



Christmas Eve

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Yorba Linda, California



God's GRACE or undeserved love is yours, no matter who you are or where you come from – and we want to share that GRACE with you. We believe that Jesus won eternal life by His perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection and offers it to us as a gift. He shares that gift or GRACE with us through His Word. Through that same Word He guides us in a life of GRACEful living for our LORD and our neighbor.

We are part of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod, churches throughout the world united to share Jesus.

We are part of the federation of Californian Lutheran High School here in southern California.

Whether you are a first time visitor or back at “home”, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come and worship with us again.

- If you would like more information about Grace Church, there is a form on the back of the service folder you can fill out and pass to an usher. Or speak with Pastor Sievert or any of our members. You may also want to check out our website www.gracelutheran.church.
- Restrooms are located across the breezeway just inside our Grace Hall.
- We offer a cry room for parents needing to quiet small children. It is located in the back left (facing the back) corner of the chapel. The room is equipped with chairs and a changing table and offers audio of the service.
- New membership classes, a Bible study called Growing in Grace, starts January 16 at 6 PM.
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Christmas Blessings

Pastor Phillip Sievert
6550 Fairmont Blvd – Yorba Linda, CA 92886
714-779-2384 - www.gracelutheran.church
Accompanist – Margie Erickson

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

L: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

C: Oh, come, let us adore him!

CHRISTMAS PRAISE

L: Almighty God, you did not forsake the world when it abandoned you; from ancient times you made the promise of your victory shine before your people.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: Abraham hoped for your Christ and he rejoiced to see his day, foretold by the prophets and desired by the nations.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: The heavenly host of angels celebrated his birth; apostles and martyrs and the faithful throughout the ages repeated their song.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: Now, with your whole Church, we praise you; for our eyes have seen your salvation.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: Son of God, you became poor to make us rich; you humbled yourself, taking on the form of a servant, and lifted us up to share in your glory.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: We were darkness and you have given us light; we were without hope and we have received from you fullness of grace upon grace; we were sin and death and you have won for us forgiveness and life.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

L: Use us and guide us as you will. Make us people who serve you in holiness. Give us honest hearts to hear your Word and bring forth in us abundant fruit to your honor and glory.

What Child is this?

C: This is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary!

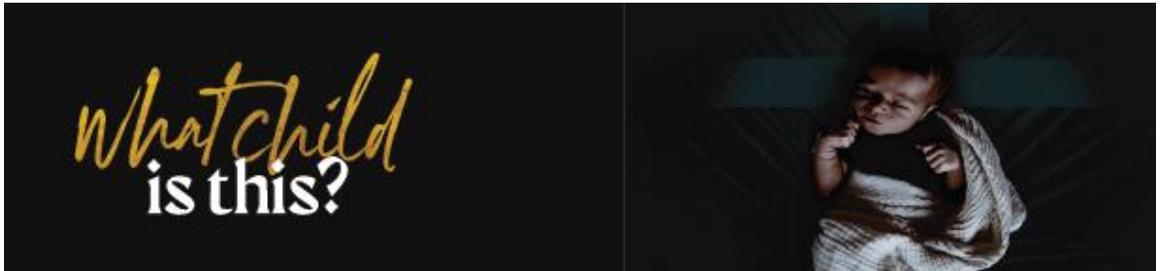
PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. *(spoken)*

Be seated.



CHRISTMAS

THE SECOND READING FROM ISAIAH This is the Prince of Peace! (9:2-7)

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

³You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

⁵Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

This is our Savior! (Matthew 1:18-23)

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

²³"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

CAROL

What Child Is This
Christian Worship #67

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Christ, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

What Child This is is This? Christ the Lord

PRAYERS

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for your holy Church and for this Christian congregation and for all our guests who have joined us this evening, that we may abide in your love and herald your Christmas grace in the world:

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for all pastors, teachers, and leaders of the Church, that they may carry out their calling faithfully and that their lives may echo the Word they proclaim:

C: Christ, have mercy.

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for those who still walk in the darkness of unbelief, unconcerned about God or unaware of his forgiveness:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for the leaders of our nation, that they may govern with wisdom so that our laws may be upheld and divisions may be healed:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for our great county and all who live and work here, that we may continue to enjoy opportunity, safety, and prosperity:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for the nations of the world, that peace may come and endure to allow the gospel to be freely proclaimed to all people:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: On this Christmas Eve, we pray for members of the armed services and for all men and women stationed far from home, that they may be spared from physical dangers;

For children who are forgotten or forsaken that they may find love, affection, and a sense of belonging;

For those who are sick, those who are troubled, those who are lonely, those who are hungry, that they may receive comfort and support from us and others;

For those who are dying that they may see the cross of your Son before their closing eyes:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: Mercifully hear the prayers of your people, Lord God, as we rejoice in the mystery of the Incarnation – God becoming flesh; grant that the Divine Light who shines in our minds and hearts may also shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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.**



SILENT NIGHT

L: The people who walked in darkness, have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

L: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have seen the glory of the Christ, the glory of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

L: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In him was life, and that life was the light of men.