



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

*All are welcome to this service of communion;
All are wanted at the table of the lord.*

*Before the Service — Speak quietly to God
During the Service — Let God speak to you
After the Service — Speak to one another*

TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the links.

**To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799
8:30 am Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040**

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 livestream on our Facebook page.

Officiant: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
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Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
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Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

Opening Hymn: O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come O Wisdom from on high
Who orders all things mightily.
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in Her ways to go.
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come O come thou Lord of might
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

OPENING ACCLAMATION:

O stock of Jesse, you stand as a signal for the nations; kings fall silent before you, while the peoples acclaim you. Give us patience as we await your coming. Deliver us, and do not delay. **AMEN.**

Candle Lighting: I will kindle my fire



I will kin - dle my fire in the morn of the day, in the pres - ence of ho - ly



an - gels. With - out mal - ice or jeal - ous - y, en - vy or fear, with - out



ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me.



O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my



neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the



brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love - li - est Ma - ry, from the



low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER

Creator God, master of both the light and the darkness, as we light these three Advent candles, send your Holy Spirit upon us during this season as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas: we who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us: we who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" **AMEN.**

KYRIE

At the 8:30 Service:

Priest: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One

People: Have Mercy Upon Us

Priest: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One

People: Have Mercy Upon Us

Priest: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One

People: Have Mercy Upon Us

10:30 Service

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -
Chri - te
e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i -
Ky - ri - e
son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -
e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

The Response

Canticle 9 Page 86, BCP

The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce Deus*

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church .
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn: Find Us Ready

Find us read-y, Lord, not stand-ing still.

Find us work - ing and lov - ing and do - ing your

will. Find us read-y, Lord, faith-ful in love,

build - ing the king-dom that's here and a -

bove, build - ing the king-dom of

mer - cy and love.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ

The Homily: The Rev. Steven Steinberg-Domienik

We observe a brief silence for reflection.

The Affirmation of our Faith

At the early service:

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

**The Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day, he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

At the later service:

**We believe in the God of Life, who creates and loves all people,
who acts in history and who promises never to leave us alone.
We believe in Jesus of Nazareth, who is both human and divine.
We believe that we dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit for without her we are nothing;
filled with her we are able to become creative, lively and free.
We believe in the Church of Jesus our Christ,
a community where we find companions and courage for the struggles of life,
where we grow in our understanding of the faith through worship, prayer and service.
We believe that God has a purpose for us in this time and place, that even though we walk
through difficult times we are called to be instruments of God's peace.
We believe in using, enjoying, respecting and caring for all that God has created for us.
We believe that people can change and that God transforms and heals us in ways that
we may not expect or imagine.
We believe that there is life with God after death even though we may not understand it.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *The People stand or kneel.*

Let our hearts and minds be stirred as we pray to God for that peace so much greater than we can imagine, let us pray, saying:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For peace in the world: May the wars on every continent cease, may nations be at rest, may refugees and survivors find a new home and the spirit to begin again. May wounds be healed, losses grieved and honorable deeds remembered. May grace abound in all lands, and the lion and the lamb lie content.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For our young people: Let us provide a space for them in our midst and time to reassure them in their insecurities, encouraging them in their hopes and dreams, and strengthening them in their gifts and faith.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the elderly and the infirmed: We give thanks for the health and long life that many enjoy, and we pray for those who are overcome with suffering in body and spirit. Help us comfort one another and share your love with one another.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those in authority in our community, state and nation: that you may guide their hearts and minds to make good decisions for the welfare of all people.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those at greatest risk among us: Let us pray for those who are lonely, rejected, homeless or oppressed, for the sick, especially those impacted by Covid 19, and we also pray for those who struggle with addictions and for all those who do not have enough food to eat or clean safe water to drink.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all those who are sick or infirmed and for those suffering because of COVID – 19, And for all who have asked for our prayers: Ena, Cindy, Samantha, Thor, Rosy, Liz, Janice, Jennifer, Nina, Frank, Barbara, Helen, Matthew, Jennie, Katherine, Reggie, Pam, Roy, Karen, Ollie, Jasmine, Allen, Donna, Tom, Darrell, Frankie, Margaret, Sue, Dominique, Lianne, Lori, Michael, Amber, Eric, Leslie, Elliott, Neville, Bud, Sue, Mike, Deanna, Grant, Rosemary, Connie, Jenny, John, Helen, Charlotte, Adele, Joan, Jackie, James.

Leader: Are there others?

Bless, comfort and protect all those for whom we pray

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who have died: Let us remember those who have gone before us, our families, friends and those who have sacrificed for us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

O Lord, fill our minds and hearts with everything that is good and loving and worthy of thanksgiving and praise, everything that comes to us under the sign of your peace in the name of Jesus. **AMEN.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that 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 and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus our Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us,

That we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. AMEN.

My sisters and brothers: God loves us, God has mercy on us, God forgives us and God sets us free. So go out and forgive others and forgive yourself so that we all may be free. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

NOTE: We are sharing the peace in COVID safe ways, so we ask that you do something other than hug or shake hands.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

The Offering Song: Creator of the Stars of Night



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2. O love that wore our hu - man form,
3. Give us a love that nev - er dies,
4. When chil - dren teach the strong and proud,
5. O God who brought all life to birth,



who shaped the sky's e - ter - nal lights,
O ti - ny child of low - ly birth,
a vis - ion of the world to come:
when all the hun - gry have their fill,
O Christ who wore love's hu - man face,



O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
Let now your love be born in us
when all op - pres - sion fin - 'lly ends,
when rich no long - er use the poor,
O Spir - it mak - ing life a - new,



bend near, and hear us when we call.
'til peace and jus - tice fill the earth.
and all the home - less find a home;
when guns and bombs no long - er kill.
grant us your wis - dom, love and grace.

Doxology: We Stand within the Circle



1 We stand with-in the cir - cle of Christ's e - ter - nal light.
2 We live by faith he gives us, our food the bread and wine.
3 We sing with shin - ing voic - es, made wor - thy by his light.



No more to walk in dark - ness, no more to live by sight.
And ev - er lift our prais - es be - yond life's earth - ly signs.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, Christ, morn - ing's star burns bright.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ADVENT 3

Year C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you O God, Creator of heaven and earth.

And now we give you thanks because you prepared the way of your Son Jesus by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist, who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Savior.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

At the 8:30 Service:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

At the 10:30 Service

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow - er and might.

5 Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

9 Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The people stand or kneel and the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus our Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus our Christ. For it is by him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. ***AMEN.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

At the 8:30 Service:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thine 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN

At the 10:30 Service:

Our Father in heaven, holy is 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

BREAKING OF BREAD

8:30 Service

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***ALL:* Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Celebrant says the following:

The Gifts of God for all of us the holy People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

At the Later Service




Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God, for all of us, the holy people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Music for Communion: Peace is Flowing like a River



1. Peace is flow - ing like a riv - er,
2. Joy is flow - ing like a riv - er,
3. Faith is flow - ing like a riv - er,
4. Hope is flow - ing like a riv - er,
5. Love is flow - ing like a riv - er,



Flow - ing out through you and me; Flow - ing out in - to the



des - ert, Set - ting all the cap - tives free.

Choir anthem: Hope is a Candle

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Everyone

Gracious God, you have helped your people throughout all generations, now stand with us so that we may go forth from this place, empowered to join with you in the ongoing building of your kingdom. All this we ask through Jesus our Christ. **AMEN.**

BLESSING

Celebrant

May the Wisdom of God lead you.

May God shelter and protect you day and night.

May God stir your inmost thoughts to seek the divine.

May God give you patience to wait for the coming of Jesus.

And may the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, be upon you this day and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

Closing Hymn: I Want to be Ready

I want to be read - y, I want to be read - y.

I want to be read - y To walk in Je-ru-sa-lem just like John.

- 1. John said that Je - ru - sa-lem was four-square,
- 2. When Pe - ter was preach-ing at Pen - te - cost,

Walk in Je-ru-sa-lem just like John.

- 1. I hope, good Lord, I'll meet you there,
- 2. O he was filled with the Ho - ly Ghost,

Walk in Je-ru-sa-lem just like John. O

D.C.

DISMISSAL

Priest: Our worship has now ended. Go forth in peace and with patience to love yourself and your neighbor as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

People: We will with God's help!

The Prayers of this Congregation

For all refugees, especially those at our southern border; for the farmers across our country who are struggling; for Bonnie Perry, our Bishop, for Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., our retired bishop; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; Stewart Wood, our retired bishop; and our whole diocesan household, including Canterbury MSU in East Lansing, Church of the Great Commission in Dona Lila DR, St. George's in Milford; for Gretchen, our Governor; Joseph, our President; Kamala, our Vice President; and all members of Congress.

For Ena Pederson, Cindy, Samantha, Thor, Rosy, Liz Moorehouse, Janice Kibler, Jennifer Holland, Nina DiGaetano, Frank & Barbara Davenport, Donna Hanes, Helen Stein, Matthew Bishop, Jennie Berube, Katherine Domienik, Reggie Chrzanowski, Pam Sherry, Roy Lawrence, Karen Blackburn, Ollie Denham, Jasmine Gardner, Allen David Clay, Tom Krell, Darrell Banks, Frankie Dion, Margaret Marchionda, Sue Schlanbusch, Dominique Czupski, Lianne Neumann, Lori Dodge, Michael Thomas, Amber Bean, Eric & Leslie Mix, Elliott, Neville Thompson, Bud Denham, Sue Treend, Mike Zubas, Deanna Mejia, Grant, Rosemary Lake, Connie Harvey, Jenny Kirby, John Schober, Charlotte Kalligeros, Adele Akasheh, Joan Walsh, Jackie Falconer, James Sikes.

Please note: Names will remain on the prayer list for one month.

In order to add someone or keep someone on the prayer list, please call the office.

Do you know someone who is ill? Please contact the office and we will add them to the prayer list.

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 7 pm on Zoom (Meeting info will remain as follows each week)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732417015?pwd=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSEYelB3WXoyUmFvZz09>

Or Call: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 897 3241 7015

Passcode: 683930

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK RESUMES

We have resumed packing for Blessings in a Backpack on Wednesdays at ML King Academy, located at 400 Clinton River Drive in Mt. Clemens. Volunteers should try to arrive by 3:30 PM. It will take 1-1 1/2 hours to pack the bags for the students. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors for your support!

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH

Currently

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, online 8:30 & 10:30 am. Visit our website for more information.
Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7 pm (zoom) & Sundays in Advent 9:30 am at Grace

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers:

Wednesdays at 4:00

Sunday Supper Sundays at 4:30, November-March

Food Pantry:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 am -12 noon, curbside pickup

Serving from 250 - 350 people every month

Blessings in a Backpack:

Wednesdays at 3:30 at ML King Academy

**All outreach ministries welcome volunteers,
financial donations, or food and clothing donations.**

Call the office to learn about helping or giving:

586-465-4573

Current Announcements

Warming Center:

We will be hosting our Warming Center ministry from January 16th - 23rd and are in need of donations. Here are some things that would be helpful:

\$5 GIFT CARDS

TUNA PACKS

CHICKEN PACKS

FRUIT CUPS

POPARTS

PUDDING CUPS

BREAKFAST BARS

OATMEAL PACKS

CHEESE/PB CRACKERS

There is a wish list on the bulletin board.

Altar Flowers:

Please Sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board

Coffee Hour:

Sign up sheet located on the bulletin board.

Hearts for Homes:

Hearts for Homes is collecting items and money for two families that are in need of a good Christmas! Please contact **Christa Carpenter** for details. **(586)-663-6246**

