



### **Order of Worship: December 15th**

**Prelude** Handbells  
(Anna Wetrosky)

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Candle Lighting**

**Call to Worship**

**Opening Songs:**  
*"People Look East"*  
*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

**Advent Candle Lighting and Readings**  
**Advent Song--***"Light the Advent Candle"*  
**Unison Prayer**

**Scripture Readings:**  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

**Unison Prayer**

**Song:** *"Rejoice the Lord is King"*

**Message:** "Joy of Community"

**Special Music:** *"Mary's Boy Child"*- Brad Wallace

**Offering/Doxology/Offertory Prayer**

**Song:** *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

**Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer**

**Song:** *"Joy to the World"*

**Blessing**

**Postlude** (Anna Wetrosky)

### **This Week at Grace:**

**Monday:** Genealogy 11am

**Tuesday:**  
Bible study 9am

**Wednesday:**  
Bible Study 4pm  
Confirmation 6pm

**Looking Ahead:**  
**Christmas Eve service of stories and carols is at 4pm on 12/24**

If you are planning to meet at Grace UMC, you need to call ahead or email the office to reserve space and to get your meeting on the church calendar. To adjust for heating/cooling needs, Pastor Jen needs to know if/when you are meeting.

**Office Phone:**  
**218-568-5755**

**Grace Office Hours**  
Monday - Wednesday  
9 a.m. to noon

**Worship**  
Online--available at  
[www.graceumcpequotlakes.org](http://www.graceumcpequotlakes.org)

**In-Person Worship**  
Sunday--9am

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## Unison Prayer

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Savior. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.



## Call to Worship

L: Blow the horn in Zion;

**P: give a shout on thy holy mountain!**

L: Let all the people of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming.

**P: It is near, Come, let us worship God.**

Loving God, you have blessed us time and time again throughout our lives. We, like Mary, can magnify you by proclaiming, "Our spirit rejoices in God my Savior!" We come this day with gifts and praises, as we seek to change people's lives – to empower social justice, to feed the hungry, to offer mercy to the outcast, to lift up the lowly. In the name of the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.



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## Scriptures for next week:

Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:39-45  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 14:6b-55



# Rejoice

IN THE LORD ALWAYS;  
AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE.  
PHILIPPIANS 4:4

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## Mission Giving for December

Our Mission Focus for December will be shared between our support of the Soup Kitchen and the Relationship Safety Alliance (Women's shelter).

If you are giving towards these gifts, please use one of the envelopes provided at the back of the sanctuary or make a note on your check with "December Missions".



## Mark your calendars!

Children's Shop Day will be held on **December 14th**.

Volunteers and gifts for all ages needed! Gifts may be new or very gently used, and you can start bringing them in and place them in the classroom labeled "Shop Day". Gift bags and tissue paper are also needed.

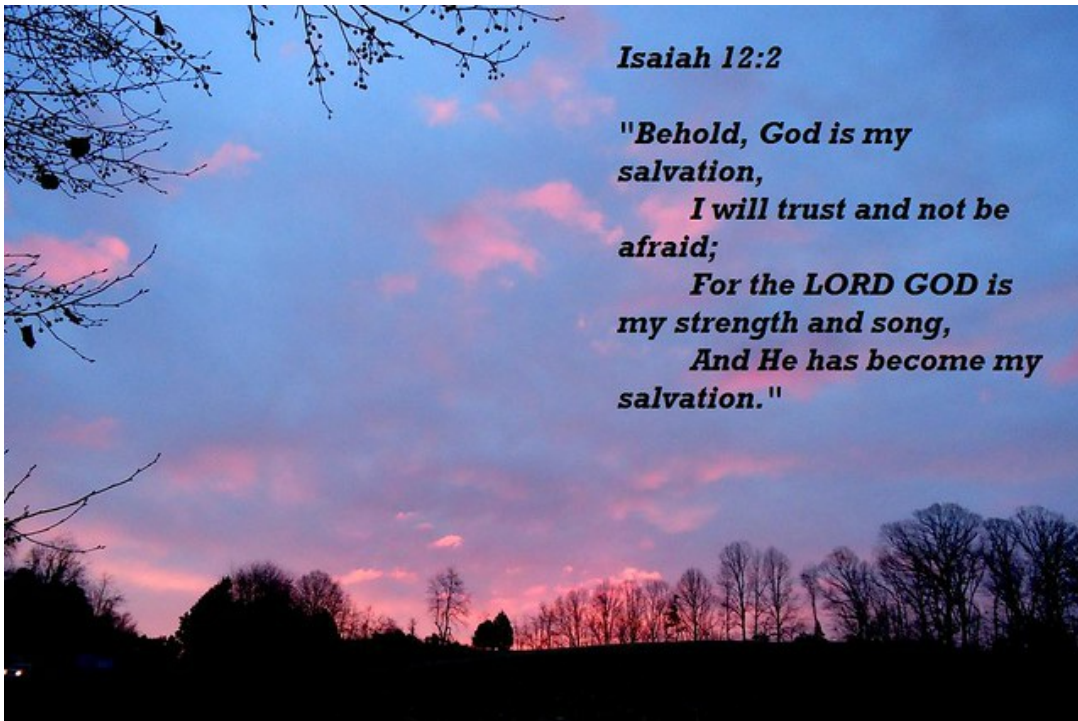
Please see the sign-up sheet for opportunities to help with this yearly mission project.

**It is not too late to drop off gifts! Friday the 13th from 330-530**



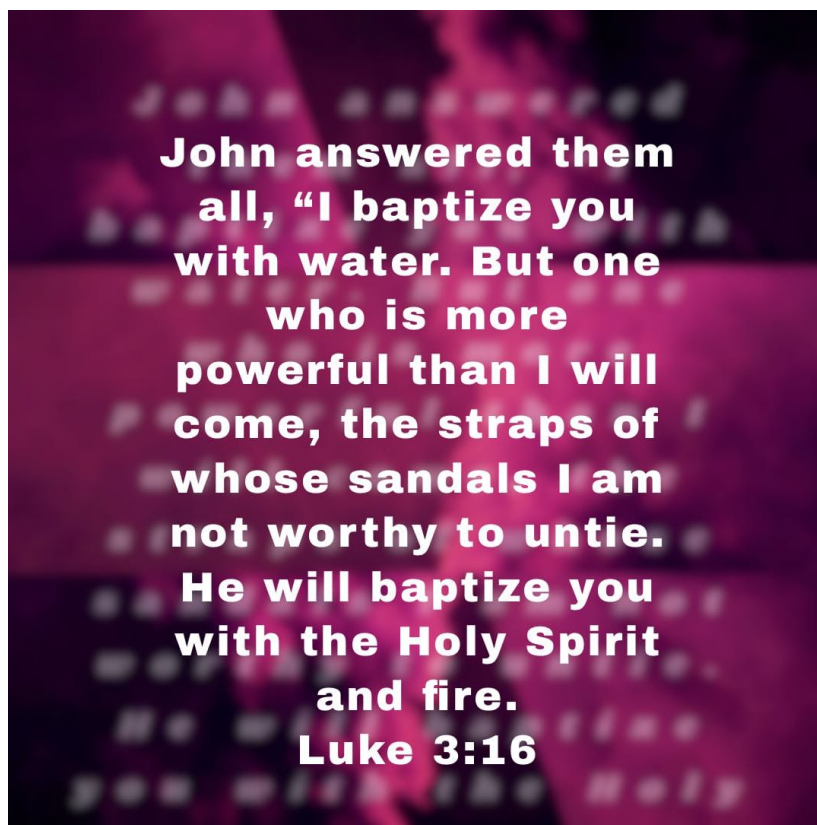
**\*\*\*\*Kid's Shop Day\*\*\*\***





**Isaiah 12:2**

**"Behold, God is my  
salvation,  
I will trust and not be  
afraid;  
For the LORD GOD is  
my strength and song,  
And He has become my  
salvation."**



**John answered them  
all, "I baptize you  
with water. But one  
who is more  
powerful than I will  
come, the straps of  
whose sandals I am  
not worthy to untie.  
He will baptize you  
with the Holy Spirit  
and fire.  
Luke 3:16**



*On Tuesday, December 24th, we will celebrate  
together at 4pm with a service of story, carols,  
and communion.*



THANK YOU to the many who have already returned their pledge cards for 2025. It is not too late, drop in the offering plate or mail to church.

A graphic with a blue rectangular background containing the text "Office Hours" in white, bold, sans-serif font. The background image is a black and white photograph of a building entrance with a large, multi-paned glass door and a wooden roof structure.

Our Congregational Care Assistant, Ann Hutchings, is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 9:00-noon. Her role is to follow-up with our church family, through telephone calls, notes and email, as well as greet and welcome those who visit our church and assist with any needs. Ann's email ([graceumccare@gmail.com](mailto:graceumccare@gmail.com)) should be used for "congregational care" needs only.



If you have something that should be added to this newsletter from your group or mission, please speak with Pastor Jen or email the details to her at [jenmatt20@gmail.com](mailto:jenmatt20@gmail.com). The E-Grace is generally completed by noon on Thursdays, so articles need to be received by Thursday 10am at the very latest.

If you wish to connect with me directly and it is not an emergency, please know that I will respond as needed during pretty regular office hours. I am generally in the church on Tuesday (830-1130) and Wednesday (10-3) call the office to be sure, as my weeks and Mondays vary. You may find me here at other times too! I check my emails frequently throughout the day, and this is the best way to contact me. **Friday is my day off** as needs allow.

-Pastor Jen



### Important note

If you are mailing something to the church, ***you must use our P.O. Box for the address.*** We do not receive mail at the church, and if you use the physical church address it will get returned and could delay your notices to us or offerings.

**P.O. Box 276  
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**

[Visit our website](#)

On our website you can find links to past services, a spot to watch this week's service, an online link to giving, and much more!

## Contact Information

### Grace United Methodist Church

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