

NEW HERE?

WELCOME

Thanks for worshipping with us today!
Help us get to know you... please consider filling out a Connect Card (in the

Help us get to know you—please consider filling out a Connect Card (in the back of the pew in front of you) and place it in the offering plate.

HELPFUL NOTES FOR PARENTS

Infants are welcome in the sanctuary during the worship service to participate as they are able. We also have a Parents' Room (Parlor-A4) located just off of the sanctuary where you can watch and hear the service in a comfortable, private setting. Infant and toddler care is also offered by trained volunteers in the Nursery (room C11).

2-5 Year-Olds | Activities are available for 2 & 3 year-olds (D21) and 4 & 5 year-olds (C19) during the worship service

K-Grade 6 | Join us for Kids' Own Worship

Children will be invited to exit the sanctuary at the beginning of the sermon. A teacher will meet them outside the sanctuary doors and walk them to their classroom (D20-22 and D25).

Worship Activity Bags with pencils, crayons, and activity pages for all age levels are available in the back of the sanctuary.

WELCOME CENTERS

Located near our main entrances, staffed by friendly greeters, these spaces offer helpful information for guests and members.

WEBSITE granthamchurch.org

Visit our website for information about our ministries, upcoming events, and access to our multiple giving avenues.

EMAIL FROM THE PASTOR & THE BODY LIFE

All church events, news, and announcements are available in our weekly email. If you would like to receive it, sign-up on our website (granthamchurch.org/contact).

QUESTIONS?

Ask an usher or greeter located in the back of the sanctuary and the welcome centers. They will be happy to serve you!

GRANTHAM CARE TEAMS

Do you have a specific need that we can help meet? Would you like to join and help assist one of our care teams? To share a need or find out more, visit our website (granthamchurch.org/care-teams).

NOTES

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

FOLLOW US    **GRANTHAMCHURCH.ORG**

OFFICE HOURS | MON-THURS from 9AM-5PM | 717-766-0531



 **Grantham Church**
BRETHREN IN CHRIST

December 8, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

Introit.....O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | Pastor David Perry

Blessing of the Light & Welcome

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Bidding PrayerPastor Melissa Lowther

First Antiphon: O Emmanuel

First Lesson.....Genesis 1:1-5; John 1:1-5, 14

"Lo, the Beginning" arr. Mark Schweizer.....Choir

Second Antiphon: O Wisdom

Second Lesson.....Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:16-21

Hail To The Lord's Anointed

Third Antiphon: O Master of the Universe

Third Lesson.....Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 3:1-7, 11

"Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain" by Carolyn Jennings.....Choirs

Fourth Antiphon: O Branch of Jesse

Fourth Lesson.....Isaiah 9:1-2; Matthew 4:12-17

Offering....."For Unto Us A Child Is Born" from Messiah | Brass

Fifth Antiphon: O Key of David

Fifth Lesson.....Isaiah 7:10-14; Matthew 1:20-23

God With Us

Sixth Antiphon: O Rising Dawn

Sixth Lesson.....Isaiah 42:5-9; Luke 2:25-32

"Simeon's Song" by Tommy Walker.....Rachel Moury and Worship Team

Seventh Antiphon: O Ruler of the Nations

Seventh Lesson.....Isaiah 35:1-6, 8A, 10; Revelation 22:12-13, 16-17, 20

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" by Paul Manz.....Men's Ensemble

Advent Candle Lighting.....Elizabeth Blymire and Esther Hess

Closing Prayer

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

BENEDICTION.....Pastor David Flowers

SERMON granthamchurch.org/sermons



Throughout church history, Advent has been a time of meditating upon the ultimate issues of death, judgment, hell, and heaven. Yet it is also a time of great rejoicing. For Christ will come, not only as Judge, but as Savior, to usher in the Kingdom of God.

Unlike the familiar festivity of Christmas Lessons & Carols, this service invites us into a reflective journey through the themes of judgment and salvation, preparing us for Christ's coming, both in the incarnation and in his triumphant return.

The service will progress from darkness to light, symbolizing our hope in Christ—the Light of the world—banishing sin and darkness. Candles will be lit increasingly throughout the service, reminding us of the hope that illuminates our dark world. The service is structured around seven "O" Antiphons (musical sentences), familiar to many as the verses of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." These ancient chants express our yearning for the coming Messiah and provide rich devotional imagery.

The words for each Antiphon will be on the screens for your reflection, along with artwork from members of our congregation, as you listen to the music played by instruments. Each Antiphon is complemented by readings (lessons) and music (carols), which help us reflect on Christ, who comes to judge and save his people. Each reading will include an Old Testament prophecy and a New Testament passage, pointing to the fulfillment of God's purpose in Jesus.

We trust this service will guide us in recapturing the longing and hope of Advent, as we yearn for the Light of the world to come.

Even so; come, Lord Jesus!

Special Thanks:

Grantham Church Worship Commission
Readers: Angela Hare and Justin Weber

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

Youth Group (Winter Retreat Registration due today)6PM

THIS WEEK

Men's Bible StudyFRI, DEC 13, 6:30AM

Family Christmas Event.....FRI, DEC 13, 6PM-8PM

NEXT SUNDAY Dec 15

Learning Communities.....9AM

Children's Choir.....10-10:20AM

Worship Service.....10:30AM

Child & Baby Dedication.....10:30AM

Kids Own Worship.....11AM

Fellowship Meal.....after service

Youth Group: Christmas Carnival.....6PM

SAVE THE DATE

Longest Night Service.....SAT, DEC 21, 7PM

Christmas Eve Service.....TUE, DEC 24, 6:30PM

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)."

STAFF granthamchurch.org/staff

David Flowers.....senior pastor

Melissa Lowther.....discipleship pastor

David Perry.....worship arts pastor

Denise Fogelsanger.....children's pastor

Chrissy Hoffner.....youth coordinator

Linda Worman.....office administrator

Derek Boyce.....director of operations

Cate Lewis.....communications

Mike Ryan.....head custodian

GIVING, ATTENDANCE, & VIEWS

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Year to Date Budget \$791,658

Year to Date Giving \$784,188

LAST WEEK

Giving \$20,880

Attendance 292

Livestream 147