

December 19, 2017

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

Last Friday night, my wife, Susan, and I were in New York City, and after dinner, the two of us spent time wandering through our favorite neighborhood – the West Village. A light snow had been falling for much of the day, accumulating on the sidewalks and steps, and the streets seemed to glow from the light of the street-lamps.

As we made our way along, walking arm-in-arm, we passed homes with candles burning in the windows; apartment buildings draped with garland; a man selling Christmas trees on the corner; and then, after a while, we came upon a small park, where we saw, standing there all by itself, right in the middle of everything... a lone Christmas tree decorated with lights.

That's when I realized: it's Christmas time!

Here at Grace, we will hold several services to celebrate the holiday and welcome the birth of Christ. If you are in town, I hope you will join us. And, don't forget to invite a friend or neighbor to join you. We probably all know someone who would appreciate experiencing the hope and joy of Christmas, and there is no better time to share God's grace with someone else than during the Christmas holiday.

Our worship schedule over the next week includes:

**Blue Christmas Service tonight at 7:30 p.m. for those who are feeling “blue” this season.**

**Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday morning, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Christmas Eve Manger Service** for families with young children, Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Pageant Service** for families with older children, Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** on Sunday night at 8:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day Service** on Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

See you in church,  
*Andrew*

