us.*

We are glad you are with us for worship today, in person and by live-stream, and we offer a special welcome to any guests who may be with us this morning.

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.

Your bulletin contains an outline of our worship service, **and additional portions will be projected onto the screens up front.**

At Grace, 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. Gluten-free bread is available, just ask when you come forward. A Communion Assistant will be on either side, with a tray containing cups of both **wine (red)** and **juice (white)**. Please place your empty cup in the bowl as you return to your seat after you commune. If coming forward for Communion is a difficulty for you, for any reason, please remain in your seat, and we will bring the Meal to you.

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. When we come to the Meal portion of the service, you're invited to share the bread and wine, saying: This is the body of Christ, given for you; and this is the blood of Christ, shed for you, as you commune yourself, and/or others.

Again, welcome to worship!

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

⌘ **See Screens Up Front**

PRELUDE

"Listen for His Coming"

arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

⌘ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

GATHERING HYMN *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

ELW 254

⌘ **GREETING & ADVENT WREATH**

⌘ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

BELL CHOIR

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!"

arr. Tammy Waldrop

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

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHANCEL CHOIR

SILENT WAS THE NIGHT

Lani Smith

*Now, the proclamation of the Good News of the coming of Jesus will be shared by our Chancel Choir. There will be narration between the musical pieces, written by The Rev. William H. Privette. Please, sit back and listen and enjoy. **We kindly ask that you hold all applause until the completion of the Cantata. Thank you.***

First Reading

Song

"Silent Was the Night"

Second Reading

Song

"The Lord My God the Shepherd Is"

Third Reading

Song

"Away in a Manger"

Fourth Reading

Song

"The Star"

Fifth Reading

Song

"Shepherds Watching, Shepherds Resting"

Sixth Reading

Song

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Seventh Reading

Song

"Sleep, Holy Babe"

Eighth Reading

Song

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

☞ At this time, all are invited to give thanks to the Choir with applause. ☛

HYMN OF THE DAY	<i>“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vv. 5 – 8</i>	ELW 257
✠ THE CREED	<i>Let us affirm our faith with the Nicene Creed</i>	
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE PEACE		
MEAL ~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.		
BELL CHOIR	<i>“Peace on Earth / Little Drummer Boy”</i>	Lani Smith
✠ OFFERING	<i>The Offering Basket is at the back of the sanctuary for your convenience.</i>	
OFFERTORY RESPONSE	<i>v.1 of “Thank You Lord” x2</i>	ACS 1092
✠ OFFERING PRAYER		
✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		
<i>The presiding minister continues with the Proper Preface: It is indeed right... unending hymn:</i>		
✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY		ACS p.36
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE		
✠ THE LORD’S PRAYER		
✠ INVITATION TO COMMUNION		
COMMUNION		
✠ BE KNOWN TO US, LORD JESUS		ACS p.40
COMMUNION HYMNS	<i>“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”</i>	ELW 240
	<i>“Lost in the Night”</i>	ELW 243
✠ BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION		
SENDING ~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.		
✠ BLESSING		
SENDING HYMN	<i>“Canticle of the Turning”</i>	ELW 723
✠ DISMISSAL		
POSTLUDE	<i>“Be Comforted, My People”</i>	Lani Smith

A special thank you to our Chancel Choir and Bell Choir, as well as our accompanist, Dr. Cheryl Peiskee, and our Choir Director, Dr. Leslie Heffner, for their presentation of the Gospel on this Christmas Music Sunday.

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