

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
To celebrate, share & show God's love
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Living Grace Lutheran Church

*A worshipping community of the ELCA focused on
making known God's love and grace by:
Welcoming Everyone, Sharing Jesus' story,
Growing in faith and Serving beyond ourselves.
Pastor Hope Deutscher
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PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549
Worships at The Garrick Theater,
509 Front Street, Hawley, MN 56549*

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher and Pr. Jim Greene

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

Welcome/Announcements & The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Call to Worship:

Rejoice, for God is with us. **In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.**

NOW, there is a reason to hope, love, laugh, and live.

God is truly with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful – verses 1, 3, & 4 (ELW 283 / LBW 45)

Verse 1 *Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant! Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the King of angels.*

Refrain *Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Verse 3 *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above. Glory to God . . . in . . .
the . . . highest: REFRAIN*

Verse 4 *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning: Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: REFRAIN*

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, quiet our minds from our wrestling thoughts. Help us to focus on the light which shines through all our darkness. Guide us from the manger through the empty tomb and into a life of kindness and compassion for all people – including ourselves. Amen

The Prophecy of the Messiah: Isaiah 9: 2, 6 – 7; John 1: 1 – 2; 4 – 5

The Coming of Jesus is Announced to Mary & Joseph:

Luke 1: 26 – 38; Matthew 1: 18 – 25

The Preparation for the Birth of Jesus: Luke 2: 1 – 5

Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem – verse 1 (ELW 279/LBW 41)*

Verse 1 *O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.*

Jesus is Born: Luke 2: 6 – 7

Special Music: *Away in a Manger* (Serena Bembaron, Nancy Bjorndahl – Accompanying)

Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds: Luke 2: 9 – 14

Hymn: *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (ELW 282 / LBW 41)*

Verse 1 *It came upon the midnight clear, the glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth to touch
their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all glorious king." The world in solemn
stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

Hymn: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275/LBW 50)*

Verse 2 *Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*

The Shepherds find the Baby Jesus: Luke 2: 15 – 18

The Wise Men Bring their gifts to Jesus: Matthew 2: 1 – 11

Hymn: The First Noel (ELW 300 / LBW 56)

Verse 5 *Then entered in those wise-men three, full...rev-'rent-ly ...up-on their knee, and offered there in his...
pres-ence their...gold,...and myrrh, and frank-in-cense. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.*

Meditation

Offering

Hymn: What Child is This (ELW296 / LBW 40)

Verse 1 *What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste, to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

Prayers

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Meal

Hymns During Communion Distribution:

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Verse 1 *Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners
reconciled." Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies; With angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Verse 2 *Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord. Late in time behold him come, offspring of a
virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Verse 3 *Hail the heav'n -born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each
child of earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Angels from the Realms of Glory

- Verse 1** *Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight over all the earth; Once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*
- Verse 2** *Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*
- Verse 3** *Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*
- Verse 4** *All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, Evermore your voices raising to the-eternal Three in One. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*

Joy to the World

- Verse 1** *Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and na-ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*
- Verse 2** *Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*
- Verse 3** *No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.*
- Verse 4** *He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.*

Transition to the Passing of the Light: John 1: 1 – 5; John 14: 1 – 6; Matthew 28: 16 – 20

Passing of the Light - Special Music: *Silent Night* (Serena & John Bembaron, Nancy Bjorndahl – Accompanying)
Benediction

Hymn: Go Tell It On the Mountain (LBW 70)

- Refrain:** *Go tell it on the mountain, o-ver the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*
- Verse 1:** *While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night.
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy night. REFRAIN*
- Verse 2:** *The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.*
- Verse 3:** *Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.*

Sending: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord. **As we Celebrate, Share, and Show God's Love!**

Announcements:

Christmas Day: Join us for In-Person worship at Rollag Christmas Day at 9:30 AM.

December 26: There is no worship at Gran, Park, Rollag or Living Grace on Sunday, December 26th.
This weekend, the only online service we will provide is Christmas Eve.

January 2: 8 AM Gran, 9:30 AM Rollag and Living Grace 11 AM Park
Online Worship service provided.

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*