

WELCOME

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | EASTER | TRINITY

To our visitors

We are glad you have joined us to share in the gifts of our gracious Lord as we worship Him together in spirit and truth by receiving His Word and Sacraments. We invite you to pick up information and our Wittenberg Way newsletter at our welcome desk. If you have questions concerning the Christian faith or the Lutheran tradition, please let us know as Pastor Brian would love to speak with you.

Children are welcome in our services

Grace is a church family and we believe like any family we learn by doing things together. Bulletins are available for children that coincide with the liturgical calendar and scripture readings. We encourage parents to guide their children throughout the service, helping them to learn the language of the faith through the liturgy. A nursery with sound is located in the hallway outside the sanctuary to the right just before the glass door to the courtyard.

Holy Communion

Our fellowship in the Lord's Supper follows the Lutheran tradition grounded in the teaching of Holy Scripture. As one baptized into the Name of our Triune God and confessing the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Supper for the forgiveness of sins you are warmly invited to join around the table for Holy Communion. If you are not communing but wish to be blessed, then simply cross your arms at the rail and you will be blessed by the celebrant.

Giving to Grace

- Your weekly envelopes or those in the pews
- Online from your bank website
- Scan the QR code at the bottom
- Text the amount to 84321
- On the Grace Giving Page at gracesandiego.com
- Time and talents—please see Pr. Brian



Please silence cell phones and be mindful of those preparing for worship.

Restrooms are in the hallway outside the sanctuary chapel.

AS WE GATHER

During Christmastide, our attention is drawn to the holy family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. We, too, are God's children and part of an expanded holy family, set apart through the baptismal waters in which we have been washed. As we close out another year, we begin another asking for God's rich blessing so that, like old Simeon in the temple, we may live and depart this life in the peace of the Child He once held in His arms.

Collect:

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Luke 2:22-40

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

DIVINE SERVICE

SETTING 1

Settings of "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

Angels from the Realms of Glory	367
Confession & Absolution (kneel)	151
Kyrie	152
Gloria	154
Salutation and Collect	156
Reading	Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15
Gradual	
Epistle	Colossians 2:12-17
Alleluia	156
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40
Anthem	Renee Thompson, clarinet <i>Once in Royal David's City</i>
Sermon	Pastor Brian <i>"You Can Depart in Peace Too"</i> Luke 2:22-40
Nicene Creed	158
Prayer of the Church	
Offertory Hymn	
<i>In His Temple Now Behold Him</i>	519
Preface	160
Sanctus	161
The Words of Our Lord	162
Memorial Acclamation (2 X)	
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.	
Lord's Prayer	162
Pax Domini	163
Agnus Dei	163
Eucharist	
Psalm 111	
<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	393
Thank the Lord	164
Post Communion Collect	166
Benediction	166
Now Sing We, Now Rejoice	386
<i>In Dulci Jubilo</i>	arr. F.W. Zachow

* bold indicates standing

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor Rev. Brian Thomas
Director of Music Dale Sorenson

SERVING TODAY AT 9:00 AM

Elder Randy Houts
Altar Guild Michael Tow
Crucifer Jackson Huntley
Lector Randy Houts
Cantor Richard Segarra
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING 1/5/25 AT 9:00 AM

Elder Steve Hollman
Altar Guild Jack & Judy George
Crucifer Spencer Huntley
Lector Mark Jordan
Cantor Randy Houts
Usher Harold Nichols

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 – 10:15 AM

St. Mark Classroom, Nursery, & Den
Resumes on 1/12/25

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

10:00—11:00 am

St. Mark Classroom
Resumes on 1/15/25



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 ENVELOPES ARE IN YOUR MAILBOXES! If you don't have a mailbox with envelopes, please contact Gretchen in the church office at: gjordan@gracesandiego.com

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Please sign up to host the coffee fellowship after the service. Bring a refreshment to share and clean-up at 10:30. Please do not bring food into the sanctuary.

E P I P H A N Y
International Pot Luck
Sunday, January 5th at 5:00 p.m.



The Gospel is for all nations. Join us as we kick-off the Epiphany season with a global dinner celebrating the culinary diversity of God's goodness in creation.
Sign-up at the Welcome Desk

PRAYER LIST

FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

Dave, Mike, Heidi, Arleen, and Carlitos

FOR OUR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Elsy Lehman

FOR OUR MISSIONARIES & SEMINARIANS

Rev. Dr. Tardelli Voss and Vicar Rowan Turner

FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS

Micah Burge, Henry Casey, Nick Collum, Nathan Farish, Matthew Morgan,
Jeff & Jordan Gruetzmacher, Joshua Simmons, and Thomas Spencer

FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND

Joyce Rochester, Herb & Marge Foelber, Janice Keitel

CHRISTMAS 1

Dec. 29, 2024

9:00 am



Proclaiming the Good News of God's grace in Jesus Christ