

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

# The Second Sunday of Advent

**December 5, 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
Cell: 203-641-2068

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
Ms. Amy Saari, Minister of Music
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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.

# **OPENING ACCLAMATION:**

For the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam, the paths we cross; guide our feet O God. Take us to places where you would go. Give us words that you would use, that in this Advent season of promise and preparation we might point the way with John the Baptist to the Lamb of God, who came to show us the way of LOVE. Amen.

AMEN.





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



#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER

Creator God, master of both the light and the darkness, as we light these two 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

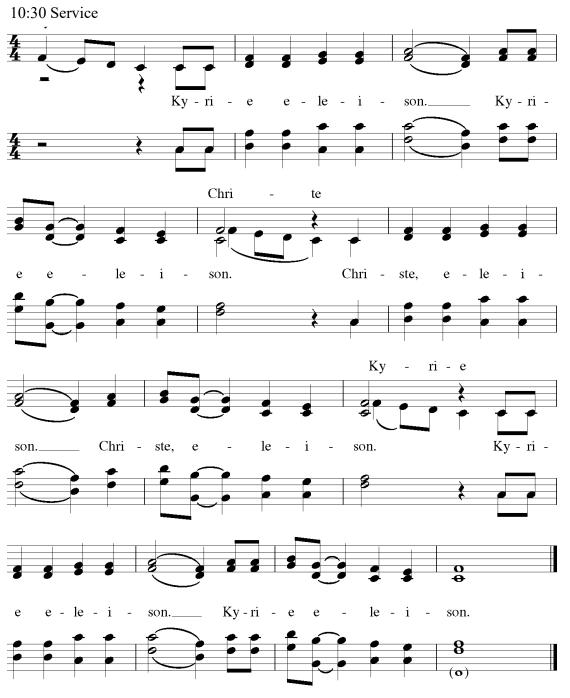
**People: Have Mercy Upon Us** 

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** 



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: May God be with you. **People: And also with you.** 

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

#### **Baruch 5:1-9**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east.

and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

#### THE RESPONSE

# Canticle 16 Page 92, BCP

# The Song of Zechariah Benedictus Dominus Deus

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \* he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \* born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, \* from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \* and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \* to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, \* holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \* for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation \* by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \* the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \* and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

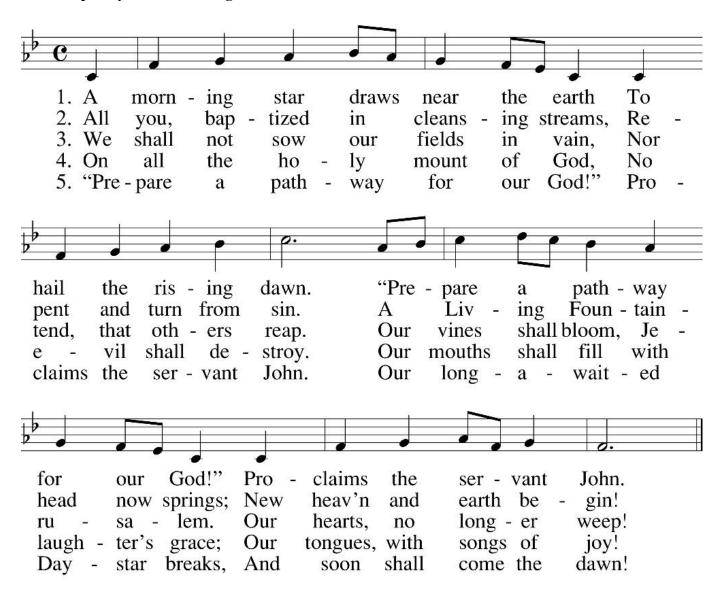
#### THE SECOND READING

# Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

# The Gospel Hymn: A Morning Star Draws Near



# Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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.

Wherever we are, in the wilderness, the countryside, or the city, God, you are there. That our hearts may be stirred up in thanksgiving for the life you have given us, let us pray, saying:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the gifts of creation, for the sun that lights our day and the moon and stars that shelter the night: May our eyes be open to the beauty around us, the subtle changes in the sky, the delicate coating of soil from which breaks forth our food and flowers and in which animals make their home. Help us to protect and nurture your creation around us and ever proclaim its wonders.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the church in every place: May we be ever mindful of the richness of the family of the church, the persons next to us in the pew, those in neighborhood churches, the national, international and ecumenical church of every race, nation and economic circumstance.

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 with COVID-19 and 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 those who have died: Let us remember those who have gone before us, those who have sacrificed for us, our families, friends, neighbors.

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, Carol, 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.

Leader: Are there others?

Bless, comfort and protect all those for whom we pray

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

#### CONCLUDING COLLECT

O God, gather up our prayers with those of all your people in every place and as you prepare the way, making every valley filled and every mountain brought low in blessing and adoration, guide us to 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

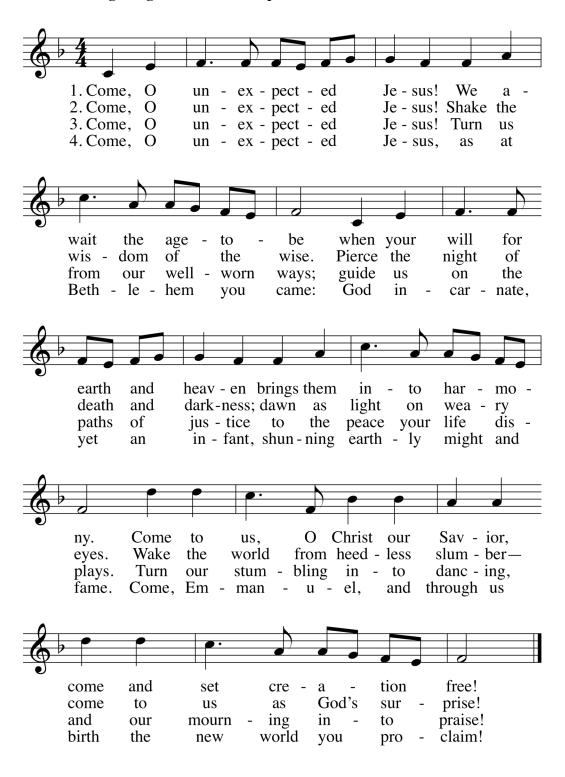
NOTE: We are sharing the peace in COVID safe ways, so we ask that you do something other than hug or shake hands.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** 

ANNOUNCEMENTS

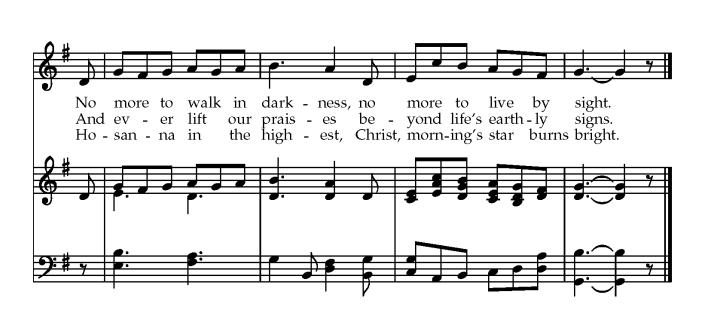
#### THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

# The Offering Song: Come, O Unexpected Jesus



# **Doxology: We Stand within the Circle**





# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ADVENT 2

Year C

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our God.

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

We lift them up to God.

<u>Celebrant:</u> Blessed be your name, Lord God of time and eternity, for you have come to your people and set them free. You have spoken through the mouth of holy prophets and remembered your covenant of old. You have prepared the way of our salvation by raising up a mighty Savior from the house of your servant David. Your Son Jesus took upon himself on the cross the cost of our sin, and through him you revealed the fullness of your promise of mercy. In his resurrection you gave us knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of our sins that we might serve you without fear in holiness and righteousness all our days. Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, martyrs and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn of praise:

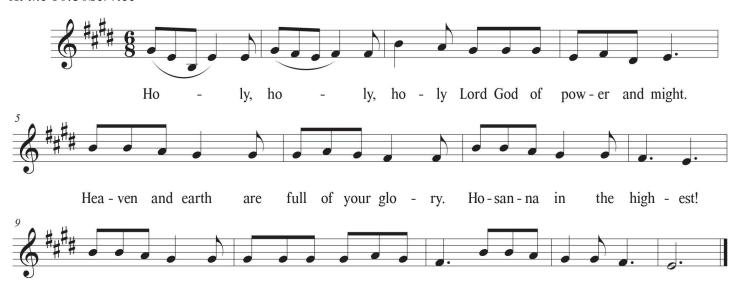
#### **SANCTUS**

People:

#### At the 8:30 Service:

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 10:30Service



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

#### Celebrant continues.

The people may extend their hands toward the bread and the wine to bless them.

God of the future and the past, you promised that all flesh shall see your salvation: show us the salvation you bring through the flesh and blood of your only Son. As your prophets heralded his saving glory, sanctify your church for his promised coming.

By your Spirit of salvation and hope, sanctify these gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to them saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*Celebrant:* Great is the mystery of our faith.

**People:** Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

<u>Celebrant continues</u>. Refining Spirit, you burn away all that does not endure your presence. Reveal your mercy in the very crucible of your love. Protect your sons and daughters who are facing a crucible of trial or temptation or testing, and amid the suffering of your children reveal your eternal grace. Refine and strengthen the hope of your church through every adversity and every danger. Set the hearts of your people on fire to seek your justice and share your mercy until your dawn from on high breaks upon us.

Fill every heart with this sure and certain hope, sanctify us by your love and help us know that you are all in all, ever one God, Holy Trinity.

People: AMEN.

#### 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

Celebrant: God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

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

#### 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: Down by the Riverside



Choir anthem: Prepare the Way of the Lord

#### 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: Comfort, Comfort, O My People



#### **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 Presidnt; and all members of Congress.

For Ena Pederson, Cindy, Samantha, Thor, Rosy, Liz Moorehouse, Janice Kibler, Carol Bales, 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..

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=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSExYelB3WXoyUmFvZz09

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 POPTARTS PUDDING CUPS

BREAKFAST BARS OATMEAL PACKS CHEESE/PB CRACKERS

There is a wish list on the bulletin board.

#### **Altar Flowers:**

Please Sign up for alter flowers on the bulletin board

#### **Coffee Hour:**

Sign up sheet located on the bulletin board.

