

# WELCOME

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | EASTER | PENTECOST

**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
- On the Grace Giving Page at [gracesandiego.com](http://gracesandiego.com)
- Time & Talents - contact Pr. Brian



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

Restrooms are available in the hallway outside the sanctuary.



### AS WE GATHER

Rejoice! God is making a way—a highway of holiness—through the desert of our lives, bringing joy, healing, and new life (Isaiah 35). Today we celebrate Advent hope and the gift of baptism, where God washes us clean, sets our feet on His holy way, and welcomes us into His family.

### 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.

### Isaiah 35:1-10

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;<sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.”<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.<sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

DIVINE SERVICE Setting 3	
<i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	JS Bach
<b><i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i></b> (vs. 1-4)	<b>332</b>
<b>Holy Baptism of Audrey Aarstol</b>	
Confession & Absolution (kneel)	184
<b>Kyrie</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>Salutation and Collect</b>	<b>189</b>
Reading	Isaiah 35:1-10
Gradual	
Reading	James 5:7-11
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Matthew 11:2-15</b>
Children’s Homily	
<i>Anthem</i>	
<i>Thou Only Son from Heaven</i>	JS Bach
Sermon	Rev. Brian Thomas
“Water in the Wasteland”	
Isaiah 35:1-10	
<b>Nicene Creed</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
Offertory Hymn	
<i>Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding</i>	345
<b>Preface</b>	<b>194</b>
<b>Sanctus</b>	<b>195</b>
Lord’s Prayer (kneel)	196
The Words of Our Lord	197
Memorial Acclamation (2x)	
Christ has died,	
Christ is risen,	
Christ will come again.	
<b>Pax Domini</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Agnus Dei</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>Eucharist</b>	
Psalm 146	
<i>Comfort, Comfort Ye My People</i>	347
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Collect</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Salutation and Benedicamus</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>202</b>
<b><i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i></b> (vs. 5-8)	<b>332</b>
<i>Toccata on “Savior of the Nations, Come”</i>	
Paul Manz	
<b>* bold indicates standing</b>	

Worship Assistants	
Pastor	Rev. Brian Thomas
Director of Music	Dale Sorenson

Serving Today	
Elder	Daryl Newton
Altar Guild	Gloria Berge
Crucifer	Andrew Gertz
Acolytes	Peter Gertz
	Leopold Fullam
Lector	Daryl Newton
Cantor	John Barber
Usher	Jackson Huntley
Serving 12/21/2025	
Elder	Jason Huntley
Altar Guild	Huntley Family
Crucifer	Spencer Huntley
Lector	Jason Huntley
Cantor	Sandi Garcia
Usher	Daryl Svensson

Prayer List	
FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING	
Dave, Arleen, Eddie, Michelle, Kristi, Faye, Jacque, Dave, Phyllis, Nora Jean, Francois, and Floyd	
FOR OUR MISSIONARIES & SEMINARIANS	
Rev. Dr. Tardelli Voss, Vicar Rowan Turner, and Vicar William Baker	
FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS	
Rev. Mario Ancira, Micah Burge, Hannah Downey, Nathan Farish, Gavin Robillard, Joshua Simmons, and Jeff & Jordan Gruetzmacher, <i>(If you are in the military, please send your info to elsyglc@gmail.com to be added to the prayer list)</i>	
FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND	
Joyce Rochester, Herb & Marge Foelber, and Janice Keitel	

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are on recess until January.

2026 Envelopes are in church mailboxes. Please email elsyglc@gmail.com if you need envelopes and/or a mailbox or have any questions.

**Upcoming Services**

December 17: Advent Midweek @ 6:30pm (soup supper @ 5:30pm)

December 21: Advent 4 @ 9:00am

December 24: Christmas Eve @ 6:30pm

December 25: Christmas Day @ 9:00am

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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## ADVENT 3

December 14, 2025

9:00 am

**GRACE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EST. 1912

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