The text "Ash Wednesday" is written in a colorful, brush-stroke style. The word "Ash" is on the top line and "Wednesday" is on the bottom line. A stylized cross symbol, also in the same colorful brush-stroke style, is positioned to the right of the word "Ash".

*Ash  
Wednesday*

*March 2, 2022*

*10:00 a.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**

*We gather in silence and prayer.*

*We stand.*

**Greeting**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**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.*

**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.**

**Word**

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

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against 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.**

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

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

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

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

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

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.  
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

***We sit.***

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

A reading from Second Corinthians the Fifth and Sixth Chapters.

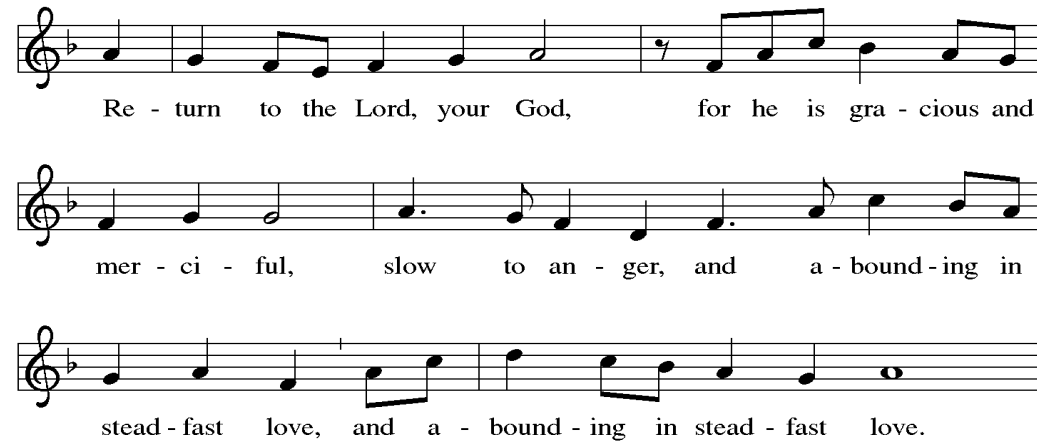
<sup>20b</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For 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!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**Gospel Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Gospel: John 10:1-18**

The holy gospel according to St. John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. <sup>11</sup>I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Pingel**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*We stand.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

**#605, Page 6**

**Invitation to 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.

## Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.  
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844  
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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## Confession of Sin

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

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.**

*We sit.*

### **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 remain 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.**



## **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

### ***A brief silence***

Renew your church, O God. When we have drifted from our call to proclaim repentance and to guide your people toward justice, lead us back to you. Encourage believers who hold the church's doors open to those who have felt excluded. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Transform parched places into watered gardens and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring. Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation to become responsible stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew our civic life, O God. Teach those in authority to advocate for the liberation of all who are oppressed and grant them courage to make difficult decisions. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew our lives, O God. Spare your people from diseases of the body, mind, or spirit and send healing to those overcome by illness or grief (*especially*). Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. During these forty days of Lent, confirm our sense of mission and expand our imagination for ministry. Deepen our faith, increase our love, and draw us into your unfolding work of healing and restoration. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

As we mark ashes on our foreheads, we give you praise, O God, for all the saints who died and yet are alive with you. Receive us with them into your eternal embrace. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **Meal**

### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The congregation remains standing as the meal is prepared.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

Extravagant God,

**You have blessed us with the fullness of creation.**

**Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies.**

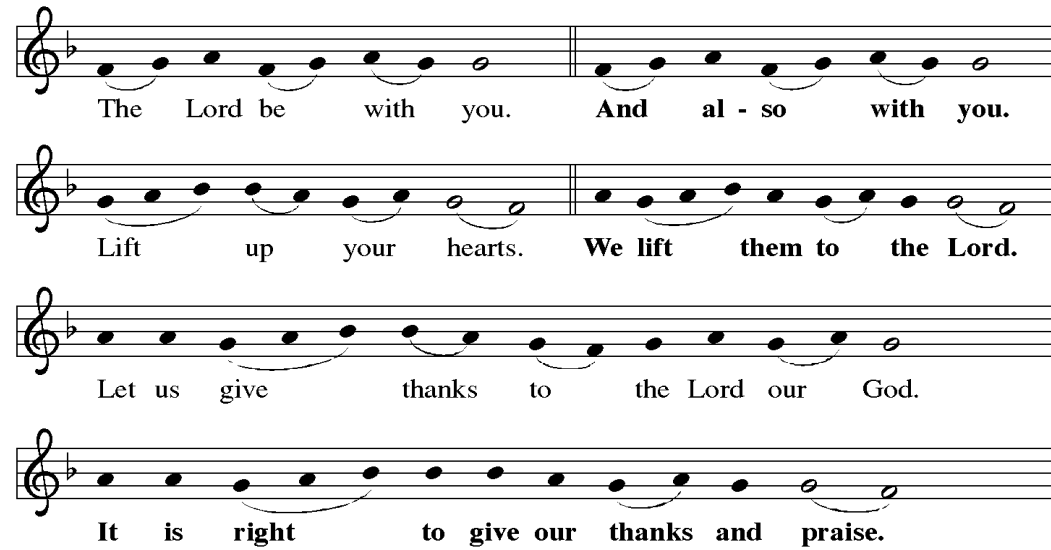
**Take and use what we offer here, come among us,**

**and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,**

**in whose name we pray.**

**Amen**

## Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.

## Preface

It is indeed right, 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:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the final line and ends with a double bar line.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

### 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

Here is food and drink for the journey.  
Take and be filled.

**Thanks Be To God.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

### The Holy Communion

*The congregation may be seated.*

*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 sacrament 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 Sacrament 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)*

*Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. Receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister, then turn to the side you have sat on, and receive the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant at the altar rail. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your pew via the side aisle.*

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

*As the ministers commune the congregation may sing the following:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second and third staves continue the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

### **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:** *“Abide With Me”*

**#629, Page 16, Verses 1, 3, 5**

### **Dismissal**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847  
Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889



*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



**Tuesday, March 1**

**6:00 p.m.** Pancake Supper at St. James Lutheran  
Gordon Putnam **Shrove Tuesday**

**Wednesday, March 2**

**10:00 a.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel **Ash Wednesday**  
Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

**7:00 p.m.** First Baptist Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

**Sunday, March 6**

**10:00 a.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel **First Sunday of Lent**  
Service of the Word and Holy Communion

**Wednesday, March 9**

**7:00 p.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel Season of Lent Evening Prayer  
Bethany and Jerusalem Mark 14:1-9

**Sunday, March 13**

**10:00 a.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel **Second Sunday of Lent**  
Service of the Word and Holy Communion

**Wednesday, March 16**

**6:00 p.m.** St. James Lutheran Church **Soup Supper**

**7:00 p.m.** St. James Lutheran Church  
Pastor Carl Trost Season of Lent Evening Prayer  
**Gethsemane Mark 14:32-42**

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



**Sunday, March 20**

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Third Sunday of Lent**

*Service of the Word and Holy Communion*

**Wednesday, March 23**

6:00 p.m. St. James Lutheran Church

**Soup Supper**

7:00 p.m. St. James Lutheran Church  
Pastor Gordon Putnam

*Season of Lent Evening Prayer*

**The High Priest's House**

**Mark 14:65, John 3:19-20**

**Sunday, March 27**

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*Service of the Word and Holy Communion*

**Wednesday, March 30**

7:00 p.m. Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Pastor Karen Taylor

*Season of Lent Evening Prayer*

**The Praetorium Mark 15:11-15**

**Sunday, April 3**

10:00 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Service of the Word and Holy Communion*

**Wednesday, April 6**

7:00 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church  
Pastor Wes Smith

*Season of Lent Evening Prayer*

**Golgotha and the Garden of Tombs**

**Mark 15:29-31, 42-43**



## Holy Week

### **Sunday, April 10**

**10:00 a.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Palm Sunday - Procession with Palms**

### **Thursday, April 14**

**7:00 p.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Maundy Thursday**

### **Friday, April 15**

**7:00 p.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Good Friday**

### **Saturday, April 16**

**7:00 p.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pastor Paul Pingel

**Easter Vigil**

### **Sunday, April 17**

**8:30 a.m.** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
**11:00 a.m.** Pastor Paul Pingel

**Easter – The Resurrection of Our Lord**  
Service of the Word and Holy Communion

**Please call the Church Office or Sign-up in Nave  
for services as attendance will be restricted due  
to COVID**

**THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY**

<b>Assisting Minister:</b>	<i>Cathy Crowder</i>
<b>Communion Assistants:</b>	<i>Marsha Howard</i> <i>Linda Meyer</i>
<b>Covid Monitor:</b>	<i>Gail Johnson</i>
<b>Offering Stewards:</b>	<i>Pat Brady</i>



**Members of Grace**  
**Congregational Council**

Robin Crowder, President  
Jerry Kite, Vice-President  
Bob Barrette  
Fred Biggers  
Kathy Bump  
Kim Hull  
Jean Morgan  
Nancy Schwiesow  
Andrew Sell  
Amy Warren  
Ron Almarode, Treasurer  
Vivian Proctor, Secretary  
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer  
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary



**Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor**—Email: [pastorpingel@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpingel@gmail.com)  
**Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music**—Email: [mickhdking@aol.com](mailto:mickhdking@aol.com)  
**Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary**—Email: [Grace.lc@comcast.net](mailto:Grace.lc@comcast.net)  
**Office Hours:** 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday  
**Closed Friday**

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