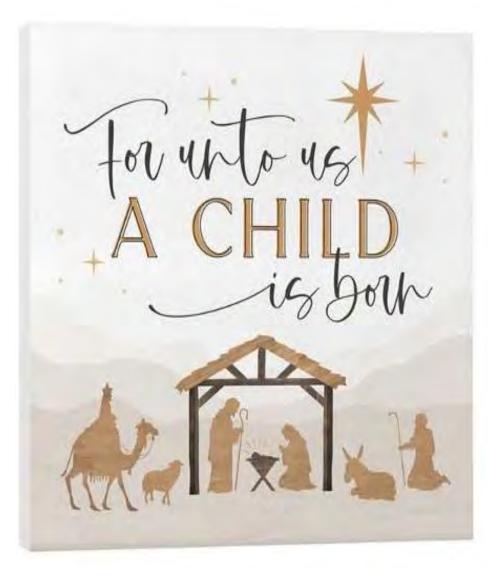


Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church December 24th, 2024 Christmas Eve Service



~Moment of Reflection

~Preservice Music:

"Breath of Heaven" "Mary, Did You Know?" "Noel" "We Have A Savior"

~Welcome and Announcements

~Prayers of the Day

"In he name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"

"Heavenly Father, with joy we enter into the contemplation of the holy mystery of Your Son's incarnation for us and our salvation. Open our minds to understand, our hearts to believe, and our mouths to proclaim the glory of Him who took our human flesh and blood in order to suffer and die in our place. Prepare our hearts to be fitting mangers to cradle Your Son that He may dwell in us and we in Him today and throughout all eternity. In Jesus name we pray, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen." ~Hymn of Praise: "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

~Prayer of Confession: Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

~Absolution

~Scripture Reading

Titus 3: 4-7

~Hymn of Praise:

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

~Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 1-20

~Hymn of Praise: "What Child Is This"

~Sermon: "The Gift Is In The Wrapping"

~Christmas Creed

~Offering

~Prayer of Preparation: Jesus you are the light that shines in the darkness of the world and in our hearts. As You chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world has ever known and to be bearers of the light, so may we worship You in meekness of heart and bear Your Light as humble vessels. Amen.

~Litany of Praise

~The Lord's Prayer

~The Lord's Supper– Luke 2: 11-14

~Communion

~Hymn of Praise: *"O Little Town of Bethlehem", "The First Noel", "Away in a Manger"* Sharing the Light of Christ:

The lights in the church are dimmed. The light from the Christ candle is spread from one person to another through the entire congregation to symbolize the spread of the light of Christ through the darkness of this world.

~After the candles are lit

~Hymn of Praise: "Silent Night"

~Benediction

~Hymn of Praise: "Joy to the World"

Blessed and Merry Christmas to you and those you love!

Holy Communion

We believe that Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, is a Sacrament of God, instituted by Christ Himself, giving and sealing the gift of forgiveness to those who believe and follow Him.

To help you to decide if you would like to join your brothers and sisters at the Communion table, ask yourself the following questions:

- 1.) Have I been baptized with water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?
- 2.) Do I believe the Good News of Jesus' victory over sin and death on the cross for me?
- 3.) Do I recognize the Body and Blood of Christ in and with the bread and wine of Communion given for me for the forgiveness of sins?

If you said 'yes' to each of these questions and desire Holy Communion, the Lord welcomes you to His Holy Supper.

79 Mechanic St. Church Office Hours: 10:00am - 2:00pm - 814-362-3244 Interim Pastor Barry J. Keurulainen (724)996-2160 - cell

> Community Life Center 814-362-1236

Visit us at: www.agraceplace.org Email: glmoffice@agraceplace.org