



- ✝ Sharing God's Grace
- ✝ Living His Word
- ✝ Making Disciples

Sunday School – 9:10 am  
Sunday Divine Worship – 10:30 am  
Monday Divine Worship – 7:00pm

*Grace in Action*

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## *For the Week Beginning December 17, 2017*

**Communion:** We celebrate Holy Communion today. **Please read carefully the statement concerning Holy Communion** provided in the worship folder. In faithfulness to God's Word we practice close communion. It is our privilege and responsibility to prepare for this sacred meal. You are encouraged to use pages 329-330 in Lutheran Service Book to aid in your preparation for this sacred meal.

**Need A Prayer:** for yourself or someone else? In the entryway our Stephen Ministers are available and easy to spot. Just look for their blue nametag. Remember the power of prayer!

**Portals of Prayer:** The latest edition is now available on the Usher's stand in the back of the sanctuary. Take one for yourself and one or more to give as a witness to your Lord.

**Here We Come a Caroling!** Tonight! We gather in the Community Room at 5:30 so we can be on our way by 5:45. Pastor Pase has three groups so we need all the carolers we can get.

**Monday Service Is TOMORROW at 7pm!** Is somebody missing? Reach out and invite them to the feast in the Lord's house tomorrow evening.

**Happy Birthday!** Tomorrow, 12/18 – Yes, it is really Manuel Gardea, our Custodian's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, who has been on staff for 22 years. Please join us as we sing Happy Birthday at 8:45am in the ECP kitchen and enjoy a slice of cake with Manuel to start your day.

**2018 Offering Envelopes** are on the table in the entryway. Please get yours today.

**New Email Addresses:** We are excited to announce an update to Grace's email system. Here are our new email addresses:  
Pastor Pase – [pastorpase@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org](mailto:pastorpase@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org),  
Pastor Allman – [pastorallman@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org](mailto:pastorallman@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org), &  
Victoria – [office@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org](mailto:office@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org).

**Advent Services:** Our series "*Behold the Light!*" concludes this Wednesday at noon and 7 pm.

**Wednesday Meal:** is at 5:00 during Advent in the Fellowship Hall. The menu is **Lasagna**. Please join us!

**Poinsettias:** Help the Altar Guild adorn our sanctuary this Christmas. They are \$15.00 each. Please pick up an order envelope located on the Ushers' stand. See Margie with questions. **No orders after Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Parish Workers Christmas Party:** Is Tuesday, 12/19, 6:30pm at the home of Richelle & Scott Gengler, 2016 Jadewood Dr.

**Christmas Eve/Day:** Next Sunday we begin with the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. Our Christmas Eve begins at 6pm with the Children-led service and our Candlelight service is at 10 pm. Our Christmas Day celebration with Holy Communion is at 10 am. "O, Come Let Us Adore Him!"

**Pictorial Directory:** Don't forget to stop by and pick your copy of the directory at the table in the entryway.

**Christmas For Our Staff:** *Please have your gifts in the box by this Wednesday.* The box is on the little table in the entryway for gifts to our paid staff. Gifts for our pastoral staff are to be given directly (in person or mailed) to the pastors. The Board of Elders.

**Children-Led Christmas Eve Service:** This Wednesday the children will practice from 5:45-6:50pm in the sanctuary. Please have them READY to go when you drop them off. The next week will be the same schedule. (Added practice on 12/20.) We will also have a practice in the evening on Thursday, 12/21. Thanks for your help. Stay healthy!

**Parent Info. Meeting:** Monday, 12/18 at 5:30pm for parents of students 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade who are interested in next summer's Higher Things Conferences. Please sign up on the **PINK SHEET**. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Happy Campers:** All youth is welcome and we would love to have our Bibleville Youth (3-6) there. We're planning on Early to mid-June to go to Camp Lone Star. Check your December newsletter and watch the Youth Board for more information.

**Christmas Cards:** There's a new selection in the east hallway. Please make your checks payable to "**Grace Guild.**"

**A BIG THANK YOU!** to those who prepared the float for the Christmas parade on such short notice! Thanks to Carol Massie and Cindy Hilton for painting. Thanks to Mark Pelletier for constructing the float. Thanks to Matthew Davis and Mac Hall for the lights. (And Mac being our "go to" guy). Thank you to Steve DeShaw for the use of trailer and driving during parade. And thank you to all the walkers or should I say "runners" during the parade. You were all witnesses of CHRISTmas to the city of Midland!

**Collecting:** It's time to bring in your labels from your soup cans, box tops, and stamps from Christmas cards you receive. The big mailbox in the entryway is where they go.

**Nursery HELP:** We are looking for some **NEW** faces to help out in our **NEW** nursery on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the **PINK SHEET** or contact Sharon Burks. This is a once a quarter commitment.

**Today's Light Bible Week One Hundred Three:** As we read through John's *Revelation* please remember that John writes in a cyclical manner. He takes one point and wraps it around and around. The point? Jesus wins! The devil loses!

**Check the MIT Board:** The 2018 sign-up sheets for **Tellers & Worship Service Delivery** are up for Grace members to volunteer. It doesn't take much time to do either one but the fulfillment is amazing. Contact Victoria in the church office if you have any questions.

**Connection Groups** is what we call small groups of 4 to 12 people. We have Connections who meet twice monthly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays in age or interest related Groups. For more information, please contact Pastor Allman.

**Stephen Ministry:** Being Present + Listening = God's Healing Power.

**Listen...God is Calling: 2 Samuel 7:4** "But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan ..." Nathan thought David's idea was great, so he blessed it with the Lord's name. But later that night, the Word of the Lord set him straight. The Word of the Lord must be the basis for what we think, say, and do in God's Kingdom: not our own desires or whims.

**Life Quote:** "So celebrate that divine-human Gift who has so changed your life by His Spirit. Praise Him for His gracious forgiveness and righteousness. Praise Him as the One who will one day transform the mortal into immortality. Indeed, He who was once a baby has changed and is changing lives and will one day change His whole creation." *Rev. David Fuerstenau, Holy Truth Lutheran Church, Ketchikan, Alaska – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

**The Lutheran Hour: "The Greatest Story Ever Told"** Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook. Our identity as God's children encourages us to live in His grace, to embrace the freedom Jesus won, and to resist the ways of the world that strive to keep us captive. (*Galatians 4:4-7*) The Lutheran Hour airs at 7:30am on KWEL AM 1070 & 107.1 FM.

**Family Shield Ministries: "TBA"** Airs at 8:00am on KWEL AM 1070 & 107.1 FM.

**Last Week at Grace**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Divine Service (12/10) .....             | 135        |
| Sunday School Attendance (12/10) .....   | 67         |
| Monday Divine Service (12/11) .....      | 25         |
| Advent Midweek Service Noon (12/13)..... | 19         |
| Advent Midweek Service 7pm (12/13).....  | 51         |
| First Fruit Giving (12/04 & 12/10) ..... | \$9,973.50 |

**Sunday Morning Sunday School/Faith Formation**

*Coffee, juice, & donuts are served at 9:00*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Adult</b> .....                         | <b>Fellowship Hall</b>                      |
| <i>Isaiah</i> .....                        | <i>Pastor Pase</i>                          |
| <b>Adult</b> .....                         | <b>Community Room</b>                       |
| <i>Growing in Christ</i> .....             | <i>Pastor Allman</i>                        |
| <b>Adult</b> .....                         | <b>Parlor</b>                               |
| <i>Sunday Lessons</i> .....                | <i>Pete Lufholm</i>                         |
| <b>Grades 7-8</b> .....                    | <b>Youth Room</b>                           |
| .....                                      | <i>Rotation</i>                             |
| <b>Grades 9-12</b> .....                   | <b>Youth Room</b>                           |
| .....                                      | <i>Chad &amp; Lisa Dalager</i>              |
| <b>Adventure Zones in Bibleville</b> ..... | <b>Bibleville</b>                           |
| .....                                      | <i>Ages 3 years – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>  |
| <b>Little Lambs (Ages 0-2)</b> .....       | <b>Room 12</b>                              |
| .....                                      | <i>Kelly Patterson &amp; Larissa Keller</i> |

**Graceful Living This Week**

|                    |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>This Sunday</b> | <b>12.17.17</b>                  |
| 7:30.....          | <i>The Lutheran Hour</i> KWEL AM |
| .....              | 1070 & 107.1 FM                  |
| 8:00.....          | <i>Family Shield</i> KWEL AM     |
| .....              | AM 1070 & 107.1 FM               |
| 9:10.....          | Sunday School                    |
| 10:30.....         | Divine Service w/Communion       |
| 2:30.....          | Legacy Ranch Service             |
| 5:30.....          | Christmas Caroling               |

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b> |                            |
| 6:00.....     | Joyful Tones               |
| 7:00.....     | Divine Service w/Communion |

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday</b> |                                |
| 6:00.....      | S.O.S.                         |
| 6:30.....      | Parish Workers Christmas Party |
| 7:00.....      | Board of Trustees              |
| 7:30.....      | God's Groupies                 |

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b>   |                                   |
| 6:45.....          | Men of Grace                      |
| 10:00.....         | ECP Puppet Chapel                 |
| <b>12:00</b> ..... | <b>Advent Service</b>             |
| <b>5:00</b> .....  | <b>Meal – Lasagna</b>             |
| 5:45.....          | Childrens' Christmas Practice     |
| <b>5:45</b> .....  | <b>Midweek Ministries</b>         |
| .....              | 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation |
| .....              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation |
| .....              | Joyful Chorus                     |
| .....              | Adult Study                       |
| <b>7:00</b> .....  | <b>Advent Service</b>             |

|                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Thursday</b> |                               |
| 10:00.....      | ECP Puppet Chapel             |
| 11:30.....      | Polity Committee              |
| 6:00.....       | Childrens' Christmas Practice |
| 7:00.....       | Seekers                       |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Saturday</b>    |  |
| <b>10:00</b> ..... | <b>Tentative – Childrens' Christmas Practice</b> |

|                    |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Next Sunday</b> | <b>12.24.17</b>                  |
| 7:30.....          | Vision & Skills Huddle           |
| 7:30.....          | <i>The Lutheran Hour</i> KWEL AM |
| .....              | 1070 & 107.1 FM                  |
| 8:00.....          | <i>Family Shield</i> KWEL AM     |
| .....              | AM 1070 & 107.1 FM               |
| 9:10.....          | Sunday School                    |
| 10:30.....         | Divine Service                   |
| 2:30.....          | Legacy Ranch Service             |
| 6:00.....          | Children-Led Christmas Service   |
| 10:00.....         | Christmas Eve Service            |



Our ECP continues to *Shine* this week.  
You are invited to read  
Luke 2:1-20 *with us this week.*