

# **Big Grove Lutheran Church Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish**

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**December 17, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Welcome in Jesus' name.*

*We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.*



Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, [pastorlisaanne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisaanne@gmail.com)  
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Secretary, Sue Wiener

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Procession/Bell

Welcome and Announcements

**Lighting of Advent Candle** “Christ, Be Our Light” ELW #715

v. 4 – Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

L: Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.

**C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

L: For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward:

**C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

L: For any bitterness that scratches our soul:

**C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

L: For relationships left in decay and neglect:

**C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.**

L: For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others:

**C: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

“Christ, Be Our Light” ELW #715

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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**\*Prayer**

**Children's Christmas Program**

**\*Prayers of the People:**

L: Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

**\*Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"**

ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

"Create in Me a Clean Heart" Music by: Richard W. Hillert Copyright 1978 Augsburg Fortress  
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**\*Offertory Prayer:**

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*The 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; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and 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:**

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ELW #631**

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Augsburg Fortress. #SB109327

**\*Dismissal:**

**L:** Go in peace. Keep awake.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

