



**Grace Lutheran Church  
40 N. Main St., Hatfield, PA 19440  
[gracelutheranhatfield.org](http://gracelutheranhatfield.org)  
215.855.4676**

**Second Sunday of Christmas  
January 4, 2026 9:30 a.m.**

**The Rev. Wayne Shelor, Interim Pastor  
Tedd Didden, Minister of Music  
Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator  
Jessica Moran, Stepping Stones Director**

**A. Welcome**

***GATHERING***

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

**CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P.** In the name of the Father,  
and of the  $\dagger$  Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\dagger$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## GREETING

**P.** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

**P.** With our siblings around the world, let us pray together:

**Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE: Lord I Lift Your Name on High

ELW 857

## WORD

### First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back;  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him  
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.”



<sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy;  
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 147:12-20**

<sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,

<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup>**God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

### **Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P. The gospel of our Lord, according to John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P. The gospel of the Lord. C. Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## **Sermon: Pastor Karen Sease**

### **HYMN of the DAY: In the Bleak Midwinter**

**ELW 294**

## **THE CREED**

**A.** Together with our siblings around the globe let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
    creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
    who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
    born of the virgin Mary,  
    suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, died, and was buried;  
    he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
    he ascended into heaven,  
    he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
    and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
    the holy catholic church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins,  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

**A.** To the petition “Hear us, O God,” please respond “Your mercy is great.”

## **GREETING OF THE PEACE**

**A.** The peace of Christ is with you always. **C. And also with you.**  
Please share this peace with one another.

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING** *The ushers will pass the offering plates at this time.*

## Music at the Offering: The New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten

### OFFERTORY

ELW Setting 3



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERING PRAYER

**A.** Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P.** The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

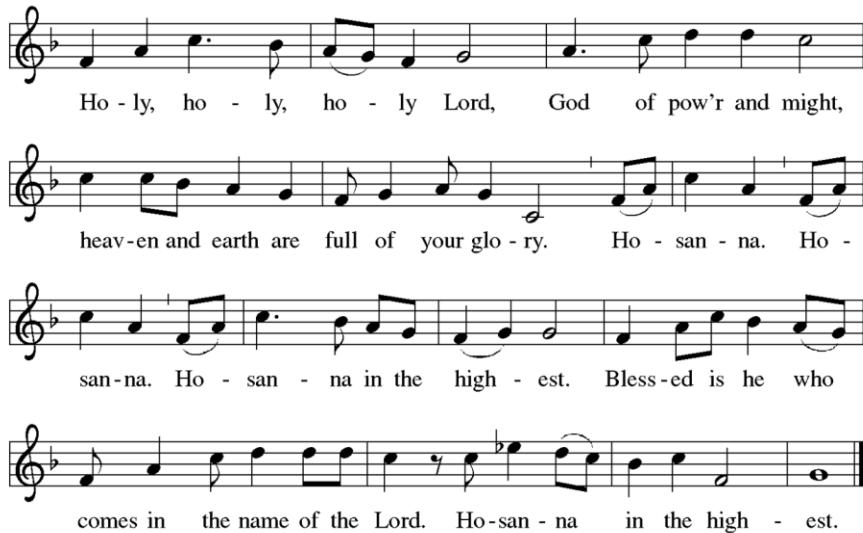
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P. Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

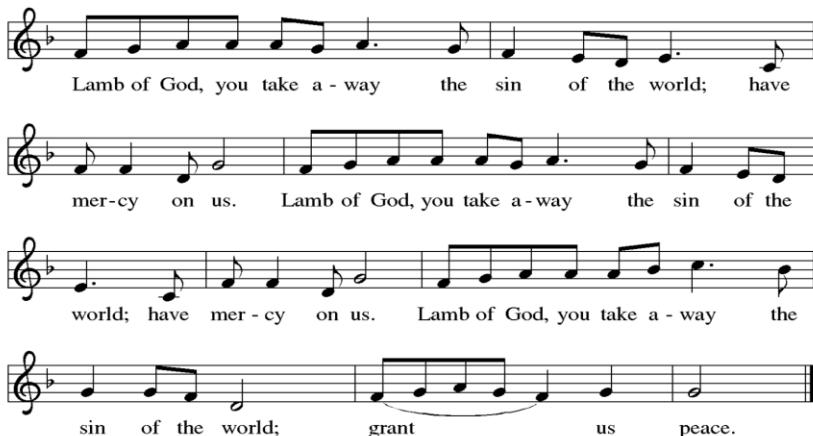
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
        on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
        who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    forever and ever. Amen.

## Invitation to Communion

P. Loving God, we join you at this table trusting in your abundant mercy. Grant that we, here in this room or in distant places, may know the peace and joy of your ever-abiding presence. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

ELW 759

*Please stand.*

### TABLE BLESSING

**P.** May the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you forever in His grace. **Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P.** Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

### ***SENDING***

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

*Please be seated.*

### A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand.*

### BLESSING

**P.** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with his favor and give you his peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: Go, Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

### DISMISSAL

**A.** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: In Thee Is Joy**

**J. Sebastian Bach**

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## Serving today – Thank You!!

Preacher and Presider, Rev. Karen Sease

Assisting Minister: Ken Seiler

Lector: Karen Seiler

Minister of Music: Tedd Didden

Ushers: Karen Seiler & Karen Heacock

Altar Guild: Janice Swartz, Bob Smyrl, & Emily Woltmann

Acolyte: Usher

Altar Flower Prep: Emily Woltmann

Coffee Hour:

Council Offering & Lockup: TBD

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

To reach Pastor Wayne call his cell (**571.550.3229**) or use this email:  
[revwrshelor@gmail.com](mailto:revwrshelor@gmail.com).



**Thank you for worshiping with us today!** A warm welcome to all visitors. Please join us again in person or online; find the link to the livestream of our service each week on our website, with this QR code, or at:  
[www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranHatfield](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranHatfield).



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