



Grace Lutheran &  
Providence Valley Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

9:00am on 92.1Fm Radio | [gracedawson.org](http://gracedawson.org) | [pvlchurch.org](http://pvlchurch.org)

Second Sunday of Christmas

Kendall L. Stelter, Pastor ~ Stephanie Gossett, Intern Pastor ~ Emily Stelter, Membership Care Director ~ Tammy Wager, Youth Director

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies, the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

*Service of the Word*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by its authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

HYMN

*“Listen You Nations of the World” LBW #14*

Refrain: Listen! You nations of the world: listen to the Word of the Lord.

Announce it from coast to coast; declare it to distant islands.

V1: The Lord who scattered Israel will gather his people again; and he will keep watch over them as a shepherd watches his flock. (Refrain)

V2: With shouts of joy they will come, their faces radiantly happy,  
for the Lord is so generous to them; he showers his people with gifts. (Refrain)

V3 and Final Refrain: Young women will dance for joy, and men young and old will make merry.

Like a garden refreshed by the rain, they will never be in wanting again.

Break into shouts of great joy: Jacob is free again! Teach nations to sing the song:

“The Lord has saved his people!”

\*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: *Oh God our redeemer, you created light that we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## *The Word*

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THE FIRST READING

*Jeremiah 31: 7-14*

**F**or thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come, and with consolations[a] I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." <sup>11</sup> For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

RESPONSE L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

**B**lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ[a] before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,[b] having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this[c] is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

RESPONSE L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

*C: Glory to you, O Lord.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, [b] full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

RESPONSE

P: The Gospel of the Lord. *C: Praise to you, O Christ.*

THE SERMON

### *“Witness with Your Life”*

*“...but to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave authority to become children of God, ...” John 1:12*

The Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition, please respond with “Hear our prayer.”*

### *The Offering*

\*The Offertory Song *“Of The Father's Love Begotten” (Vs. 1, 3, 4)*

**Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!**

**This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;  
now he shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord,  
evermore and evermore.**

**Let the heights of heaven, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;  
powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;  
let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore.**

**\*The Thanksgiving for the Word**

L: Merciful God, **C: everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**C: 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.**

**The Blessing**

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. The God of grace bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*Sending Song**

***“Beautiful Savior”***

**Beautiful Savior, King of Creation Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels in the sky.**

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forever-more be thine!**

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***Prayers***

*We offer our prayers for...*

***Long term prayer support:***

*Jim Anderson, Pat Saltness, Olivia Baldwin, Tom Beals, Ken Club, Jack Flayton, Monica Kennedy, Brad Madsen, Lauren Thoen, Bonnie Westfield, Jeff Moe, Julie Miron, Deb Lewis, Butch Anderson, Sarah Anderson, Sharla Kruger, Kenneth Paradis, Sam Maass, John Perry Peterson*

***Providence Church Long term prayer support:***

*Jon Lund, Arlys Buer, Evelyn Lundgren, Madeline & Wilton Gustafson,*

***Prayers for recovered health:*** *Ken & Carol Erp, Phyllis Lund, Mary Schommer, Eloise Ronning, Joey Anderson-Urness, Marlys Heath, Gwen Lewis, Tammy Wager, Cheryl Skindelien, Clarice Olson & Scarlett Ludvigson*

## ***Worship Participants***

***Pastor:*** Kendall L. Stelter

***Intern Pastor:*** Stephanie Gossett

***Organist/Pianist:*** Chris Lehne

***Praise Team:***, Stephanie Gossett & Chris Lehne

## ***This Week at Grace & Providence Valley: January 3<sup>rd</sup>-January 10<sup>th</sup>***

### ***Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>***

9:00am KLQP 92.1FM Radio & Online Broadcast Worship Service

### ***Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>***

2:00pm Ch. 8 TV Broadcast

3:30pm Confirmation @ Grace Hall (In person)

5:00pm Lay ministry / Internship Board Meeting

### ***Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>***

9:00am KLQP 92.1FM Radio & Online Broadcast Worship Service

## ***Announcements***

### ***2020 Board Reports***

*Board & Committee reports for the Annual Report are due Monday, January 11th. Please turn them in as soon as possible. If you are able, please email them to [gracelut@farmerstel.net](mailto:gracelut@farmerstel.net). Thank you.*

### ***2020 Contributions***

*We will accept contributions until **Friday, January 8th** by check or cash to be included on our giving statement for 2020. All electronic contributions must be made by midnight on Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.*

*Thank you for all of your generous contributions during the past year.*

## ***Worship Volunteers***

*We are looking for volunteers of all ages to read for our upcoming online worship services. You can record yourself from your home or someone can help you record at the church. Please contact the office if you are able to help with this ministry.*

## ***Tithes & Offerings***

*Grace and Providence Valley Lutheran Churches have options to give online! On our websites, [gracedawson.org](http://gracedawson.org) or [pvlchruch.org](http://pvlchruch.org), simply click on the "Give Online" tab at the top of the homepage. Or even easier, download our offering app on your phone! Simply search for "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" in your App Store and set up your account! And Grace Lutheran now has TEXT OFFERING! Simply text your offering amount to 800-675-7430! Offerings can also be mailed to:*

*Grace Lutheran Church – PO Box 549 - Dawson, MN 56232 or*

*Providence Valley Lutheran Church - C/O 2722 100th Street - Dawson, MN 56232*

*Thank you for your continued support this year, both financially and spiritually.*

## ***Effortless Giving!***

*There are also options for you to give without having to open your pocketbook! When shopping online at Amazon, simply go to "Amazon Smiles" and add Grace Lutheran Church-Dawson MN as your charity. Thrivent Financial members, direct your Choice Dollars to Grace by March 31, 2021. Thrivent Choice Dollars are your share of Thrivent's charitable funding. A portion of all your premiums and contract values grow your amount of Choice Dollars, and you can direct them to Grace Lutheran Church of Dawson, MN or Providence Valley Lutheran Church by logging on to your online account and choosing the "Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars" link under the "My Thrivent" tab. Also under this tab you will find the link for "Thrivent Action Teams" where you can apply for up to two (2) free \$250 grants from Thrivent per calendar year for your favorite charity events. Contact the office for projects needing grants or for help with any of these options.*