

## Order of Service

“The First Noel”



Welcome

Prayer

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

**Scripture Memory Spotlight: Psalm 97:5**

“The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth”

**Proverbs 10:11:** “The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.”

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“Once In Royal David’s City”

SERMON

Dr. Ross Layne

“An Extraordinary Announcement”  
Luke 1:26-38

Benediction

## Welcome to Grace Community Church!



Grace Community Church is live-streaming the worship service on Facebook Live and YouTube.



You can access either: or through the link on the homepage at [ourgcc.com](http://ourgcc.com). Please be sure to contact the church office church at **414-771-3020** or email [office@ourgcc.com](mailto:office@ourgcc.com) to let us know if you would like a phone call from a pastor.

## Upcoming Events

Tues. Dec. 17 6:30 pm: Men’s Study  
7:00 pm: Missions  
Wed. Dec. 18 5:30 pm: Family Night Caroling Outreach  
Sun. Dec. 22 9:00 am: Sunday School & Bible Study  
10:15 am: Corporate Worship  
12:15 pm: Choir

## Upcoming Events

Tues. Dec. 24 4:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service  
Wed. Dec. 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!  
Sun. Dec. 29 9:00 am: Sunday School & Bible Study  
10:15 am: Corporate Worship



## Rehearsal for Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 21st at 10 am in the gym. All the children are invited to participate. For more info, contact Mary Piggott

Pray for Dean Mertins, as he prepares to preach at the Milwaukee Rescue Mission on 12/22/24 at 7:00 pm.

**A Message from the Treasurer,  
Kurt Sonnenburg:**

“All donations and gifts that you wish to go on your 2024 GCC giving statement, must be dated no later than 12/31/2024.”



## New Year’s Eve Prayer Gathering

**6:30pm-7:30pm**  
**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.**  
Meet in Room 204 to pray for our country, state, church, families and other concerns. See Phil Snyder for more info.



**Note:** Please place your offering in the box on the back table next to the door as you leave the Sanctuary.



## Weekly Bible Reading

Luke 1; Isaiah 7;  
Genesis 17-18;  
2 Samuel 7

## Men’s Bible Study

Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. Study in the book of Job. Please see Phil Snyder for more info!

Mens Bible Study



## Family Night is Dec. 18th!

**5:30pm** - Meal

**6:00-7:00 pm** - All church caroling and outreach to the neighbors. Contact the office for more information!

Service will be held  
**Tuesday, 12/24 at 4:00pm**



## Gift Cards for Christmas

If you are planning on purchasing gift cards for Christmas through our

RaiseRight SCRIP program, be sure to submit your orders no later than **TODAY** (12/15) to ensure delivery in time for Christmas (delivery on 12/22).



Planning for Christmas? Birthdays? Family Celebrations? Weddings? Shopping Online, or In-Store RaiseRight can work for you!

RaiseRight is just another way to pay for your purchases using gift cards *in place of* cash, checks and credit cards! **Plus, they make great gifts themselves!** Don’t forget we stock approx. **40** cards but can order from over **750** vendors. GCC receives between 2 and 14% rebate on all cards purchased.

**See Darleen at the Book table in the Lobby.**

## ANIVERSARIES

**Dec. 21:** Randy and Demetra Slak  
**Dec. 28:** Alan and Rachel Marsch



## BIRTHDAYS

**Dec. 18:** Christine Schroeder  
**Dec. 19:** Gloria Balderas  
**Dec. 23:** George Klicka  
**Dec. 24:** Jesse Ceron, Jonathan Kasun  
**Dec. 27:** John Jaquez  
**Dec. 29:** Brian Risberg  
**Dec. 30:** Jonah Price  
**Dec. 31:** Todd Clemins



## *Today I will pray for:*

### Our Church Family

- \* **Leeroy J.** - Healing
- \* **Lori R.** - Healing
- \* **Jim H.** - Healing
- \* **Dawn G.** - Healing
- \* **Ricardo C.** - Healing
- \* **Nancy K.** - Healing
- \* **Alan M.** - Healing
- \* **Kathleen C.** - Healing
- \* **Jovelyn C.** - Healing
- \* **Roxanne L.** - Strength
- \* **Angela T.** - Illness management
- \* **Kate G.** - Illness management
- \* **Elijah E.** - Serving in the Military
- \* **Church members & attendees without jobs**
- \* **Lost family and friends**
- \* **Strong marriages at GCC**

### Missionaries Serving Locally & Overseas:

- \* **Tige and Renee Smith** - Cambodia
- \* **SBC Gerson Reyes** - Mexico City, Mexico
- \* **Tim T** - Philippines
- \* **Samuel M** - Romania
- \* **Eugeniusz T** - Poland/ Ukraine Relief
- \* **Regan and Mellie M.** - South Africa
- \* **SBC Africa Representatives - Bayak; Radi I., Prosper, Simon S.**
- \* **SBC Myanmar Representative - Henry L.**
- \* **SBC India Rep. - Kishore, Prasanna Kumar, Gummadi Ebenezer**
- \* **GCC Evangelism Ministry**
- \* **Milwaukee Rescue Mission** - Dean M. preach 12/22

### Social Concerns:

## **Sunday Morning Bible Study & Sunday School**

**Prayer Group:** 8:30 am - Room 118

**One Accord Bible Study:** Room 306

**New Life Bible Study:** Room 204 in Summer

**Sunday School:**

**PreK-6 years – Room 207–** Melissa Layne and Karen Donohoo

**7-12 years – Room 201 -** Ariail Layne and helper

## Helpers for Today

**Prayer:** Ted Groves

**Nursery:** Lisa Parsons, Heather Holoubek

**Children's Church:** Renae Ebert, Yamin Price

**Greeters:** Denise Ellis, Christine Schroeder  
Diana Yegge, Jan Bergersen

## Helpers for December 22nd

**Prayer:** Pastor Ross Layne

**Nursery:** Jodi Petty, Bette Milhans

**Children's Church:** Glen Bergersen,  
Danielle Menger

**Greeters:** Leeroy & Kiddy Jones,  
Juan & Gloria Balderas

## Praise Team

John Jaquez (leader), Tim & Suzanne Caldwell,  
Grace Anne Ellis, Tim & Judi Kasun, Danielle Menger,  
Al Piggott, Jeff & April Smith

## Technical and Sound

Jesse Ceron, Dean Mertins, Kurt Sonnenburg

## GCC Giving

**Last Week 2024:** \$5,845.00

**Last Week 2023:** \$7,005.00

**YTD 2024:** \$284,769.21

**YTD 2023:** \$299,047.70



## Invest In a Vision:

Special offerings are given for the GCC building fund. To donate, write **Invest in A Vision (IIAV)** on the memo line of your check.

**Last Week:** \$45.00

**Total IIAV:** \$352,719.21

**SCRIP: Total Profit Jan–Nov. 2024 -** \$3,392.56

**Total Profit for Jan. - Dec. 2023 -** \$3,100.80



*December 15th, 2024*



## **“AN EXTRAORDINARY ANNOUNCEMENT”**

Presented by:  
Pastor Ross Layne

*"She tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be"*

*Luke 1:39*

## The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

### Chorus

Noel Noel Noel Noel  
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far  
And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and night

And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far  
To seek for a king was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it went

This star drew nigh to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay

Then entered in those wise men three  
Full rev'rently upon the knee  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense

## God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry gentlemen Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone  
astray

### Chorus

O tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem in Jewry This blessed Babe was born  
And laid within a manger Upon this blessed morn  
The which His mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn

From God our heavenly Father A blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds Brought  
tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by  
name

Fear not then said the angel Let nothing you affright  
This day is born a Savior Of a pure virgin bright  
To free all those who trust in Him  
From Satan's pow'r and might

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind  
And left their flocks afeeding In tempest storm and wind  
And went to Bethlehem straightway The blessed Babe  
to find

And when they came to Bethlehem  
Where our dear Savior lay  
They found Him in a manger Where oxen feed on hay  
His mother Mary kneeling down Unto the Lord did pray

Now to the Lord sing praises All you within this place  
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now  
embrace  
This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface

## O Little Town Of Bethlehem

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

For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep  
The angels keep their watch of wondering love  
O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King  
And peace to men on earth

How silently how silently  
The wondrous gift is given  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven  
No ear may hear His coming  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in

Where children pure and happy  
Pray to the blessed Child  
Where misery cries out to Thee  
Son of the mother mild  
Where charity stands watching  
And faith holds wide the door  
The dark night wakes the glory breaks  
And Christmas comes once more

O holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us we pray  
Cast out our sin and enter in  
Be born in us today  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell  
O come to us abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel

## Once In Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed  
Mary was that mother mild  
Jesus Christ her little child

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all  
And His shelter was a stable  
And His cradle was a stall  
With the poor and meek and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy

Jesus is our childhood's pattern  
Day by day like us He grew  
He was little weak and helpless  
Tears and smiles like us He knew  
And He feels for all our sadness  
And He shares in all our gladness

And our eyes at last shall see Him  
Through His own redeeming love  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He has gone