

We are a family, building Christ-centered homes who impact their world.

GraceFirst Worship Service
12/15/24



Preparation for Worship

Announcements

Call to Worship: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Offering

Hymns of Praise

Advent Reading - Agustin Family

Pre-K to 1st grade kids participating in Children's Church dismissed

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon: Luke 1:39-56, "Mary's Magnificat Joy"

Hymn of Commission - #104

Benediction

"The incarnation was a historical and unrepeatable event with permanent consequences. Reigning at God's right hand today is the man Christ Jesus, still human as well as divine, though now his humanity has been glorified. Having assumed our human nature, he has never discarded it, and he never will." – John Stott

If this is your first time at GraceFirst, we hope you'll give us the chance to get to know you better by filling out a Connection Card from the pew rack in front of you, then drop it off at the Welcome Center as you leave and pick up a small gift.

Wireless access: Username=GraceFirstGuest; Password=Psalm145:9

Looking ahead

DEC

- 22 Adult Sunday School only; NO Youth or Children's Sunday School
- 24 Candlelight Service
6 pm
- 25 Church Closed in observance of Christmas
- 29 NO Sunday School
- 29 NO Children's Church (5th Sunday)

JAN

- 1 Church Closed in observance of New Year's Day
- 8 TeamKID and Youth Group resume meeting
6:30 pm
- 12 Concert of Prayer
6:00 pm
- 13 Ladies' Bible Study
9:30 am | In-person study: Colossians | Watch for more details.
- 14 Men's Lunch Out
11:30 am | Old Chicago, E. Kellogg
- 17 Dominican Republic Puzzle Fundraiser
More details to come.
- 19 Small Group Sunday

Next Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Adult Sunday School only, 9:00 am

Worship, 10:15 am

*Pastor Jake continues the
Advent series*

Visit our website

www.gracefirst.church

Giving Report

Dec. 8:	\$ 43,155
Last 4-wk avg:	\$ 20,458
'24 YTD Giving :	\$593,009

Our Elders

Mark Goldberg, Chairman
Dave Sitz, Vice-Chairman
Sean Jahansooz, Secretary
Brian Werner, Stewardship
Kevin Angell
Mike Kuss
Pastor Tim Cho

“Mary’s Magnificat Joy”

Luke 1:39-56

Pastor Ray Pew Dec. 15, 2024

In spite of the amazing events in Mary’s young, compacted time of life, she received each one of them with JOY.

I. Mary’s Visit to Elisabeth (39-41)

II. Elisabeth Speaks of the Works of God (42-45)

1. Elisabeth speaks a word of **Adoration**. (42)
2. Elisabeth speaks a word of **Humility**. (43)
3. Elisabeth speaks a word of **Astonishment**. (44)
4. Elisabeth speaks a word of **Faith**. (45)

III. Mary Rejoices in the Magnificence of God (46-56)

1. Mary rejoiced in the Lord’s **salvation**. (47)
2. Mary rejoiced in our Lord’s **compassion**. (48)
3. Mary rejoiced in the Lord’s **holiness**. (49)
4. Mary rejoiced in the Lord’s **mercy**. (50)
5. Mary rejoiced in the Lord’s **strength**. (51)
6. Mary rejoiced in God’s **authority**. (51-52)
7. Mary rejoiced in God’s **faithfulness**. (53–55)

Pray for our Church Family

Charles McConnell
Matt Collins's father
Hilde Yops

For additional prayer needs, pick up the prayer sheet at the Welcome Desk by the main entrance.

Recommended Reading for December (All books listed are in the library):

1. Christmas as a Holiday:
 - a. Alvin Schmidt, How Christianity Changed the World, Ch. 15: Additional Influence – Holidays, Words, Symbols, and Expressions, 374-386.
2. The Nature and the Person of Christ:
 - a. Gregg Allison, Historical Theology, Ch. 17: The Person of Jesus Christ, 365-388.
 - b. John Frame, Systematic Theology, Ch. 37: Incarnation and the Virginal Conception, 883, 889.
 - c. R. T. France, Tyndale NT Commentaries: Matthew, The Origin and Name of Jesus the Messiah, 81-85.
 - d. John Stott, the Cross of Christ, Ch. 6: The Self-Substitution of God - Who Is the Substitute, 149-162.
 - e. Lee Strobel, The Case for Christ, Ch. 9: The Profile Evidence – Mystery of the Incarnation, 158-164.

GraceFirst Sermon Series Plans

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sermon</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
12/22/24	Advent series - Luke 1:57-80	Pastor Jake
12/24/24	Candlelight Service, 6 pm	Pastor Tim
12/29/24	Taking the Gospel to the Nations	Pastor Frantz
1/5/2025	James 5:13-18, "Prayer of Faith"	Pastor Tim
1/12/25	Intro to Book 1 of Psalms & Psalm 1	Pastor Tim
1/19/25	Psalms 2, "God's Kingdom"	Pastor Jake
1/26/25	Psalms 3, "When Your Enemies Rise..."	Pastor Tim