

Advent Announcements



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 3, 2014

The Announcement to Zechariah


WELCOME

STAND

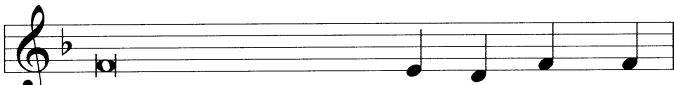
M: Minister C: Congregation



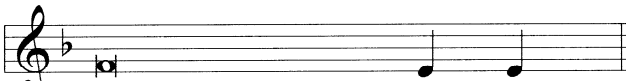
M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



C: the light no darkness can o - ver - come.




M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C: and the day is almost o - ver.



M: Be our light and scat - ter the dark - ness,




C: and hear our evening hymn of praise.



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, In you the
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of



Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly, blest is he,
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it: God
God, life - giv - ing Lord; Where - fore you are through all the earth



And blest are you, his on - ly Son.
Who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
And in the high - est heav'n a - dored.

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU *Psalm 141*



C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



O Lord, I call to you come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I cry to you.



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PSALM 89

M: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever,

C: I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

M: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

C: That you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

M: The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,

C: Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

M: O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?

C: You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

M: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

C: Who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.

M: They rejoice in your name all day long,

C: They exult in your righteousness.

PSALM PRAYER

M: Heavenly Father, we thank you for your faithfulness in bringing salvation just as you promised through the prophets. Accept our prayers and our praise as we rejoice in your name and exult in your righteousness. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:1-25 (NIV)

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be

a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth. Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years." The angel answered, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their proper time." Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates
Christian Worship #3

SERMON

Luke 1:1-25
The Announcement to Zechariah: Good News to be Believed

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED AFTER THE SERMON

HYMN

Blest Be the God of Israel
Christian Worship #275

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the pew and pass along. Thank You!



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

STAND

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

C: **Thanks be to God.**

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON *Nunc Dimittis*



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word.



For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING



M: The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

BE SEATED

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS EVENING

Worship Leader Pastor Nathan Kassulke
 Accompanist..... Elaine Goldie
 Bell Ringer Dylan Guenther
 Acolyte Nicole McNamara
 Sound & Recording Tech Jeff Weinstein

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