

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Today is the First Sunday of Advent

PRELUDEChrist is Lower Still | Worship Team

GATHERING

WelcomePastor David Perry

Advent Candle LightingMarc and Kassie Moure

Advent Prayer - Henri Nouwen

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Prayers of the PeoplePastor Melissa Lowther

Lord's Prayer

OfferingCome Light Our Hearts

HEARING THE WORD

SermonPastor David Flowers

THE TABLE

Apostles' Creed

CommunionChrist is Lower Still

Do Not Be Afraid

SENDING

Benediction

Artist's Statement:

During Advent this year, we are displaying the banners of Indiana artist Linda Witte Henke, who writes: "The design for this series was inspired by "The Great O Antiphons," a collection of prayers dating back as far as the fourth or fifth centuries and intended for use during the final seven days before Christmas. The prayers, each of which address God using an Old Testament title and express a growing sense of urgency for the Messiah's coming, give voice to poignant human longings that are as relevant today as they were in centuries past. The design was executed from cotton fabric, cotton batting, and synthetic felt that were dyed, painted, stenciled, and stamped, then embellished with appliqué, improvisational stitching, hand embroidery, and found objects (metal hardware and plastic stars)."

SERMON granthamchurch.org/sermons



Fear Not! God Hears Your Prayers

PSALM 6:1-10

LUKE 1:5-25

HEBREWS 5:7-8

JAMES 5:16

It seemed like another day in the Temple, until an angel appeared and frightened Zechariah, a Jewish priest. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer." But it's likely that Zechariah had moved on from that prayer a long time ago and had given up on it being answered. In the first Sunday of Advent, Pastor David reminds us that God hears our prayers, and he encourages us to trust in the loving Lord who responds to our prayers and develops our character in the waiting.

FEAR NOT! *current sermon series*

"Do not be afraid!" is one of the most oft-repeated phrases in the Bible. And these are the first words from the angels to Zechariah, Mary, and the shepherds in the opening of Luke's Gospel. We need to hear these comforting words from those heavenly messengers, for their words and their meaning are echoing down through the ages to reach us where we are today. Join us for our Advent series—Fear Not!—as we reflect on these three encounters and are encouraged by how the Lord recognizes our fears on earth and responds to them in his great wisdom and loving kindness.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

WANT TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP?

If you are interested in joining with others to share life and dive deeper into the sermon and what it means for our lives, go to our website to learn more about getting connected (granthamchurch.org/small-groups).

SERMON RESOURCES granthamchurch.org/sermons

Sermons are posted online every Monday along with small group discussion questions and other sermon resources (e.g. sermon slides, sermon audio, service video, etc.).

Subscribe to the
Grantham Church Podcast!



EVENTS granthamchurch.org/events



TODAY

Fellowship Mealafter service

Together on the Journey: Surrounding Towns12PM

Youth Group (Winter Retreat Registration due today)6PM

THIS WEEK

Church Office ClosedMON, DEC 2

Moms TogetherWED, DEC 4, 9:30AM

Grandmothers in Prayer Christmas BrunchTHUR, DEC 5, 9:30AM

Men's Bible StudyFRI, DEC 6, 6:30AM

Sing & PlayFRI, DEC 6, 9:30 & 10:30AM

NEXT SUNDAY Dec 8

Learning Communities9AM

Children's Choir10-10:20AM

Advent Lessons and Carols Service10:30AM

Youth Group6PM

SAVE THE DATE

Family Christmas EventFRI, DEC 13, 6PM-8PM

Child & Baby DedicationSUN, DEC 15, 10:30AM

Longest Night ServiceSAT, DEC 21, 7PM

Christmas Eve ServiceTUE, DEC 24, 6:30PM

STAFF granthamchurch.org/staff

David Flowerssenior pastor

Melissa Lowtherdiscipleship pastor

David Perryworship arts pastor

Denise Fogelsangerchildren's pastor

Chrissy Hoffneryouth coordinator

Linda Wormanoffice administrator

Derek Boycedirector of operations

Cate Lewiscommunications

Mike Ryanhead custodian

GIVING, ATTENDANCE, & VIEWS

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Year to Date Budget \$775,165

Year to Date Giving \$763,308

LAST WEEK

Giving \$15,711

Attendance 357

Livestream 138