

The Wonder of Christmas
What Makes Christmas Wonderful?

Luke 2:1-20
 Pastor Jared Carlson

December 2, 2018
 1st Sunday of Advent

- Sunday, December 2**
 Benevolent Offering Received
 8:15 a.m. Common Grounds Café
 8:30 a.m. Lily Pad open during worship services (6 weeks to 4 years old)
 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Communion – Sanctuary
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service with Communion – Sanctuary
 12:00 p.m. All-Church Gingerbread House Decorating Party – Gym
 2:00 p.m. Prayer Connect (Congregational Prayer) – Café
 3:00 p.m. Baking Cookies for Cookies, Carols & Candles – Upper Kitchen

Today, the Sunday School Pre-K thru 5th Grade focused on:
 Live to Honor God
 (James 4:1-17; 5:7-18) God blesses those who are humble.

- Monday, December 3**
 8:30 a.m. Monday Morning Work Crew
 6:00 p.m. Safety Team Meeting – Library
 6:30 p.m. Women’s Inductive Bible Study: Jeremiah 1 – Rooms 132/133
 6:45 p.m. Women’s DVD Bible Study – FH
 7:00 p.m. Facilities Vision Project Advisory Team Meeting – CR 206

- Tuesday, December 4**
 9:45 a.m. Women’s DVD Bible Study – CR 206
 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group – The Bridge

- Wednesday, December 5**
 12:00 p.m. Bulletin announcement submission deadline
 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper – FH
 6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group – The Loft
 6:30 p.m. AWANA
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

- Thursday, December 6**
 9:30 a.m. Mom’s Morning Out – Room 132/133
 10:00 a.m. Women’s Gala Food Prep and Decorating – Gym/Upper Kitchen
 6:30 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary

- Friday, December 7**
 1:00 p.m. Knit Unto Others – Culver’s in St. Anthony Main
 6:30 p.m. Women’s Christmas Gala – Gym

- Saturday, December 8**
 9:00 a.m. Open Prayer-All Welcome – CR 206
 9:30 a.m. Children’s Christmas Program Practice – FH, Sanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Baking Cookies for Cookies, Carols & Candles – Upper Kitchen
 10:30 a.m. Prayer Connect (Congregational Prayer) Planning Meeting – CR 206

- Sunday, December 9**
 8:15 a.m. Common Grounds Café
 8:30 a.m. Lily Pad open during worship services (6 weeks to 4 years old)
 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service – Sanctuary
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service – Sanctuary
 1:00 p.m. Baking Cookies for Cookies, Carols & Candles – Upper Kitchen
 6:00 p.m. Children’s Christmas Program – Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m. Cookies, Carols & Candles – Gym

“O LORD, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; For You have worked wonders, plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.”

Isaiah 25:1



8:30 Traditional Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymns O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (#169)
 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (#306)

Choir Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hymn Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne (#170)

Advent Reading Hope Candle
 Chris and Nina Blount Family

Congregational Prayer

Offertory

Message What Makes Christmas Wonderful?

Communion

Benediction

11:00 Contemporary Worship

Prelude

Call to Worship

Advent Reading Hope Candle
 Eric and Sara Johnson Family

Songs of Worship Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy)
 You Are My King (Amazing Love)

Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Offertory How He Loves

Message What Makes Christmas Wonderful?

Communion

Benediction

*Reaching out while transforming within
 for the glory of God.*

All-Church Gingerbread House Decorating – Today

Sunday, December 2 | 12:00 p.m. | Gym
Marie Reynolds | Marie.Reynolds@ExploreGracePoint.com

You are invited to a Gingerbread House Decorating Party! Join us for lunch and a wonderful community time of building gingerbread houses. We will provide the graham crackers. Please bring a tub of frosting and a small bag of candy to share for decorating.

Cookies, Carols and Candles Cookie Baking – Today

Various Days/Times | Upper Kitchen
Rachel Mellick | hospitalitydeacon@ExploreGracePoint.com | 763.331.1236

Come bake cookies for Cookies, Carols, Candles! We are baking cookies from around the world for the event this year! Come for an hour, or stay for a whole day. Recipes and ingredients will be provided.

Sunday, December 2 from 3 p.m.-8 p.m.
Saturday, December 8 from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday, December 9 from 1 p.m.-6 p.m.

Prayer Connect – TODAY!

Come “Pray Through the Carols”

Sunday, December 2 | 2:00-3:00 p.m. | Café
Dan Ossmann | Moderator@ExploreGracePoint.com | 763.227.0926
Come join us as we read scripture, sing and pray through the Carols. Singing our praises to the Lord will help us prepare our hearts for the coming season.

Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringers

December 13, 14 & 15 | John Holmberg | 651.633.0407 | Cub Foods

Today, the Salvation Army will send a representative who will be speaking in the Achiever’s Sunday School Class. Anyone is welcome. The representative will be sharing information about their work and donations through bell ringing. GracePoint will again be ringing bells at Cub Foods, just across the street, on December 13, 14 and 15, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Anyone who is interested may sign up for slots of 1 hour or 2 hours, beginning on December 2. Call either the church or John Holmberg if you have questions. This service returns many blessings.

Wednesday Night Suppers

December 5 | 5:30-6:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
Karen Lindgren | 651.481.8337 |

Wednesday Night Suppers are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Our next meal will be December 5. Dinner will be a “Pasta Bar.” Suggested donations: \$1/child, \$2/adults. You can pay at the door.

Knit Unto Others

Friday, December 7 | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Culver’s, Silver Lake Rd., St. Anthony
Joyce Thorin | j-thorin@bethel.edu | 612.781.4175

Join us this coming Friday at Culvers on Silver Lake Rd in St. Anthony. We will be working on knitting and crocheting hats and scarves for the Union Gospel Mission. We meet from 1:00 until about 4:00 p.m.. Come at 12:15 p.m. if you'd like to join some of us for lunch first. Bring a \$5 to \$10 wrapped gift if you'd like to participate in our Christmas gift exchange. New friends are always welcome!

Women’s Christmas Gala Tickets – Last Chance!

Friday, December 7 | 6:30 p.m. seating & punch; 6:50 p.m. dinner & program
Gym | Tickets \$13 /person | 651.633.7515

Come and enjoy a special night with the GracePoint Women and their guests. We will share dinner followed by a special night of music with “A Christmas Shalom,” featuring Jeremiah and Vanessa Gamble. Ticket sales (\$13) available at Event Center. There are only a few tickets left. Call Church Office to get on a waiting list if and when the event sells out.

Cookies, Carols & Candles with Children’s Program

Sunday, December 9 | 6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary and Gym
The children are excited to present, “Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night.” Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a festive Christmas musical. Following the program, please join us for the wonderful all-church event, Cookies, Carols & Candles. This will be a night of cute kids, fellowship, yummy desserts and Christmas caroling! Don’t miss it!

Christmas Eve Childcare Volunteers Needed

Marie Reynolds | Marie.Reynolds@ExploreGracePoint.com | 651-633-7515
Volunteers are needed to spend time with children during the Christmas Eve services at 3:00 and 4:30 p.m. Please contact Marie if you’re able to bless families this way.

Thanksgiving Offering – THANK YOU

The Thanksgiving Offering total was \$1,761! Half of that total has been sent to each of our camps: Trout Lake Camp and Lost Timber Camp. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank You!

Thank you to my GracePoint family for your kind words and expressions of sympathy in the passing of my sister, Liz. Sincerely, Karen Lindgren

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

In the event of bad weather, events will be cancelled in this manner:

- Sundays: by 7:30 a.m.
- Wednesdays: by 1:00 p.m.
- Other evening events: by 3:30 p.m.

Check KTIS, WCCO, church website, the App (notifications need to be turned on), Facebook, email or church voicemail for cancellations.

Welcome to GracePoint!

Tours of the church building are available following each service. Meet your friendly tour guide on the south side of the lobby right outside the Sanctuary.

Please use a Connection Card (in the pew racks) to request prayer, share comments; or, if you are a visitor, provide contact info.

Free Wi-Fi for GP Guest (password case sensitive): GracePoint

Go to your app store and download the **ExploreGracePoint App** to access sermon videos and audio files, event info, prayer requests, bulletins, and more.

Text to Give: 84321 (follow the prompts)

