

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PH: 810-664-2841

Thrift Shop 810-667-9640

EM: graceepiscopallapeer@gmail.com

STAFF

Reverend Sarah Parks, Priest in Charge

810-793-6105 cell: 810-444-4050

Tonya Curtis, Admin. Assistant

Nick Ward, Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9:00am-2:00pm

# Graceful Tidings

VOLUME 23

JANUARY 2023



## Save the date for January 22nd

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22nd following service. If you have been a Chairperson of a committee, please prepare your statement for the Annual Report booklet and have it in the office **no later than January 16th!!** We will be voting for two vestry members and for our convention delegates and alternates. There will be a recap of 2022 and plans for the coming new year! Please bring your favorite passing dish for a potluck immediately following the meeting.

Mark your calendars & plan to attend. **We need you!!!**

*Even though our Christmas Eve service was unusual due to weather conditions, it was still wonderful! We would like to thank everyone who put in the effort to make it so beautiful by decorating & offering to serve. We're so grateful to everyone who was able to join us in person & via ZOOM. It's all about the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ & that's exactly what we celebrated!!*



**THANK YOU** everyone who contributed to our Christmas Family. Mom expressed her gratitude multiple times while picking up all of their Christmas goodies! Our Grace Family once again pulled together to make a difference in the lives of a family & showed them the love of Christ.



If you need to stop by the office please call before you come so Tonya can be watching for you. We ask that the doors are kept shut & locked when Tonya is there alone. We're currently looking into a few options for security, so please be patient with us until we come up with something. Thank you in advance!



ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign-up sheets for Altar Flowers, the Sanctuary Candle, Ushers & more are hanging in the Parish Hall. There are many openings throughout the year for all of these activities. This is a beautiful way to remember loved ones, help decorate the church & serve our Lord. Come sign up where God leads you for an exciting new year!!



	<b>Lessons &amp; Carols</b>  January 1	<b>The First Sunday after the Epiphany</b>  January 8 HOLY EUCHARIST	<b>The Second Sunday after the Epiphany</b>  January 15 HOLY EUCHARIST	<b>The Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b>  January 22 HOLY EUCHARIST	<b>The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</b>  January 29 HOLY EUCHARIST
Presiders & Preachers	Jennifer Page	The Rev. Sarah Parks	The Rev. Sarah Parks	The Rev. Sarah Parks	The Rev. Sarah Parks
Altar Guild	Sandy Arnold & Sandy Chapman				
Altar Flowers	<b>NEEDED</b>	Dick & Darlene West	Robert & Mary Ellen Thomas	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>
Sanctuary Candle	Dick & Darlene West	Vicki McIntyre	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>
<b>10:00 SERVICE</b>					
Ushers/Greeters	<b>Needed</b>				
Worship Leaders	Jen Page & Jen Baird	Jen Baird & Jen Page	Jen Page & Jen Baird	Jen Baird & Jen Page	Jen Page & Jen Baird
Lector 1*	Lessons & Carols	Jean Coon	Vicki McIntyre	Craig Arnold	Vicki McIntyre
Lector 2**	Lessons & Carols	Dick West	Sue Dougherty	Larry Holen	Barb Cook
Acolytes	Lessons & Carols	Jen Page	Jen Baird	Sandy Arnold	Jen Page
	Lessons & Carols	Jen Baird	Jen Page	Jen Baird	Terry Cook
Hospitality Hosts	Jen Page	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>



1 Debbie Kreger  
7 Clyde Pearsall  
23 Barb Wilson



January

GRACEFUL TIDINGS



5 Nolan & Kyle Rhein

Happy *New Year* 2023

January 2023

Happy *New Year* 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  10:00 Sunday Service	<b>2</b> Office Closed!	<b>3</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice 	<b>6</b>  <b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> ECW Meeting 10:00 Sunday Service	<b>9</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm <b>7:30 Vestry Meeting</b>	<b>10</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice 	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:00 Sunday Service	<b>16</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>17</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Potluck  10:00 Sunday Service	<b>23</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>24</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:00 Sunday Service	<b>30</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm	<b>31</b> Office open 9:00am-2:00pm				

Grace Episcopal Church of Lapeer  
 735 W. Nepessing St.  
 Lapeer, MI 48446  
 810-664-2841

Greetings Beloved,

I am so grateful to God and to you for the privilege of celebrating my first Christmas with you.

When I started my ministry I was on my first tour as a priest and I had many villages and congregations to take care of. This was in India. One of those churches didn't have a building.

We met on Christmas Eve in a hut that had a large room and the adjacent space was a stable. There we were celebrating the Eucharist with the wafting smell of a stable. While we were there, I remember very clearly we heard a lamb, a cow mooing, and a donkey braying. All that was a part of the Incarnation story as we know it. It gives me pause as we come to this Christmas in 2022.

I have a few prayers. I pray that we will listen deeply. We are living in a time when there's so much noise and it is very easy to get carried away with whatever noise is coming at us.

The Christmas narrative is filled with individuals and groups listening deeply. Mary listened. Joseph listened. Their shepherds listened. Their Magi listened. Even the angels listened. In the midst of the listening, there was a new birth. A birth that changed everything for us as we know it.

In this divided world where there is so much noise. Some of it is about calling people out, calling people names, and just working on the vitriol of this season. We as people who follow Jesus have an opportunity to listen, listen deeply, listen to heal, listen to love, and listen toward joy.

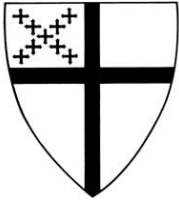
The second prayer that I have is that we will be joyful. Joy is not based on our reality. Joy is based on God's presence in our lives. Paul says *rejoice in the Lord always*. Again I will say rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to God and known to all. The Lord is near. It is the nearness of God that gives us the opportunity to rejoice. I pray that we will choose joy.

In choosing joy we will also come to the third part of my prayer; Do not be afraid. It is a refrain throughout scripture. The shepherds heard it from the angels, *do not be afraid, for see, we bring you good news of great joy to all people not just to some*.

My prayer is that we will be filled with courage not because we're not fearful, but because we have faith in a God who is with us. May you have a blessed Christmas and may God bless you. May God's blessing be pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing.

Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Bishop Prince Singh



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
735 WEST NEPESSING  
LAPEER MICHIGAN 48446

**Change Service Requested**

*Grace Episcopal Church of Lapeer*

735 West Nepessing Street

Lapeer, MI 48446

Phone: 810-664-2841 ■ Fax: 810-664-7380

E-mail: [graceepiscopallapeer@gmail.com](mailto:graceepiscopallapeer@gmail.com)

Web site: [www.gracelapeer.org](http://www.gracelapeer.org)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday—9:00 am—2:00 pm

*A parish of The Diocese of Eastern Michigan*

**The Reverend Sarah Parks, Priest**

**The Reverend Deacon Larry Parks**

*Vestry*

Jennifer Page  
Terry Cook  
Rod Hammond  
Clyde Pearsall  
Jack Lewis  
Barb Wilson

Senior Warden  
Junior Warden  
Vestry Member  
Vestry Member  
Vestry Member  
Clerk of the Vestry

*Phone*

810-614-4758  
810-441-8951  
561-758-3905  
810-429-1851  
810-441-2168  
313-580-2863

*Staff*

Nick Ward  
Tonya Curtis  
Robert Thomas

Organist  
Administrative Assistant  
Treasurer