

ORDER OF SERVICE

Time for Silent prayer

Hymn

Confession and Absolution

Service of the Word

Introit

Kyrie

Hymn of Praise

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Old Testament

Gradual

Epistle

Alleluia and Verse

Holy Gospel

Nicene Creed

Hymn of the Day

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

The Preface and Sanctus

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei

Communion Hymns

Post-Communion Canticle

Prayer

Benediction

Hymn

Matters of Importance

LSB Divine Service Setting Four, p. 203

In the sanctuary (prayers on inside front cover of hymnal)

"Arise, O Christian People" # 354

p. 203

(on insert)

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omitted during Advent

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Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (readings on inside of insert)

(on insert)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

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John 1:6-8, 19-28

p. 206 *(or inside back cover)*

"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" # 345

"Not An Impersonator!" John 1:6-8, 19-28

(responses on insert)

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p. 209-210

**"Soul, adorn yourself with gladness" # 636*

**"Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness" # 563*

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" # 341

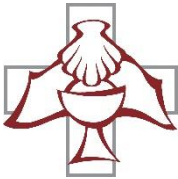
"Hark the Glad Sound" # 349

"Nunc Dimittis" p. 211

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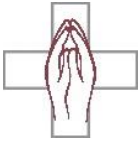
"Rejoice, rejoice, believers" # 515



Welcome to all our Guests and Visitors worshipping with us today! Whoever

you are and from whatever walk of life you come -- we welcome you in Jesus' name. May you find in Him, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Do come again! If you have no Church home, we invite you to join our fellowship. The Pastor will

be pleased to discuss membership with you. **Please take a moment to introduce yourself and to sign our guest register in the narthex** (please include full mailing address or email address). May the Lord bless your worship with us today. We would be pleased to have you return again!



Remember in your prayers:

- all who are sick, hospitalized, or shut in, especially all members of our church family, including: Grace Bowley, Doreen Doering, Wilma Kroll, Marlene Miller, Ruth Zimmer;
- all who are dealing with various health issues;
- our organists as they serve God’s people;
- the pastor of our parish and all pastors of the synod;
- our neighbours and friends – that they might respond favourably to our invitation to come meet Jesus in our midst.

Holy Communion is celebrated today.



The Sacrament of the Altar is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself.

Jesus Christ is present in the sacrament by His Word and we receive His gifts through faith for the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins and for strength to live new life in Him.

Our practice of closed communion is the historic practice of the church. It is prompted by love, both for God's Word and God's people. It does not deny that members of other denominations are Christians. Rather, it acknowledges God's deep concern for doctrinal truth (Rom. 16:17) and the Bible's witness that doctrinal unity is central to the common reception of this sacrament.

For this reason, guests who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.

Please mark the registration sheet for communion and worship attendance in the narthex. Those who are not yet confirmed are welcome to come to receive a blessing, but are asked to keep their hands folded.

Thank you to all who have remembered us with cards and/or gifts this Adventide.

- Pastor Barry & Yvonne and Caitlin

Midweek Advent Services are Wednesdays, at Noon at St. Matthew’s and this week at Grace at 7:30 P.M. The theme is: “*Resounding Psalms for Advent*”. An audio recording of the sermon from the midweek services are posted online.

This is advance notice of the St. Matthew’s Prayer Pal/Mug exchange on January 14th after service.

This Christmas Eve, God wants to be found in the human community gathered in the name of Jesus and in the conversation connected with Him. Hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler’s message entitled “**Community and Conversation**” based on John 1:1 next Sunday on The Lutheran Hour on 620/am at 7:30 AM (SK) or 940/am at 9:00 AM (SK) or 1250/am at 10:30 AM (MB) or Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca.

Remember service times next week

Sunday, December 24th 10:00 A.M.

4th S. in Advent - Parish service hosted at Grace
(with Holy Communion)

Sunday, December 24th 7:30 P.M.

Christmas Eve -Parish Candlelight Service
hosted at St. Matthew’s

December 25th Christmas Day (with Communion)

at 9:30 A.M. at Grace
at 11:30 A.M. at St. Matthew’s

At Jesus’ feet last week

	Grace	St. Matthew’s
Divine Service	23	49
Communion	21	43
Confirmation		3
Advent Midweek		
Noon	15	
Evening	12	
Adult Instruction	8	

This Week in the Grace - St. Matthew's Parish:

Wednesday	- Advent Midweek Service 3 at St. Matthew's	Noon
	- Advent Midweek Service 3 at Grace	7:30 P.M.
Next Sunday	4th Sunday in Advent	
	- Parish Divine Service (with Holy Communion) hosted at Grace	10:00 A.M.
	Christmas Eve	
	- Parish Christmas Eve Candlelight Service hosted at St. Matthew's	7:30 P.M.
December 25	Christmas Day – The Nativity of our Lord	
	- Divine Service (with Holy Communion) at Grace	9:30 A.M.
	- Divine Service (with Holy Communion) at St. Matthew's	11:30 A.M.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT LARGE CATECHISM, TEN COMMANDMENTS

You shall not steal. Beware of this: The poor man will come to you (there are so many now). When you are harsh to him and when you turn him away with pride and arrogance to whom you ought to give things without payment, he will go away sorrowful. He will cry and call to Him who takes care of the poor, sorrowful hearts. He will not allow them to go unavenged [Isaiah 61:1–3]. But if you despise this, see the One you have brought upon you.

We have warned, and protested enough. Yet it must be impressed upon the young so that they may be careful not to follow the old lawless crowd, but keep their eyes fixed upon God's commandment, lest His wrath and punishment come upon them too. But to check greediness the government should take note and have the courage to establish and maintain order in all kinds of trade and commerce. They must do this lest the poor be burdened and oppressed.

This is an explanation of what stealing is. Let the commandment not be understood too narrowly. It applies to everything that has to do with our neighbors. Briefly, in summary this is what is forbidden: (a) To do our neighbor any injury or wrong (by hindering, and withholding his possessions and property), or even to consent or allow such injury. Instead, we should prevent it. (b) It is commanded that we improve his possessions. When they suffer lack, we should help and share, both to friends and foes
(pars. 247-251)

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Life Quotes

“I don't know what exactly you expect this Christmas. But I can tell you to set your expectations high as you listen to God's Advent call. Listen to His promises. Look in the manger. And you'll find hope and unity now and into eternity.”

Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota
A “Life Quote” is from Lutherans For Life – www.lutheransforlife.org.



About the Cover: John was not the light, but his prophetic preaching testified to the light. Christ alone is the light that cannot be overcome by any darkness in this world—not even the darkness of death on the cross. Likewise, John's preaching still enlightens today because Christ is its source. God's Word casts out the works of darkness to bring us into the light of Christ so that we become the children of God.

Grace

Evangelical=Lutheran Congregation
Highway #8, 1/2 km South of Highway #10
Zorra, Saskatchewan



St. Matthew's

Evangelical=Lutheran Congregation
Highway #5, at Park Street
Roblin, Manitoba

Members of Lutheran Church Canada



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St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Roblin, MB
Grace Lutheran Church, Zorra, SK
The Cross-Border Lutheran Parish



*He came as a witness,
to bear witness about the light*

JOHN 1:7

DECEMBER 17 ANNO DOMINI 2023
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
**PROCLAIMING CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED,
RISEN, ASCENDED, AND RETURNING**

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Roblin, MB
Divine Service – 11:30 A.M.

March 10, 2024 - November 3, 2024: Divine Service 9:30 A.M. (MB)

Grace Lutheran Church, Zorra, SK
Divine Service – 9:30 A.M.

March 10, 2024 - November 3, 2024: Divine Service 10:30 A.M. (SK)