



Order of Worship: December 22nd

Prelude (Casey Derksen)

Welcome/Announcements

Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Opening Songs:

"The King of Glory Comes"

"The Friendly Beasts"

Advent Candle Lighting and Readings

Advent Song--*"Light the Advent Candle"*

Unison Prayer

Scripture Readings:

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:46b-55

Unison Prayer

Song: *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

Message: "Take a Leap"

Special Music: *"Emmanuel"* Casey Derksen

Offering/Doxology/Offertory Prayer

Song: *"His Name is Wonderful"*

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Song: *"The First Noel"*

Blessing

Postlude (Casey Derksen)

This Week at Grace:

Tuesday:
Worship 4pm

Wednesday:
Merry Christmas!
(office is closed)

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

In-Person Worship
Sunday--9am

Unison Prayer

God all-powerful,
grant that we may rid ourselves of
the works of darkness, and that we
may invest ourselves with the
weapons of light in this life to which
your Son, Jesus Christ, with great
humility came to visit us; so that in
the final day, when he returns in
majestic glory to judge the living and
the dead, we shall rise to eternal life
through Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.



Call to Worship

L: Open wide the doorways of our
sanctuary!

**P: May the king of glory come
into our midst.**

L: Who is this king of glory?

**P: This king of glory is our
Savior Jesus Christ.**

L: Open the doors of our hearts to
receive Jesus Christ.

**P: May our spirits and our
hearts receive his blessing now
and forever. AMEN.**

Merciful God, you sent your
messengers the prophets to preach
repentance and prepare the way for
our salvation. Give us grace to heed
their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may celebrate aright the
commemoration of the nativity, and
may await with joy the coming in
glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer;
who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever
and ever. Amen.



Scriptures for next week:

Colossians 3:12-17

Psalm 148

Luke: 2:41-52



Christmas Prayer

May God's love surround,
God's grace abound,
And heavenly peace
be all around.



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".

Our Christmas Eve service
will be held at 4:00pm

Tuesday, December 24th. The Praise team invites you to join us at 3:45pm for a Christmas Carol Sing-along. We look forward to singing some of our favorites with you!

We will also be sharing communion within this service. All are welcome at the table.



"BUT YOU, *Bethlehem*
EPHRATHAH, THOUGH YOU ARE SMALL
AMONG THE CLANS OF JUDAH,
OUT OF YOU WILL COME FOR ME ONE WHO
WILL BE RULER OVER ISRAEL,
WHOSE ORIGINS ARE FROM OF
OLD, FROM ANCIENT TIMES."

MICAH 5:2



MY SOUL
magnifies
THE LORD
My spirit
& HAS
REJOICED
in God
MY SAVIOR



Kid's Shop Day was another success, as almost 50 kids came through to shop for their families for Christmas gifts. There are more pics to view at church. Many, many thanks to the group of volunteers for making this day happen!
(above-Le and Patty, a quick hug before the magic happens!)



Bobbi wrapping up a gift for a young shopper.



Shirley and Evan helping kids shop.



Lynn wrapping a gift for a shopper.

It is now the time of year that we need to consider the safety of this community when attending services or events. Please always choose the safest plan, because everyone lives in such a widespread area. When in doubt on the cancellation of any church function, please contact the church office or your group leader. We will also post cancellations on our Facebook page as needed as well.





If you are a member, friend, or regular giver to Grace UMC, you should have received a letter last week with the church budget for 2025, along with a pledge card to be returned to the church soon. We ask you to prayerfully consider making a pledge so that we can plan appropriately to make our budget goals.

If you did not receive a letter and would like one, or need a pledge card, please let the office or Pastor Jen know.

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.

The church office is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9am until noon. Ring the doorbell and we will come to open the south door!

--Church office phone: 218-568-5755

-- Church office (for all general inquiries and administrative/clerical duties)

graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com

-- Pastor Jen Matthees – **jenmatt20@gmail.com**

-- Ann Hutchings-Congregational Care Assistant-**graceumccare@gmail.com**



Communication Reminder.....

The church office email (**graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com**) should be used to inform the office about ALL events, meetings, or use of the building you would like to schedule so they can be added to the master calendar. This enables us to avoid scheduling conflicts and make sure the areas of the building are cooled/heated as needed. The official church calendar is maintained by volunteers.

Additionally, did you know the church calendar is available on our website (**graceumcpequotlakes.org**)? There is a tab near the top, right side you can click to see the calendar!

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**) 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**. 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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Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Phone: 218-568-5755

Email: graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com

Website: www.graceumcpequotlakes.org



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