

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 our pastor 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 us 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 to the right
- Text the amount to 84321
- On the Grace Giving Page at gracesandiego.com
- Time & Talents - contact Pr. Brian



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

Restrooms are in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

AS WE GATHER

THE DECLARATION OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

P: 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.

C: The Light of God shines on us tonight.

P: 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.

C: The Light of God shines on us tonight.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C: The Light of God shines on us tonight.

Collect:

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when he comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

DIVINE SERVICE - SETTING 1

<i>Christmas Carol Settings</i>	
Lighting of the Christ Candle	
<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i> Children's Choir	
* Candle Lighting Ushers will light candles down the aisle. Light your candle and pass it along.	
Declaration of the Prophet Isaiah	
O Come, All Ye Faithful	379
Confession & Absolution (kneel)	151
Kyrie	152
Gloria	154
Salutation and Collect	156
Reading Isaiah 7:10-14	
<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	380
Reading 1 John 4:7-16	
Alleluia	156
Gospel Matthew 1:18-25	
Anthem <i>O Harken Ye</i>	
Sermon "Why Christmas?" Matthew 1:18-25	
Nicene Creed	158
Prayer of the Church	
Offertory Hymn <i>What Child is This?</i>	370
Preface	160
Sanctus	161
The Words of Our Lord	162
Memorial Acclamation (2 x) <i>Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.</i>	
Lord's Prayer	162
Pax Domini	163
Agnus Dei	163
Eucharist	
<i>On Christmas Night</i>	377
<i>Coventry Carol</i> Parish Choir	
<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	366
Thank the Lord	164
Post Communion Collect	166
Benediction	166
Silent Night	363
<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i> Burkhardt	

* bold indicates standing

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor Rev. Brian Thomas
Director of Music Dale Sorenson

SERVING CHRISTMAS EVE AT 6 PM

Elder Randy Houts
Altar Guild Jack & Judy George
Crucifer Devin Houts
Lector Randy Houts
Cantor Richard Segarra
Usher John Downey

SERVING CHRISTMAS AT 9 AM

Elder Jeremy Fullam
Altar Guild Huntley Family
Crucifer Spencer Huntley
Lector Jeremy Fullam
Cantor Randy Houts
Usher Harold Nichols

SERVING 12/29 AT 9:00 AM

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

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
3967 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103
619.299.2890 www.gracesandiego.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be in your mailboxes on Sunday 12/29. If you don't have a mailbox or a box of envelopes, please notify Gretchen in the office at: gjordan@gracesandiego.com.

EPIPHANY

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 EVE

December 24, 2024

6:00 PM



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