

December 7, 2014

The Second Sunday in Advent

**Welcome** to all of our visitors in the name of the Lord our Savior who has made us workers in His kingdom and provided His powerful Word to accomplish the salvation of souls. We are glad that you have joined us this morning and hope that you will return and join us again. If you are visiting us this morning, please sign the guest register at the back of the church. If you have any questions about our church or service please let us know. We will be happy to answer any questions you have!



**Today's Organist:** Lane Fischer

**Today's Hymns:** 704; 606; 330; 647

**Old Testament Reading:** Malachi 4:1-6 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. <sup>3</sup> You shall trample the wicked, For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this," Says the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup> "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments. <sup>5</sup> Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 17:20-30 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God

would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; <sup>21</sup> nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." <sup>22</sup> Then He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. <sup>23</sup> And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them. <sup>24</sup> For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day. <sup>25</sup> But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. <sup>26</sup> And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: <sup>27</sup> They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. <sup>28</sup> Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; <sup>29</sup> but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. <sup>30</sup> Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed."

**Sermon Text:** 2 Peter 1:3-11 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup> by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. <sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup> and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup> and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. <sup>8</sup> For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup> For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## Reflect on the Precious and Very Great Promises of God to You

### Part 1 - God's Promises are connected to the Christ

A brief review of (some of) God's promises

Election; Redemption; Justification; Strength; Life

### Part 2 - God's Promises bring about new life in us

Seven Christian Qualities: 1) Virtue; 2) Knowledge; 3) Self-control; 4) Steadfastness; 5) Godliness; 6) Brotherly Affection; and 7) Love

The power comes from God and is motivated by God's love for us

### † This Week at Faith †

Today: 12/7 -	10:45 A.M.	Communion Service at Faith
	11:45 A.M.	Bible Class (Law and Gospel)
Wed: 12/10 -	7:00 P.M.	Mid-week Advent Service at Grace
Sunday: 12/14 -	10:45 A.M.	Family Worship Service at Faith
	11:45 A.M.	Church Council meeting

## Announcements

**Overseas Help Needed** - Pastor Ed Starkey, one of our CLC Missionaries to India, has indicated that there are a few things they could use for outreach and encouragement in India. Pastor Starkey writes: *"Old bookmarks, and pictures would be great. I have a man who frames and laminates very reasonably. Also sermon copies. They do not speak English very well, but almost everyone can read some English."* Grace is collecting some of these things and get them to Pastor Starkey while he is back for Christmas. If you would like to help, please bring bookmarks, old Spokesman issues, Ministry by Mail sermons, colored bulletin covers, or colored pictures of Bible stories and leave them in the box under the table at the back of church. We would like to have this collected by December 21<sup>st</sup>, so that arrangements can be made to get the materials to the Starkeys while they are back in the US. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Mayhew. Thank you! †

**"God's Creation" Calendars are Available** - Get your 2015 monthly wall calendars now, before they are gone! They can be purchased for \$4 per calendar, and are available on the table at the back of the church. Checks should be made out to "Women of Grace." †

**Advent Services:** Last Wednesday night we began a series of mid-week Advent services at Grace - Sleepy Eye as we prepare for the coming of our Savior. The theme for these mid-week Advent services is **The**



**Family Tree of Jesus.** As we consider the family tree of Jesus we will see that The Savior has come for All People. Last week we considered that the Savior has come for men and for women, Jews and Gentiles, sinner of all kinds. Here is the remainder of our schedule:

- ▶ **12/10** - The Savior has come for the high and mighty
- ▶ **12/17** - The Savior has come for the common person

We encourage you to join us for our special Wednesday evening Advent services this year. †

**Children's Christmas bags** - We are looking for help to provide items for bags for the Children's Christmas service on December 21<sup>st</sup>. We will need enough items for about 30 bags. If you are willing and able to bring something to be included in the Christmas bags, please put your name on the sign up sheet at the back of the church and indicate what you will supply for the bags. Items should be brought to church by next Sunday (December 14<sup>th</sup>) so that the bags can be assembled prior to our service on December 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Mayhew. Thank you for all your help! †

**CLC News** - Pastor John Hein, of Grace Lutheran, Fridley Minnesota, has returned the call to Calvary Lutheran, Marquette Michigan. † Pastor Doug Priestap, of Resurrection Lutheran, Calgary Alberta Canada, has accepted the call to Grace Lutheran, Live Oak, Florida. †

### Responding to God's Grace at Faith

November 30, 2014

Attendance: 28

Unified Budget.....	\$ 315.00
Total .....	\$ 315.00