



## Grace at a Glance

### Advent II - "The Valley of Dry Bones"

### The Greening of the Church

**Sunday, December 7, 2025**



#### Scripture Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." <sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

<sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'" <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

### Prayer of the Day

Living God, All of creation is your beloved child. Hear the cries of all who are in pain, in grief, in fear. Give heed to the lost, the despairing, and the dying. Draw all into your loving embrace and breathe into all things your life-giving Spirit, that we might be renewed to be bearers of your light and love to one another. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



QR direct link to 'Give' feature on Grace website!



### DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Mission of the month for December at Grace is Second Stork. Second Stork provides families in need with essential newborn care items to give their baby a safe and healthy start.

Welcoming a newborn into the world should be a joyous and hopeful time! The reality is that many new parents are financially stretched, anxious and unprepared to bring their baby home from the hospital. Often, they don't have the basic supplies to keep the baby safe and healthy those first few weeks of life. By basic, they mean a safe place to sleep, an adequate supply of diapers and wet wipes, newborn clothing and blankets. Second Stork can bridge an approximate 2 week gap from the time a newborn is discharged from the hospital to when family support or social services become available. Second Stork believes every baby should have a safe and healthy beginning.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation to this wonderful organization who reaches out to the newest of God's children and their families to ensure they have the items necessary to get a healthy and safe start in life. Please use your blue multi-purpose envelope, mark mission of the month and place in the offering or mail to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Grace. Thank you.

**This Sunday we worship at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary.**

**Confidential Prayer Link:** <https://forms.gle/oCUEbVJ6CkmdD3nB6>

We have established a confidential prayer email that we have added to our website which can be used by anyone wishing for prayers. This can be made available to just the pastor, the pastor and the prayer chain, OR the pastor, the prayer chain, and the congregation as you choose. Please feel free to test it out. This is just one more way you can access our pastor and/or the prayer team.

**We have discontinued the phone access to worship services as it was not being used. Our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.**

**We will continue to post recordings of the services** each week on our website and Facebook page. Stay tuned for more information as we go forward. We pray for everyone to stay safe and healthy.

**Your giving is very important to continuing our missions as always.** You can give electronically using the give button on the website ([www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi](http://www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi)), mail it in to the church (1730 Old Hudson Road, St. Paul 55106) or place in the offering at worship on Sunday.

The office hours are M-Thurs, 9:30-1:30. Feel free to call the church (651-774-9617) with any questions, prayers, or requests for help.

Upcoming: Sunday, 12/7 - "The Greening of the Church" worship 9:30 am  
Thursday, 12/11 - XYZ Holiday lunch at Lake Elmo Inn 11:00 am  
Sunday, 12/14 - Music Ministry Program worship 9:30 am  
Sunday, 12/21 - Sunday School Christmas Program 9:30 am  
with Christmas cookie decorating afterwards!  
Wednesday, 12/24 - Candlelight worship @ 4 & 9:30 pm  
NO service on Christmas Day - recordings from 12/24 available  
Sunday, 12/28 - 'Christmas Around the World' worship @ 9:30 am



### Monday, December 1 - Sunday, December 7, 2025

<b>Tuesday, December 2</b>	12 - 2 pm Customized Options* 7-9 pm Iglesias de Dios*
<b>Wednesday, December 3</b>	10-12 Coffee and Conversation 4-5:30pm LSS ELC parent gathering* Good Shepherd Lounge 5:30 pm Bell rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
<b>Thursday, December 4</b>	7 pm Grace Book Club (virtual)
<b>Friday, December 5</b>	7-9 pm Iglesias de Dios*
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	<b>9:30 am Worship - Advent II - The Greening of the Church Live streamed and recorded 10:45 am Fellowship 10:45 am Sunday School</b>  12-3 pm Iglesias de Dios*

\*outside group using facilities

Special Holiday 'Spotlight on Grace' editions during December!

## Grace Spotlight

Did you know?

### Christmas Tree Crew

For many years when live trees were allowed per fire codes, Grace would have real trees in the sanctuary. The trees were donated by a former member, and cut down on their property. This was a huge task to undertake, but this brave group stepped up to make this happen.

### Church Chuckles

