

Ash Wednesday

Jebruary 26, 2020

10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

" A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus"

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

Congregational responses are in bold print

Gathering

The congregation gathers in silence.

Introduction

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

The congregation stands

Greeting

During this time, the presiding minister and the congregation greet each other.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Word

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

A reading from Joel the Second Chapter.

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 51:1-17 (We Read Responsively)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;

so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

6Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,

and would have me know wisdom deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,

and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.

You are not pleased with burnt offering.

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;

a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

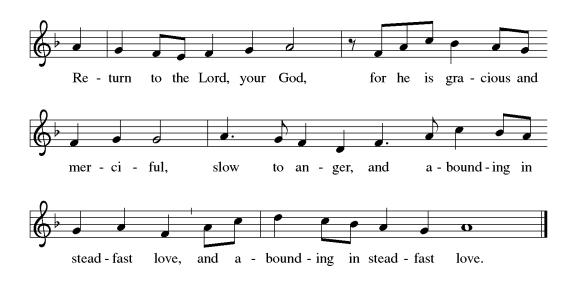
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

A reading from Second Corinthians the Fifth and Sixth Chapters.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Acclamation

The congregation stands.



Gospel: Matthew 6:1– 6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the Sixth Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is In secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation is seated.

<u>Sermon</u> Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The congregation **stands** to proclaim the word of God in song.

Hymn of the Day: "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

#775, Page 9

Invitation to Lent

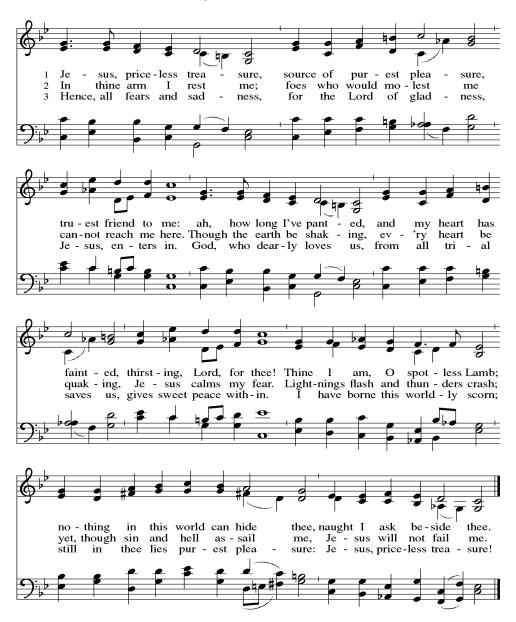
The congregation is seated. The presiding minister may invite the congregation into the discipline of Lent.

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Jesus, Priceless Treasure



Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: JESU, MEINE FREUDE, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation may remain seated. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After those who desire ashes have received them, all may be seated, and the minister continues.

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The congregation stands

Prayers of Intercession

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of the wilderness, we pray for the church. Lead us in showing grace and hospitality to all who struggle with doubt or shame. Make your church holy ground where all people can be seen and loved for who you have created them to be. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for creation. Show your glory in deserts and on mountaintops. Nourish gardens and orchards and bless those who tend them. Forgive us for our desire to dominate creation instead of serving as faithful stewards and caretakers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the nations. Liberate leaders and governments from the temptation to exercise unjust dominion over those whom they are called to lead and serve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those in need. Sustain those who are hungry and alone, those who are anxious, those facing difficult decisions, and those facing a recent diagnosis or new grief. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for putting new songs on our lips and in our hearts. Hear our voices as we join in songs of lament and praise. We give thanks for musicians, composers, and poets (other musicians or music ministries of the local congregation may be named). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for bringing us through the desert into the promised land of your kingdom. We give thanks for saints who have guided us in times of trial and joy (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Meal

Offering

<u>Offertory</u> Organist

The congregation stands

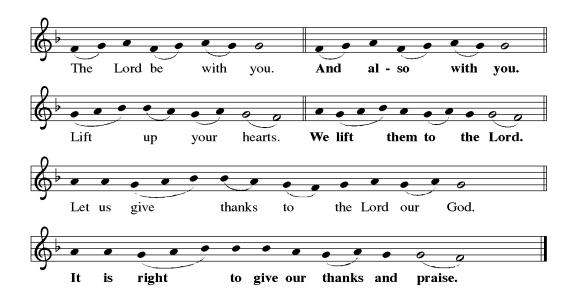
The Ushers bring the offering to the Altar

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

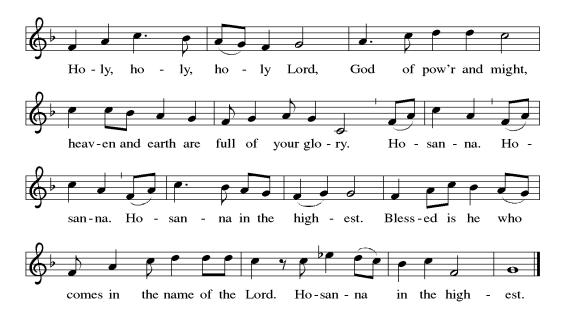
Great Thanksgiving



Preface

It is indeed right and our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Christ has prepared the feast.

Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

Thanks be to God.

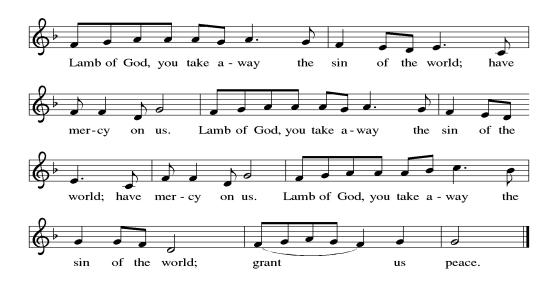
The congregation may be seated.

The Holy Communion

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrAmen.t the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the SacrAmen.t is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

Communion Distribution: One communion team will serve the left side of the nave; another team will serve those on the right. You are invited to come to the altar by the center aisle; take an empty individual glass (or filled grape juice glass) available at the railing, and proceed to the railing, filling in from the center out toward the side aisle. As you receive the bread and wine, the following is announced::

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**



Communion Hymns

"Let Us Break Bread Together"	#471, Page 18
"As the Sun With Longer Journey"	#329, Page 19

After all have returned to their places, the congregation **stands**.

Let Us Break Bread Together



Text: African American spiritual Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

As the Sun with Longer Journey



- 1 As the sun with long-er jour-ney melts the win-ter's snow and ice,
- 2 Through the days of wait-ing, watch-ing, in the des-ert of our sin,
- 3 Praise be giv en to the mak er of the sea sons' year ly round:



with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth, search-ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life. we a - wait the heal - ing wa - ters of our Sav - ior's vic - to - ry. as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

Text: John Patrick Earls, osb, b. 1935 Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

Text © 1981 Order of Saint Benedict, admin. Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. www.litpress.org. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Concluding Prayer

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Sending

Blessing

Almighty God, Father,

→ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

Sending Song: "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" #618, Page 21

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Portions of this liturgy are from Sundays and Seasons. com. Copyright 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20403.New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt. Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

LENT

Tuesday, February 25

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper for Lent 5:00 p.m. Bethlehem Lutheran Church

> 1148 Ladd Road (Burning of the Palms)

St. James Lutheran Church 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper for Lent

320 St. James Road, Fishersville

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated February 26 as follows:

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes and Holy

Communion (shared with Zion Lutheran)

Ecumenical Worship with 12:00 p.m. Saint John the Evangelist Catholic 300 Maple Avenue

Imposition of Ashes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes and Holy 7:00 p.m.

Communion

Sunday, March 1

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church First Sunday of Lent—Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 4

Noon Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Lenten Lunch \$3/person (RSVP needed)

6:00 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church Season of Lent Soup Supper 297 Zion Church Rd Season of Lent Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 8

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Second Sunday of Lent—Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 11

Noon Westminster Presbyterian Church Lenten Lunch \$3/person (RSVP needed)

6:00 p.m. St. James Lutheran Season of Lent Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. 320 St James Road, Fishersville Season of Lent Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 15

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church 10:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent—Holy Communion

Assistant to the Bishop Kelly Bayer-Derrick preaching

Wednesday, March 18

Noon First Presbyterian Church Lenten Lunch \$3/person (RSVP needed)

6:00 p.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Season of Lent Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Season of Lent Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 22

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church 10:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Lent—Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 25

First Baptist Church Lenten Lunch \$3/person (RSVP needed) Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Season of Lent Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Season of Lent Evening Prayer

Sunday, March 29

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Fifth Sunday of Lent—Holy Communion

Wednesday, April 1

Main Street United Methodist Lenten Lunch \$3/person (RSVP needed) Noon

6:00 p.m. Bethlehem Lutheran Church Season of Lent Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. 1148 Ladd Road Season of Lent Evening Prayer

HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 5—Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

10:00 a.m. Procession with Palms, joined by members/disciples from other congregations

Thursday, April 9—Maundy Thursday

10:00 a.m. Chapel

7:00 p.m. Confession and Forgiveness/Footwashing/Holy Communion/Stripping of the

Altar

Friday, April 10—Good Friday

3:00 p.m. Saint John-Evangelist Catholic - The Way of the Cross - walking together

down 11st Street to the Library and back, with stops along the way to ponder the meaning of Jesus' death on a cross - we're invited with other Christians

to make this walk together

7:00 p.m. The Passion of our Jesus Christ from St. John, and adoration of the cross

Saturday, April 11—Easter Vigil

7:00 p.m. Service of Light/Old Testament Salvation Readings/Affirmation of Baptism,

welcoming new members into Grace/Holy Communion

Sunday, April 12- Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of our Lord

Easter Breakfast - Will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will continue to be served through 9:45 a.m.

Easter/Resurrection of our Lord Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m., the same worship time as our other Sunday worship services.

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Assisting Minister: Linda Meyer—10:00 a.m.

Donna Gum—7:00 p.m.

Ushers: Pat Brady—7:00 p.m.

David Proctor—7:00 p.m.

Offering Stewards: Pat Brady

Altar Guild: Jean Morgan—7:00 p.m.



Members of Grace, Ministers

Linda Meyer, President
Gordon Putnam, Vice President
Holly Carper, Pete Giesen, Kim Hull,
Gail Johnson, Kathryn Johnson,
Carrie Jones, Jerry Kite, Karla Rankin
and Rudolph Yobs
Deloris Wertman, Secretary
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (lunch 12:00 - 12:30) - Monday - Thursday; 8:30 a.m.—Noon - Friday

facebook.com/gelc.elca twitter.com/gelc_elca youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro
Internet: www.gracewaynesboro.org Email: gracelc@lumos.net

Telephone: 540.949.6171

