

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish and Living Grace Lutheran Church

In ministry partnership since 2017

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish

3 Churches – 1 Ministry: Energized by God
focused on

To celebrate, share & show God's love

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ourselves.

Pastor Jim Greene

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Living Grace Lutheran Church

A worshipping community of the ELCA

making known God's love and grace by:

Welcoming Everyone, Sharing Jesus' story,

Growing in faith and Serving beyond

Pastor Hope Deutscher

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PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549

Worships at The Garrick Theater,

509 Front Street, Hawley, MN 56549

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021, Online Holy Communion Worship Service

Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher and Pr. Jim Greene

Music Provided by: Pam Aakre, Piano, Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute,

Welcome/Announcements

- Welcome to worship for the GPR Parish and Living Grace Lutheran.
- *A Large print bulletin is available on our websites for you to use during worship.*
- We invite you to subscribe to our YouTube channel – Rollag Lutheran Church.
- *During our service, we have the following supplies reading:*
 - Bread/crackers and wine/juice available for partaking in Virtual Holy Communion. We have communion kits available if you would like them, they have been blessed by the pastors.
 - Bible to follow along with scripture readings.

Happening This Week:

Sunday, November 28: 7 AM Online Worship; 8 AM gran; 9:30 AM Rollag and Living Grace; 11 AM Park. *No Sunday School*

Monday, November 29: 7 PM Women's Book study (Zoom)

Wednesday, December 1: 10 AM Rollag Bible Study; 11 AM Staff Meeting; 7 PM Luther League Kids shopping for REACH Giving Tree

Sunday, December 5: 7 AM Online Worship, 9:30 AM Rollag and Living Grace; 10:30 AM Sunday School, 11 AM Park

Youth:

Wednesdays: 6 PM Confirmation Dinner; 6:45 PM Confirmation

Sundays: 10:30 AM Parish Sunday School at Rollag

Pastoral Care: Pastor Jim Greene and Pastor Hope Deutscher are available for pastoral care. If you or a loved one are hospitalized or ill, we would love to be caring for you. Please call or email us at the numbers above.

Bible and Book Studies:

- *Wednesdays at 10 AM: Bible Study – Gospel of John (In-Person at Rollag with Zoom option upon request)*
- *7 PM Monday, November 29: Women’s Book Study – “The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi” by Kathie Lee Gifford*
- *7 PM Mondays: Paul Tillich Bible Study*

Two ways to help our neighbors this holiday season:

1). Stop by Rollag Lutheran and pick up a Giving Tree Ornament that contains a specific item for a local non-profit. The Giving Tree is located in the overflow area. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Jim.

Prelude: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Pam Aakre, Piano

Welcome

Advent Wreath Lighting

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace,

for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.

Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.

Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes

and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

Amen.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (ELW #240/WOV #630) Chris Haug, Solo

Light one candle to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness;

He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

(One Candle is lit on the Advent Wreath. We invite you during the season of Advent to light a candle on your Advent wreath or gather 4 candles and light one each Sunday with us.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Jesus said, Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you in your time of trial.

With confidence in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

Believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all. Let us pray - Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” (LBW 31/ELW 436)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1:

Wake, a-wake for night is fly – ing, the watch-men on the heights are cry-ing; a-wake, Je-ru-sa-lem, at last. Mid-night hears the wel-come voic – es, and at the thrill-ing cry re-joic-es; “Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past, The bride-groom comes! A-wake; your lamps with glad-ness take! Al-le-lu – ia! Pre-pare your-selves to meet the Lord, Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Children’s Message

Pr. Hope Deutscher

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Message

Pr. Hope Deutscher

Contact Pastor Hope at livinggracehawley@gmail.com if you want a transcript of this sermon.

Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound (ELW #239 / LBW #35)

Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: *Hark, the glad sound! The Sav-ior comes, the Sav-ior prom-ised long; Let ev-’ry heart pre – pare a throne and ev – ‘ry voice a song.*

Verse 3: *He comes the bro-ken heart to bind, the bleed-ing soul to cure, and with the trea-sures of his grace to en-rich the hum-blee poor.*

Verse 4: *Our glad ho-san-nas, Prince of peace, your wel-come shall pro-claim, and heav’n’s e-ter-nal arch-es ring with your be-lov-ed name.*

Offering

God is ever faithful and has blessed us with so much. With grateful hearts, let us offer back to God what we have, with love and thanksgiving.

Thank you for remembering the importance of continuing to tithe your financial gifts. You can mail your offering to your church or give through Tithe.ly online (mobile and online option) or by mail. Visit livinggracehawley.org or gprparish.org for specific information.

Prayer from Rev. Eugene Peterson:

Dear Master, Help me to walk through your Word with humility, for it is sacred ground over which I travel. So many others have gone before me over this ground. Help me to learn from them, both from the steps of their faith and from the stumblings of their unbelief, from their obedience and their obstinateness, from their steadfastness and their waywardness. Give me eyes to see that the landscape of your Word is so much more vast and grand than the small parcel of ground that is my life. And, grant me the grace to travel over that majestic landscape slowly, imaginatively, prayerfully, and obediently. Amen

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹**Now** may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Message Pr. Jim Greene

Contact Pastor Jim at revjamesgreene18@yahoo.com. if you want a transcript of this sermon.

Holy Communion

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in the remembrance of me. The body of Christ, given for you.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in the remembrance of me. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

Dismissal:

May we go in peace and serve the Lord: **As we Celebrate, Share, and Show God's Love!**

Hymn of the Month: Sing to the Lord of Harvest (ELW #694 / LBW #412)

Pam Aakre, Piano and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: Sing to the Lord of har-vest your songs of love and praise;

*With joy-ful hearts and voic-es your al-le-lu-ias raise;
By him the roll-ing sea-sons in fruit-ful or-der move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joy-ous song of love.*

Verse 2: *God makes the clouds drop fat-ness, the des-erts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in glad-ness, the val-leys laugh and sing.
God fills them with his full-ness, all things with large in-crease,
And crowns the year with good-ness, with plen-ty and with peace.*

Verse 3: *Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave;
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,
And with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.*

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Household Prayer: Morning (From Feasting on the Word)

Thank you for this new day to sing your praise and watch for signs of your kingdom. By your Spirit, let me abound in love for you and your children, that in living and loving I may point to your coming reign. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening (From Feasting on the Word)

Thank you for the signs of your coming reign, and for the power of your saving love. Bless all those whom I met today, and strengthen their hope in your power and grace. Now as I close my eyes, I relinquish all anxieties and fears, trusting in your providence and mercy. Amen.