

### Old Testament Reading:

#### Isaiah 62:10-12

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

<sup>12</sup>And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

### Epistle:

#### Titus 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

### Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was


with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

<sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



Therefore the Lord  
himself shall give you  
a sign; Behold, a virgin  
shall conceive, and bear a  
son, and shall call his  
name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND  
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**

*www.gracehouma.org*

422 Valhi Boulevard  
(985)879-1865/1833  
Christmas Day Worship

Houma, Louisiana, 70360  
Pastor Richard D. Rudnik  
December 25, 2021

† PREPARATION †

**HYMN** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB #379

*Stand or Kneel*

**INVOCATION**

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

People: **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered this Christmas morning to hear God's Word, to marvel at the mystery of the Word becoming flesh, and to receive Him as He comes to us in His body and blood, let us first consider our unworthiness before God and confess before Him and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition; only God's Son, Jesus Christ, has set us free from our fears and failures, our sin and death, and He enables us to live forever as God's children. Let us then take refuge in the infinite mercy of our God and, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, say: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, born into this world on Christmas, to live, suffer, die, and rise again for you. For Jesus' sake, your heavenly Father forgives you all

# Poinsettia Dedications

Brandy & Dean Lirette As an Expression of Joy

Barbara Jakob As an Expression of Joy

Ray Cinnater In memory of Bradley Cinnater

Bonnie Dupre In memory of Gladys & Olden Dupre

The Kinsella Family In memory of Joy Stegall

Connie Oswalt As an Expression of Joy of blessing received  
& In memory of loved ones passed

John & Patsy Wegner As an Expression of Joy

Rudnik Family In honor of Charles & Doris Beasley  
In memory of Richard & Anna Rudnik

Bruce Weber In memory of Bruce's mom, Ida Weber  
& In memory of Bruce's dad, Olin Weber

Jerrie Fitzgerald In memory of Gordon Fitzgerald  
& In memory of Stephanie Dahl

Dale & Donna Boger In memory of their parents  
In honor of their grandchildren, Claire, Ben and Calvin

**BENEDICTION** *Isaiah 9:6, adapt.; Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: Unto us  
People: **a child is born!**

Pastor: Unto us  
People: **a son is given!**

Pastor: And the government shall be upon His shoulder.  
People: **And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Pastor: 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** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" LSB #367

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**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 Bonnie Dupre 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.

**Grace's Mission**

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

your sins. As your pastor, it is my privilege to announce this message of grace unto you and, as Christ has commanded, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
People: **Amen.**

People:

*Stand*

**† WORD †**

**PSALM** *Psalm 98; antiphon: v. 2*

People: **The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

People: **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

Pastor: The LORD has made known His salvation;  
People: **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
People: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
People: **break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

**The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
People: **with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

Pastor: With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
People: **make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

Pastor: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
People: **the world and those who dwell in it!**

Pastor: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth.  
People: **He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

**The LORD has made known His salvation;  
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the  
nations.**

**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.**

**KYRIE** *(p. 204 in hymnal)*

**Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have  
mercy.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice" LSB #386

### **SALUTATION**

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

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**People:** Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in  
the flesh may set us free from the bondage of our sin  
**that we may rejoice in the salvation You have delivered  
unto us;**

**Pastor:** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**People:** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 62:10–12*

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

**GRADUAL** *Isaiah 9:6, adapt.; Psalm 98:1a*

**Pastor:** Unto us  
**People:** **a child is born!**

**Pastor:** Unto us  
**People:** **a son is given!**

**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.**

### **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."

### **PAX DOMINI**

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

**AGNUS DEI** *(p. 163 in hymnal)*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us  
peace.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

### **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

"Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn" LSB #391

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

You have come unto us, O Father, in the precious body and  
blood of Christ, our Lord. Grant that we who have received  
Your salvation rejoice in You all our days; through Jesus Christ,  
Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

## 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, for the countless blessings You have given to us and all creation. This day we rejoice with the heavenly host as they proclaim the glad tidings of great joy, knowing that the Word has become flesh and made His dwelling among us. Your holy Child, who entered our world that first Christmas, comes unto us again this day in His body and blood as we are drawn unto Your holy presence. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** *(p. 161 in hymnal)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O mighty God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

You have come unto us in the babe of Bethlehem, who grew up to live the holy life we cannot live so that, by His death and resurrection, we are granted forgiveness, full and free, and drawn unto You for all eternity.

All glory and honor belong to You, O Lord, as You fill us with Your presence in this sacred Meal that we may forever rejoice in Your salvation.

Hear us as we pray in Your Son's name and in the words He has taught us:

**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**

Pastor: And the government shall be upon His shoulder.  
People: **And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Pastor: Sing to the Lord a new song,  
People: **for He has done marvelous things!**

**EPISTLE** *Titus 3:4–7*

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

**HYMN** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" LSB #380

*Stand*

**VERSE** *Luke 2:14*

Pastor: Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest,  
People: **and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased! Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 2:1–20*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second 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*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” LSB #375

**SERMON**

**MEDITATION**

*Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Wonderful Counselor, You govern all things with wisdom, righteousness, and truth. Grant to Your creation the joy of Your presence, that we may see You at work in our midst. Guide the nations of the earth to Your Son, that all would know Your salvation. Wherever the good news of great joy is announced this day, grant that lives are changed forever by the power of Your Holy Spirit.

**People: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Mighty God, Your power knows no limits. You reign over all things and yet, in Christ, You stoop down to save us. Give to us, Your Church, the power to declare Your mighty deeds throughout the world. Inspire us to fulfill our earthly callings so that, through our lives of joyful service, all would know of Your grace and mercy.

**People: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

Pastor: Everlasting Father, You embrace us and make us Your children through faith in Your only-begotten Son. Bless all those who, in any form of sickness or infirmity, need Your tender care. Heal the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and grant Your saving power to all who rest in You.

**People: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Prince of Peace, You give to us what the world can never give. Drive out all fears and doubts. Deliver us from all enemies, seen and unseen. Grant us solace in Him whose blood has set us free that we would be Your people forever. Open our ears to the message of the angels: “Fear not! For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!”

**People: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Fearing, loving, and trusting in You above all things, we entrust all of these prayers to Your mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Him whose birth we celebrate this day: Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**† 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.**