

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666

(201) 836-0994

THE REV. MARGARET NIEDERER – PASTOR

(201) 403-4341 + pegniederer@gmail.com

CAROL WEBER – CANTOR

CHRIST THE KING

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

10 AM



Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

TOGETHER IN CHRIST

VISIT US AT:

WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG

Welcome to worship!
During Mass,
please continue to mask and social distance.
Stay at your seat and use a soft voice when speaking or singing.

PRELUDE Oboe Sonata in F Major, Op. 1, No. 11 George Frideric Handel
Larghetto, Allegro

Sarah Davol, Oboe

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand and face the altar.

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P. In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
C . Amen.

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Merciful God,
C. **We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.
We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.
We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.
Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.
Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need.
Amen.**

P. God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for ✝ Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.
Lift up your heads and your hearts.
Yours is the kingdom of God.
C. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

LBW 27



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold him
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



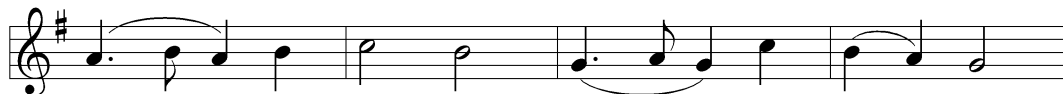
once for fa - vored sin - ners slain;
 robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 still his daz - zling bod - y bears,
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 those who set at nought and sold him,
 cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



swell the tri - umph of his train:
 pierced and nailed him to the tree,
 to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

GREETING

P. From the one who is and was and is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace and peace be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

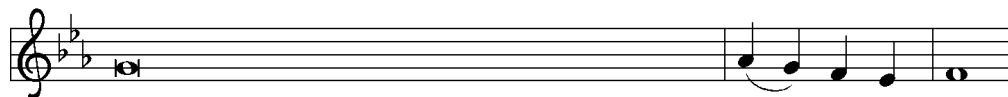
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



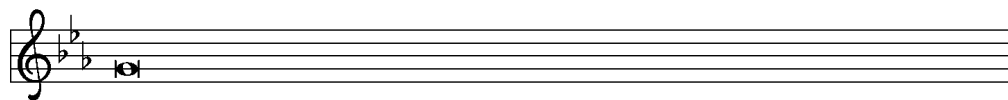
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



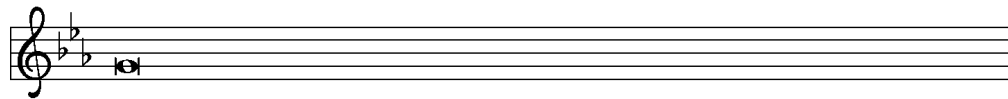
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

A. A reading from Daniel, the 7th Chapter beginning with the 9th verse.

⁹As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

¹³As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

¹⁴To him was given dominion and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

A. The Word of God. The Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 93 READ RESPONSIVELY

¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

²**Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.**

³The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.**

⁵Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

A. A reading from Revelation, the 1st Chapter beginning with the 4th verse.

^{4b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

A. The Word of God. The Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Alleluia Verse (*Choir*)

Donald Busarow

Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia. (Rev. 22:13)

GOSPEL John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

P. The Holy Gospel According to John, the 18th Chapter beginning with the 33rd verse.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Peggy Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns*

LBW 172



- 1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
- 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov-'reign right,
- 3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
- 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855

Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669–1707





NICENE CREED

A. Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,***

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lindsay Costello

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need using the response **hear our prayer**.

A brief silence.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering who we pray for now either in silence or out loud (*pause while names are said*). Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to form us into one body in Christ. We pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, the New Jersey Synod, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian Community, our friends from Light and Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere, as they live out their calling to serve. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

P. God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C. Amen.

PEACE *Stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.*

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C. And also with you.

OFFERING *Please place your offering in the plate located on the table
at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.*

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

Arioso: Tag und Nacht (Day and Night) Johann Sebastian Bach
from Cantata 71, Gott ist mein König (God Is My King)

Robert Prowse, Baritone

Sarah Davol, Oboe

Tag und Nacht ist dein.

Day and night are yours

Du machest, daß beide, Sonn und Gestirn,

You make them both, the sun and the stars,

ihren gewissen Lauf haben.

follow their appointed course.

Du setzest einem jeglichen Lande seine Grenze.

You set for each land its boundaries. (Psalm 74:16-17)

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P. Let us pray.

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it,
yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.
Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine,
and strengthen us to be your body for the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

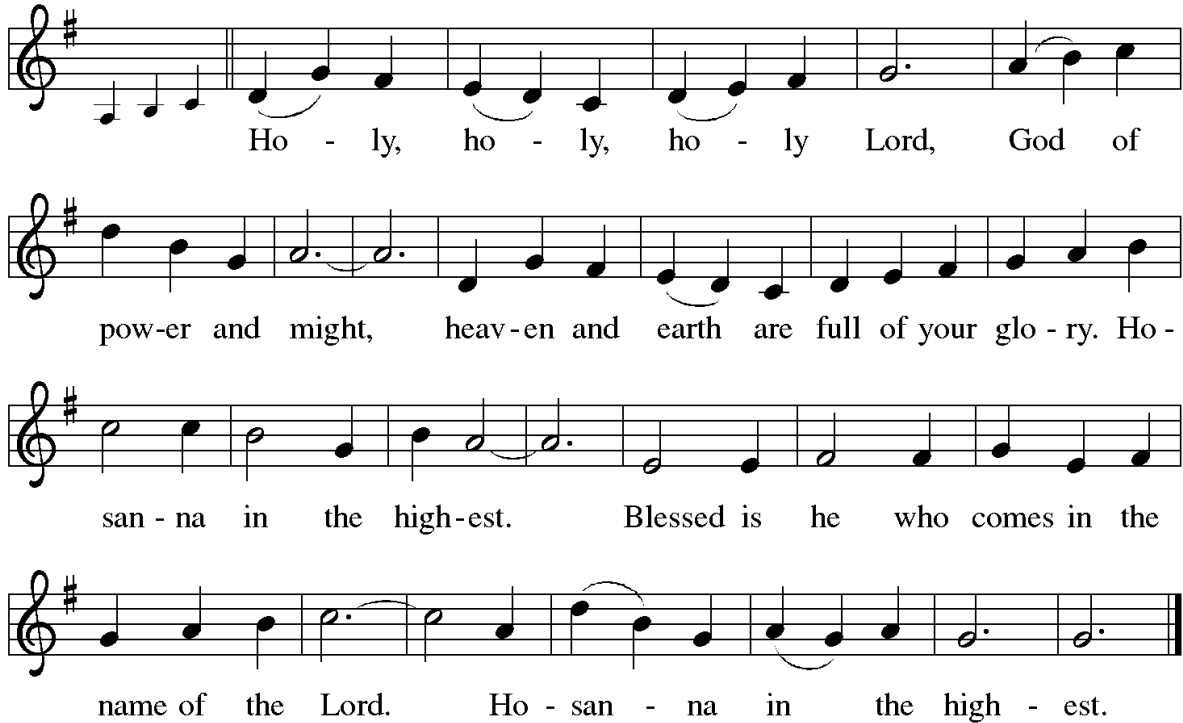
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, holy, Holy is the
LORD
of hosts; the whole earth is full
of his glory.
Isaiah 6:1

Please kneel or sit.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
Blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this
cup we proclaim the mystery of faith;

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Pour out upon us and this bread and cup the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory now and forever.

C. Amen.

LORDS PRAYER

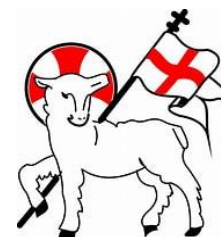
P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:

**C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

Come to the table where all are welcome.



AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please stay seated until the person in front of you has received the wafer.

Please continue to mask until after you have received the wafer and have stepped away from the Pastor.

*A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.
The center contains purple grape juice.
White wine is in the remainder of the tray.*

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.

All who are baptized and believe Christ is present in the meal offering forgiveness of sins and eternal life may receive communion.

*If you do not wish to receive Communion,
you may cross your arms in front of you and come forward to receive a blessing.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Oboe Sonata in F Major, Op. 1, No. 11
Siciliana

Sarah Davol, Oboe

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C. AMEN.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

Blessed Jesus,
at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.
Now send us forth to extend our tables
and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together
at your heavenly banquet. **C. AMEN.**

BLESSING

P. God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life,
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.
C. AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

LBW 170



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

- 5 Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose pow'r a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round his pierced feet
fair flow'rs of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

- 6 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey 1816–1893

DISMISSAL

A. Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

POSTLUDE

Rondeau from Suite No. 1, Symphonies de Fanfares
Jean Joseph Moreau

Sarah Davol, Oboe

+ + +

**OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY
TO**

Sarah Davol, Oboe

Robert Prowse, Baritone

Fred Lewis, Greeter

Sue Papera, Liturgist & Reader

Lindsay Costello, Prayers of Intercession

Julie Buckingham, Altar Guild

+ + +



Thank You for Your Generous Giving!

OFFERINGS

can be received in the plate
at the back of the church

or

by mail:

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666



NEXT WEEK ON TUESDAY
November 23, at 7:30 PM

In-Person at Grace & Live-streamed

PLEASE BRING NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS
Canned or Packaged
Place at the back of the church

OFFERINGS

Nonperishable Food will be donated to Christ Church Food Pantry
Money offerings will be donated to Future Forward for Haiti
To help feed the children of Haiti



WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

A Shared Advent Worship Series with Eucharist.

Dec 1, 8, 15, 22

Held Each Week In-Person at
Trinity Lutheran Church
167 Palisade Ave, Bogota

Masking & Social Distancing Required.

Zoom connection link will also be provided.

“Preparing in Christ’s Presence”

REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Grab ‘n Go or Grab ‘n Stay
Refreshments are prepackaged.

PREACHERS & SPONSORING CONGREGATIONS

Pastor Peggy Niederer – Grace, Teaneck
Pastor Patt Kauffman – St. Paul, Teaneck/Ridgefield
Pastor Danielle McCleary – St. Matthew, Secaucus
Pastor Lisa Holliday – Trinity, Bogota



**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
PART 1
IN-PERSON AFTER MASS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021
TO ELECT 2022 CHURCH COUNCIL & VOTE ON 2022 BUDGET**



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT MASS DECEMBER 24th - 9 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS DECEMBER 25th - 10 AM

On Pause during the holidays....

BIBLE STUDY

**will resume on
Thursday, January 6, 2022, at Noon**

HEALING SERVICE

**will be held on
Sunday, January 30, 2022**



PRAYERS

Carol Weber; Zulema Suarez (following surgery); Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom), and Frank Borowski (Katie's dad), and aunt; Enrique Perez (Jack's father-in-law); Marc Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's son); Melanie M. (Julie's friend); Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Nancy McCabe (Lynn's sister-in-law who has COPD); Nancy Galya (Lynn's former coworker); Bill Ewing (Sue's husband and Grace's Attorney); Gina Ewing in her work regarding equality and justice for all; Dick Barlotta (Sue Papera's brother-in-law/Penny's husband, following knee replacement surgery); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Kathy Obtain (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Hahnah and Navi (Karen Bartholomew's friend's children); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Arline A. (Mary Ellen's friend with metastatic cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department, working in Beijing; Susan (Lorli's sister-in-law); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Caridad (Rosa's aunt); Jael (Rosa's cousin); The Rosillo family (Surella's friends with Covid); Liz Frentzel (health concerns); Gerry Schlask (following back surgery); Tom Corcoran (Gerry Schlask's friend, following heart attacks); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Tom (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Mary Ellen Fitzgerald (health concerns); Lorli Steffen (hip replacement); Erika Ilgenfritz (following cataract surgery); Mary Ellen Fitzgerald (cancer); the people of Afghanistan, Americans, and allies who are still there; front line workers, medical researchers; health experts, national and regional officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.



Upcoming Commemorations

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748

Thursday, November 25, 2021

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24091. Copyrighted elements used by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies under License #SBL 14267. *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989. Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.