

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

422 Valhi Boulevard
985-879-1865/1833

Houma, Louisiana 70360
WWW.GRACEHOUMA.ORG

Pastor - Richard D. Rudnik
Church Secretary - Lisa Giroir

President - Brandy Lirette
ECC Director - Sofie Arceneaux

Accompanists- Mila Anikina & Mike Cape

Today

Service Elder - Joe Deane
Scripture Reader - Rich Rudnik
Offering Stewards - Bonnie Dupre
Altar Guild - Marilyn & Jerrie

Next Sunday

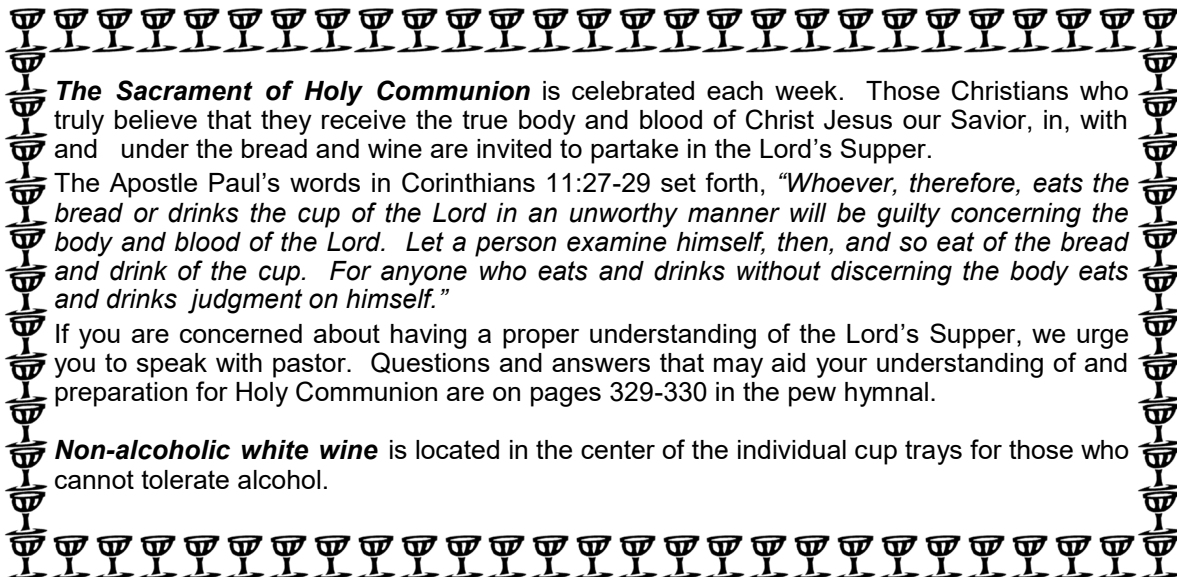
Joe Deane
Rich Rudnik
Bonnie Dupre
John & Patsy

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19, 2021

Welcome to God's house! Please allow us to keep in touch with you by signing the register in the foyer/narthex. Thank you!

Altar Flowers are placed today to the glory of God in celebration of Cindy Deane's birthday today.



The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week. Those Christians who truly believe that they receive the true body and blood of Christ Jesus our Savior, in, with and under the bread and wine are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper.

The Apostle Paul's words in Corinthians 11:27-29 set forth, "*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.*"

If you are concerned about having a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper, we urge you to speak with pastor. Questions and answers that may aid your understanding of and preparation for Holy Communion are on pages 329-330 in the pew hymnal.

Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cup trays for those who cannot tolerate alcohol.

This Week at Grace

Today 9:00 a.m. **Worship**
Coffee and baked goods
10:45 a.m. **Sunday School**

Tues. 1:00 p.m. **Bible Study**

Wed. **No Potluck Fellowship & Midweek Advent Worship**

Friday 7:00 p.m. **Christmas Eve Service**

Saturday 9:00 a.m. **Christmas Day Worship service**

Sunday 9:00 a.m. **Worship**
Coffee & baked goods follow
10:45 a.m. **Sunday School**

For the week of December 19 - 25, 2021

Birthdays	Baptismal Anniversaries	Wedding Anniversary
Dec. 19 Cindy Deane	Dec. 21 Charlene Shroyer	Dec. 21 Ray & Lynn Cinnater
20 Blakelynn Vogel	25 Sara Greve	
20 Ian Wegner		
22 Jerrie Fitzgerald		
24 Bonnie Dupre		

In the palm of God's Hands...

HEALTH CONCERNS: Andrea Dupre, Angelo Michel, Belinda Thibodaux, Burt Hebert, Hunter Moore, Mary Deane, PC Cummins, Tina Williams & William Bruce Hillman Jr.

BATTLING CANCER: Cindy Gorham, Jay Cruse, John Adams, Karen Curtis, Nan Ashley Hebert, Penny Emling & Ursula Breaux

CHRONIC CONDITIONS & ELDERLY: Brian Hoover, Camile Adams, Cindy Deane, Connie Oswald, Edna Marie Sevin, Helen Hoover, Jackie Webb, Kim Cape, Lisa Ledet, Rana DaSilva Moise, Richard LaCour, Sue Ackett & Virginia Cunningham

MOURNING A LOSS: the family of Bobby Torbert, Gary Follis, Georgette Savoie, Raymond Labat & Timothy Bilello.

NEW & EXPECTING MOTHERS: Amye Jakob & Stephen Carl Jakob, Jacey Corbitt & Kai Dwayne, Kara Trahan & Sutton Paul and Lori Prugh & Calvin David Prugh.

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES & THEIR FAMILY: Andrew Winn, Haily Crawford, Heather Darce, Jack Hansen, Kyle Turcott, Leo Lampinen, Matthew Spolarich, Natalie Turcott, Nigel Koorie, Todd Mueller, Tom Hemminger, Victoria Shroyer & Zhain Shroyer

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Adriana Vitrano, Annie Reaves, Armand Erhart, Blayne Barras, Brandon Cinnater, Brooks Thomas, Emma Thomas, Donovan Domangue, Fielden Baker, Gabbie Corbitt, Hannah Cuneo, Hannah Norman, Harleigh Dahl, Isabella Appenzeller, Jared Moise, Karly Kyzar, Madeleine Boudreaux, Peyton Kraus, Ross Reaves, Sophia Miller & Victoria Thalheim

Grace's Mission

Building one body in Christ through Worship, Witness, Stewardship, Service, Love, Teaching, and Fellowship

BENEDICTION *Luke 1:54–55; Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord” LSB #935

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Stewardship News	
Attendance last Sunday:	
Last Sunday GF Offerings: \$2,427.00	GF Offerings YTD: \$168,021.00
Weekly 2021 Budgeted Expenses: \$3,019.53	2021 Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$144,234.44
Giving Deadline for 2021	
All offerings and donations to Grace Lutheran Church or GLC’s Early Childhood Center must be received in the church office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2021 to be include on GLC’s contribution statement for 2021. Any funds received after this date will be posted as 2022 contributions on GLC or GLC’s Early Childhood Center records. Contact Brigitte Kinsella if you have any questions. Thank you for your cooperation!	
Sunday Morning Worship & Fellowship	
Just a reminder to leave the sanctuary, narthex and temporary fellowship area tidy on Sunday mornings - or any other time you may use them. Make sure bulletins are picked up and put into the green recycle bin in the narthex, pew envelopes and pencils are in place, fellowship tables are wiped off with disinfectant spray and any food around the chairs is picked up. Thank you for your cooperation.	



Holiday Worship Services

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th
Candlelight Worship 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship Service
Saturday, December 25th
9:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

HYMN “The Night Will Soon Be Ending” LSB #337

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Luke 1:49–51, 54, adapt.*

Pastor: The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.

People: **We thank You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord’s mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

People: **We adore You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.

People: **We praise You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.

People: **We worship You, O Lord!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

All four Advent candles are lit.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 25:6–7*

Pastor: Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God’s new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

A time of silence is observed.

Pastor: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have not always been instruments of Your peace. Our homes have at times been places of strife and turmoil by our own fault. Even in the church sometimes we have chosen to fight rather than to make peace.

People: **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
People: **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

HYMN "Kyrie for the Four Sundays in Advent" (*Tune: LSB #357*)

**Forgive us, Lord, for times when love was lost,
And moments when we never thought to care,
For times when we destroy and subdue
The Word that brings Your people close to You.
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins
And help us love so newness can begin.**

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Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

† WORD †

INTROIT *1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b–7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b–47*

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord,
People: **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

Pastor: My mouth derides my enemies,
People: **because I rejoice in Your salvation.**

Pastor: There is none holy like the LORD;
People: **there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.**

Pastor: The barren has borne seven,
People: **but she who has many children is forlorn.**

Pastor: The LORD kills and brings to life;
People: **He brings down to Sheol and raises up.**

Pastor: The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
People: **He brings low and He exalts.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord,
People: **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (*p. 198 in hymnal*)

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away
the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away
the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away
the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Savior of the Nations, Come" LSB #332
"O Bless the Lord, My Soul" LSB #814
"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" LSB #356
"Praise the Almighty" LSB #797

Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (*p. 199 in hymnal*)

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Thank You, Lord, for the peace that comes to us through Christ's body and blood. Help us leave this Table so filled with Your peace that it overflows to our homes, our church, and our community; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SANCTUS *(p. 195 in hymnal)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Thank You, Lord of all creation, for Your constant, abiding, seeking love, given to us now in the Supper of our Lord. You created the heavens, the earth, all creatures, and human beings. You promised a Savior when Adam and Eve rebelled against You. You made Your covenant with Abraham and Sarah to bless the world through their offspring. You saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and guided them through the wilderness. You sent prophets to people who had again rebelled against You. In the fullness of time, You sent to us Jesus, Your Son, who proclaimed, taught, and demonstrated the coming Kingdom and who suffered, died, rose, and ascended. You provide for us the body and blood of Christ to forgive our sins, and You empower us to love the world as You have first loved us. In You we find the peace that surpasses human understanding.

People: **We thank You. We praise You. We adore You. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, **that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy;**

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Micah 5:2–5a*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 80:1–7; antiphon: v. 7*

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

People: **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

People: **You who lead Joseph like a flock!**

Pastor: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Your might and come to save us!

People: **Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers?

People: **You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

Pastor: You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,

People: **and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

People: **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

People: **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

EPISTLE *Hebrews 10:5–10*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE *Matthew 1:23a*

Pastor: Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
People: **and they shall call His name Immanuel. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 1:39–45*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" LSB #357

SERMON

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(After each petition...)

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord;
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

HYMN "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB #805

† SACRAMENT †

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who made peace between God and humanity by dying on the cross and being raised by the Father. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: