

December 28, 2025

First Sunday of Christmas



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Church Office: 609-927-3082 **Food Pantry:** 609-927-9982

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E-mail: office@GraceLutheranSPNJ.org

Interim Pastor ✝ Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.*

*Our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
red hymnal found in the pews.*

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo
Please stand as you are able

by Marcel Dupré

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

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

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

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

GATHERING HYMN

Love Has Come

ELW # 267

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.....**O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272

READING: Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

WOV #632

READING: Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be

called Son of God.

³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

Holy Child Within The Manger

WOV #638

READING: Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

On Christmas Night

ELW #274

STORY

"The Sharing Season" by Marion Brenish

Sharon Ehrhardt

CAROL

We Three Kings

WOV #646

STORY

"Where is the Baby Jesus?" by Jeannie S. Williams

Jim Ehrhardt

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In Dulci Jubilo

by Gwilym Beechey

Please stand as you are able

OFFERTORY HYMN

What Child Is This

ELW # 296

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SENDING

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph,

the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,

the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

May Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Go Tell it on The Mountain

ELW # 290

POSTLUDE*Deck the Hall*

by Jean Pasquet

We thank all those serving in worship today:

Jim & Sharon Ehrhardt

**The candles and bulletins sponsor this week is: Clare Brick,
in honor of Marleigh's birthday!**

*Pastor Wendolyn, Scott, and Corinne thank all of
you for your thoughtful, kind, and very generous
Christmas gifts! The three of us enjoy working
aside all of you in ministry!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please make sure you have picked up your 2026 Offering
Envelopes. They are in the narthex (back of the church)
organized alphabetically by last name.

WELCA (women of Grace) are collecting winter HATS,
GLOVES, AND MITTENS for local students. Please make sure
to donate brand NEW items.

Deadline for these donations is January 11, 2025.

January 11, 2026**Youth Re-Launch**

10:15 Service - Sunday School grades K-12

12:00-2:00 Youth Pizza Lunch and Photo Service Project
at Grace-Grades 6-12

January 18, 2026 we will be distributing the new budget for
the 2026 year.

January 18, 2026 United in Praise Choir Festival

3:00 PM here at Grace

A praise experience of music and meditations shared by
choirs and pastors of local churches.

Book exchange throughout the month of January

There will be a table in the Social Hall for you to bring in and place any books you no longer want. You may exchange them for any books on the table you haven't read which capture your interest!

February 1, 2026 is our **Annual Congregational Meeting**
immediately following the 10:15am worship service.

Join us for coffee hour and fellowship

January 11 and February 8!

*Special thank you to Jim & Sharon Ehrhardt for
leading us in worship today!*

*We are glad for your presence today.
We hope you come again soon!*

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

December 28, 2025-January 4, 2026

1st Sunday of Christmas 12/28/25

10:15AM Traditional Worship

MONDAY 12/29/25

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 12/30/25

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 12/31/25

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge

6:00PM AA Book Study

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

THURSDAY 1/1/26

Office closed

12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

6:00 AA 12-Step

7:00PM Al-Anon

FRIDAY 1/2/26

10:30AM Grace Stitchers

7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 1/3/24

7:30AM & 8:30AM Weight Watchers

2nd Sunday of Christmas 1/4/24

8:00AM Spoken Worship Service

10:15AM Traditional Worship

Joyful Noise Offering:

Beacon Animal Rescue

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Wed 10:00AM-3:00PM

Fri 10:00AM-3:00PM

SHORE DINER

Present this bulletin on a Sunday and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace Lutheran Church. Present this on any other day, and we will donate 10%.

Shore Diner
6710 Tilton Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234
609-641-3669