

WELCOME

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | EASTER | TRINITY

To our visitors We are glad you have joined us to share in the gifts of our gracious Lord as we worship Him together in spirit and truth by receiving His Word and Sacraments. We invite you to pick up information and our Wittenberg Way newsletter at our welcome desk. If you have questions concerning the Christian faith or the Lutheran tradition, please let us know as our pastor would love to speak with you.

Children are welcome in our services Grace is a church family and we believe like any family we learn by doing things together. Bulletins are available for children that coincide with the liturgical calendar and scripture readings. We encourage parents to guide their children throughout the service, helping them to learn the language of the faith through the liturgy. A nursery with sound is located in the hallway outside the sanctuary to the right just before the glass door to the courtyard.

Holy Communion Our fellowship in the Lord's Supper follows the Lutheran tradition grounded in the teaching of Holy Scripture. As one baptized into the Name of our Triune God and confessing the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Supper for the forgiveness of sins you are warmly invited to join us around the table for Holy Communion. If you are not communing but wish to be blessed, then simply cross your arms at the rail and you will be blessed by the celebrant.

Giving to Grace

- Your weekly envelopes or those in the pews
- Online from your bank website
- Scan the QR code to the right
- Text the amount to 84321
- On the Grace Giving Page at gracesandiego.com
- Time & Talents - contact Pr. Brian



Please silence cell phones and be mindful of those preparing for worship.

Restrooms are in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3967 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103
619.299.2890 www.gracesandiego.com



AS WE GATHER

Sometimes when you are down, well-intentioned but ill-equipped "comforters" actually make matters worse. Such was the case with many of Israel's so-called spiritual shepherds. But after a long drought of exile, the prophet Isaiah preached the double comfort promise contained in "God's Word that stands forever" (Isa 40:8). Thus, God's preachers are called to be faithful stewards delivering this comforting Good News to God's people (1 Cor 4:1-2).

Collect:

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to 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.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹ Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,

"Behold your God!"

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms;

he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

DIVINE SERVICE

SETTING 1

<i>Partita on "On Jordan's Bank"</i>	Burkhardt	
Lighting of the Advent Wreath		
<i>On Jordan's Bank</i>		344
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Gradual		
Reading	1 Corinthians 4:1-5	
Alleluia		156
Gospel	Matthew 11:2-10	
Anthem (10:30)	Parish Choir	
	<i>Show Anew Thy Salvation</i>	
Sermon		
	"Comfort That Lasts"	
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Nicene Creed		158
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Offertory Hymn		
<i>Praise the One</i>		849
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	Christ has died,	
	Christ is risen,	
	Christ will come again.	
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<i>Prepare the Royal Highway</i>	Burkhardt	

* bold indicates standing

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor Rev. Brian Thomas
Director of Music Dale Sorenson

SERVING TODAY AT 8 AM

Elder Jason Huntley
Altar Guild Huntley Family
Crucifer Jackson Huntley
Lector Jason Huntley
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING TODAY AT 10:30 AM

Elder Ted Nilsen
Altar Guild Cindy Hansen
Kelley Schmidt
Crucifer Kariff Gomez
Lector Rev. Ken Licht
Cantor Randy Houts
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING 12/24 AT 10 AM

Elder Jason Huntley
Altar Guild Huntley Family
Crucifer Spencer Huntley
Lector Mark Jordan
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING 12/24 AT 6 PM

Elder Ted Nilsen
Altar Guild John Barber
Crucifer
Lector Rev. Ken Licht
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING 12/25 AT 10 AM

Elder Jason Huntley
Altar Guild Huntley Family
Crucifer Spencer Huntley
Lector Jason Huntley
Cantor John Barber
Usher Harold Nichols

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIAS - Please bring live poinsettias to adorn the altar and sanctuary for our Christmas season.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR - Meet in music room at 10:15 am. Children will sing Christmas Eve at the 6 pm service (if we have enough children).



AN ADVENT MIDWEEK SERMON SERIES MAGNIFICENT VERBS OF THE MAGNIFICAT

Join us this Advent Season on Wednesdays

He Regards - 12/6/23

He Exalts - 12/13/23

He Remembers - 12/20/23

Soup Suppers - 5:30 p.m.

Evening Prayer - 6:30 p.m.



PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

Dave, Bill, Phil, Edward, Mike, John, Rita,
Grace, Jim, Bob, Arleen, Doris, and Willis

PRAYERS FOR THOSE EXPECTING A CHILD

Jeremy & Jessica Belgau and Carl & Elsy Lehman

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES & SEMINARIANS

Rev. Dr. John Bombaro, Rev. Dr. Tardelli Voss,
and Vicar Rowan Turner

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS

Rev. Mario Ancira, Micah Burge, Henry Casey, Tajy George,
Daniel Fohey, Nathan Farish, Matthew Morgan,
Jeff & Jordan Gruetzmacher

PRAYERS FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND

Joyce Rochester

ADVENT 3 GAUDETE

December 17, 2023

8:00 am and 10:30 am



Proclaiming the Good News of God's grace in Jesus Christ