

Fifth



SUNDAY
IN LENT

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
March 26, 2023

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other, the community, and the world.”

HOLY COMMUNION

*Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting One
(Available via You Tube and Zoom Remotely)
Congregational responses are in bold print*

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this wonderful morning of light, music, the Holy Word and fellowship. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card. We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available please inform Communion Assistant of your need.

We have 4 assisted listening units that are simple to operate. They consist of a small unit with an earpiece and volume control, each unit is replaced after each use. See the ushers to use one today.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are parts the you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in bold type. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to stand, please do so as you are able. As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.

Gathering



Gloria Patri

Congregation and Choir sing.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen

Welcome and Announcements

The congregation stands.

Temple Talk

David Schwiesow

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, ✝ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.



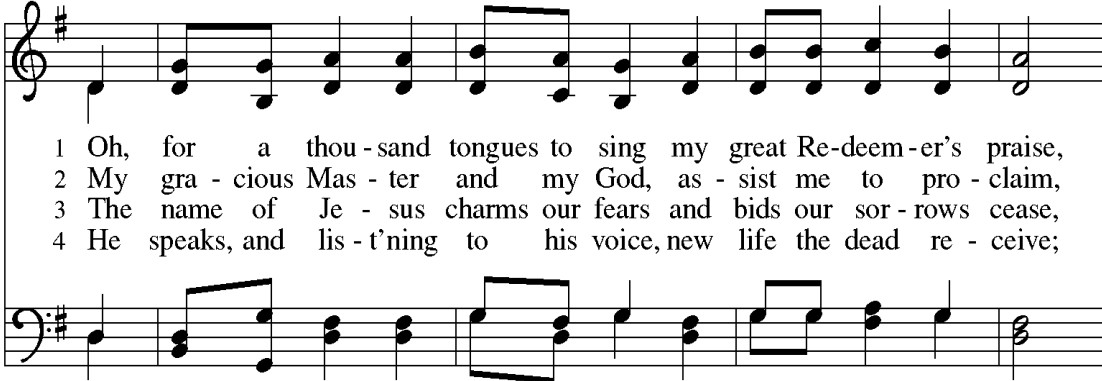
Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.

Hear the good news:
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.
This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy,
✝ forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.
Amen.

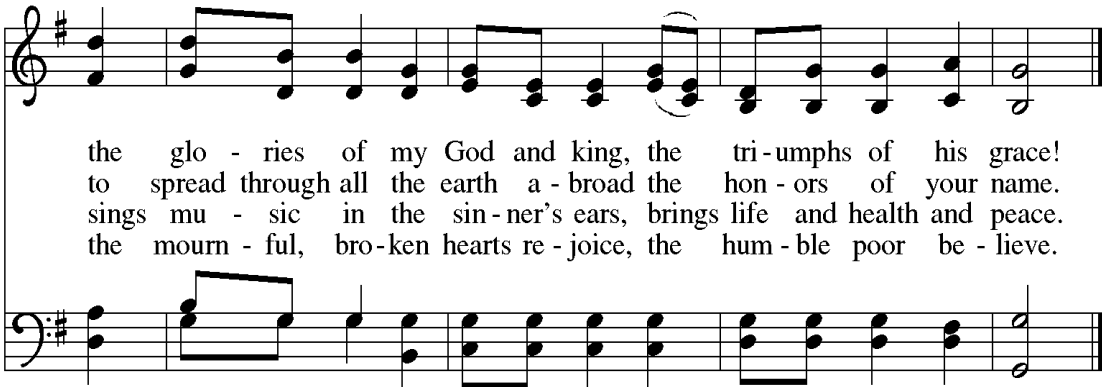
Gathering Hymn: "Oh, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#886, Page 4, Verses 1-3, 5

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

Psalm: Psalm 130

We read responsively.

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

²**LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, LORD, who could stand?

⁴**But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

⁵I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

⁶**my soul waits for the LORD more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

⁷O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸**It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Reading: Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans:

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: John 11:1-45

The Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Glory to you O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Continued

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

Children’s Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: “*What Wondrous Love Is This*”

#666, Page 10

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.



Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Hear us O God,
Your mercy is great.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Meal

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet those around you, offer a sign of peace to one another.

We sit.



Offering

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.

(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate)

We stand.

Offertory Song

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

5108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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.



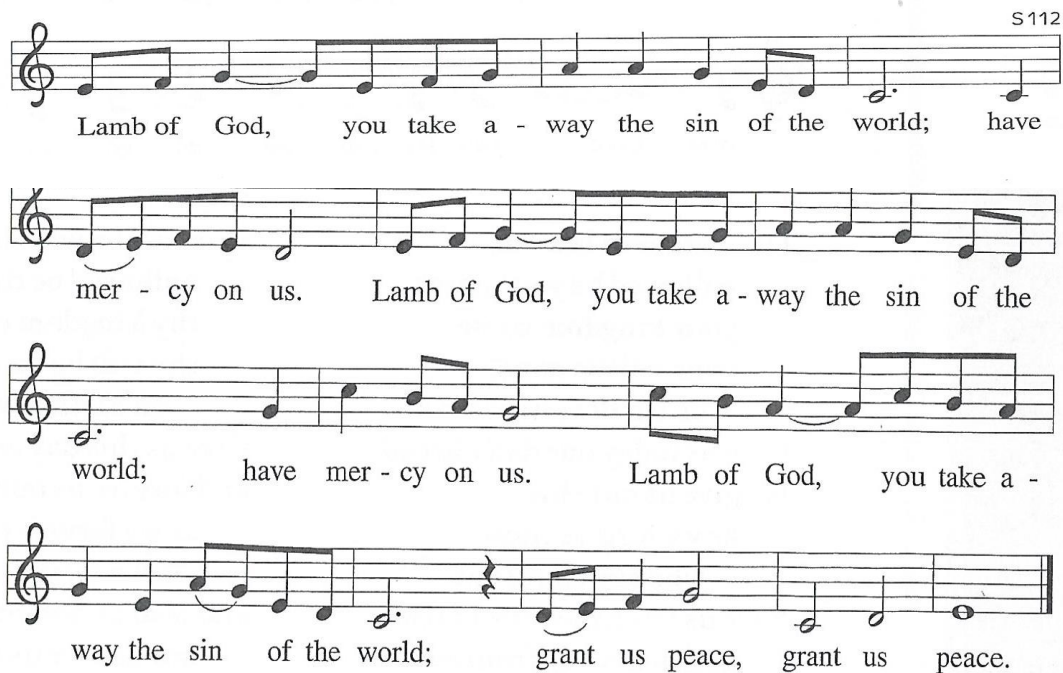
Invitation to Communion

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.
Thanks be to God!



"Lamb of God" may be sung.

S 112



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, grant us peace.

Agnus Dei

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.

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

The Communion Blessing

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

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Embodied God,
**at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.**

Amen.



Sending

Blessing

God, the giver of love,
✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.
Amen.

Benediction ✝

Sending Song: “You Are the Way”

#758, Page 21

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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You Are the Way

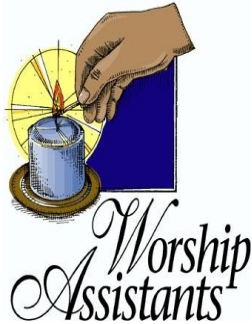
1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

The first system of music consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C).

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features the same treble and bass clef staves, key signature, and time signature.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers: David & Nancy Schwiesow
Altar Guild:
Assisting Minister: Lew Yobs
Communion Assistants: Kathy Bump
Marsha Howard
Council Person of the Week: Fred Biggers
Offering Steward: Jean Morgan
David Proctor
Ushers: Pat Brady
Jean Morgan



*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the
Glory of God and in thanks and gratitude for
our Grace family for their prayers, love,
and support during Nancy's recent
surgery and rehabilitation.*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

*April 2, 2023
Palm Sunday
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.
Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66*



Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. **Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks**, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

**Sandy Johnson
Linda Tomey**

**Jimmy Owens
Bandy Family**

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Jim Brown, Friend of the Meickes
Sydney H., Friend of Caisters
David Jones, Friend of Sandy & Gail Johnson and many others
Kevin and Sarah Knicely, Son and Daughter-in-Law of Ron and Sandy Knicely
Phoenix Oberg, Friend of Sarah Kite
Payton Potter, Friend of the Meickes

Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks*)

Reverend Tonya Eza's acceptance of a CALL to pastor at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clay, NY

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Please advise of status changes)

**Emily Almarode
Marge Cloutier
Phyllis Kite**

**Liz Ann Binns
Sandra Hoy
Bill Lucas**

**Fred Brower
Kathryn Johnson
Glenn Myers**

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Please advise of status changes)

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace

Continued

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends *(Please advise of status changes)*

Beth Hausrath Crickenberger, Friend to Many at Grace
Nina Crowe, Mother of Cathy Crowder
Natalie and Nicole Dodge, Friends of Ron and Sylvia Almarode
Steven Eckstrom, Son of Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom
Kyle Getler, Relative of Bill Meicke
Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf
Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump
Kathy Hale, Friend of Charlie and Betty Karol Wilson
Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Rosalind Holt, Friend of Gail Johnson
Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Bruce Joleaud, Brother-in-Law of Mike Trauscht
David Jones, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson
Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace
Billy Mason, Family of the Carpers
Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier
Barbie Ostrander, Friend to Many at Grace
Steve Rolland, Father of Kathy Meicke
Ken & Letty Rosen, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Judy Simpson, Sister of Sharon Lynch
Arta Smith, Friend of the Bumps
Sue Smoot, Friend of the Radeckes
Larry Spoon, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many
Kay Truslow, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Toretta Wyatt, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

Members/Friends Grieving *(Remain on List for 4 weeks*)*
Family of Deacon Linus Ellis

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays
Peggy Marks (3/30)

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

The Needs of the World

Covid Illnesses Continuing (Including many Grace members)

Flooding in the American West; ongoing climate change concerns

Cyclone Freddy in Africa (visiting the same area twice over, over 200 dead in Malawi, Mozambique)

Many Instances of War and Conflict around the World (Ukraine, Syria, Myanmar, Ethiopia)

The family of Irvo Otieno, and arrests of deputies in Henrico County

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors in the Kate Collins Area:
New homes, existing community



All God's Children Discussion Group meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Grace Conference Room. We are finishing up our discussions on *How the Word is Passed* (last chapter and Epilogue) on April 3. Future books to be discussed include *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman and *Recitatif: A Story* by Toni Morrison with the 2022 introduction by Zadie Smith. Other future discussions will consider Lily Pingel's presentation from April 23 and Bryan Stevenson's UVA talk from March 28. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Rick Bump at rcbump0621@gmail.com to be added to our emailing list.



Easter Breakfast—Grace will be hosting an Easter Breakfast April 9th, after the 8:30 service! We will have such a joyous and exciting time of congregational fellowship celebrating the promises of our Lord. Please sign up on the sheet in the Nave to join us for this wonderful celebration of fellowship and celebration!



The **“First Sunday Fellowships”** have begun! Each “first Sunday” of the month, one of our volunteer groups at Grace will hold a gathering in the Fellowship Hall after worship. **Please sign up your group** in the Narthex so the congregation can learn more about what goes on in the life of our church! See Sylvia Almarode if you have any questions



Hospitality and Grace—Are you interested in learning more about Christianity and hospitality? Join us for a book/study group! We will read *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* by Christine D. Pohl (9 chapters, 187 pages). If interested, please contact Eric Hilker 978-793-9845, Pastor Paul Pingel, 540-216-4454, or Susan Myers, 434-760-1660.



Mission Endowment Fund Temple Talk Today - on Sunday, March 26th, David Schwiesow will be inviting the congregation to make proposals to use the Grace Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) in our community and beyond. Approximately \$28,000 will be available from the seven sub-funds of the MEF, and we are looking for your proposals for its use!! Help Grace to be God's blessing through our Mission Endowment Fund.



New Member Class at Grace! Those who have been attending Grace and are not members are welcome to become a part of Grace! We will begin a new member class beginning the week of April 27th (tentatively looking at Thursday evenings, but open to what works best for all who take the class), with the hope of a Pentecost or Holy Trinity Sunday (5/28 or 6/4) New Member Sunday. If you are interested please sign up on the Sign-Up Sheet in the narthex (back of the worship space).



Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) - Turkey and Syria Devastation -

Two earthquakes have left a significant area of both countries in utter disaster. Cold weather, shelter and basic needs are critical at this time. Your donation goes 100% toward relief efforts (LDR and partner groups are very active in the relief effort). Make checks payable to Grace with "Middle East Earthquakes" in the line item.



We Need Your Help at Grace! One of the blessings that God's Spirit gives us as a congregation is that we ALL have gifts, talent and time TO SHARE, which allows the ministry of Grace, and God's Mission for us, to continue. If you are not already actively assisting, please consider helping with the Altar Guild (contact Jean Morgan), Assisting Ministers (contact Donna Gum), Communion Assistants (contact Donna Gum), Offering Stewards (contact Pat Brady) and/or Ushers (contact Jack Eckstrom). You may also contact the church office.



Altar Flowers—Please consider signing up to provide Altar Flowers for Sunday services. You can either sign up on flower chart in the Nave or call the church office.



Reminder—Please have articles, etc. for **GraceNotes** to the Church Office by the 20th of the month for next month's publication. If you need more time, please send Nancy a note and let her know when she will receive it. In addition, please have announcements, etc. for **Sunday bulletins** to the Church Office by Wednesday morning. Nancy's email is: Grace.lc@comcast.net



Columbarium—As you make your final plans, remember that Grace has a Columbarium on the North side of the building. Each niche will hold two (2) of our brass urns, which are included in the cost of \$2,250 per niche. There are also Memorial Bricks available for the patio, which can be engraved with the name of a loved one who may be buried elsewhere. For more information, contact Bradley Keefer at 540-942-4290 or the Church Office.



Caring for our Neighbors - This year, many Covid-era supports for the working poor are going away: SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) benefits, as well as tax breaks for families with children, that will result in \$thousands less money in families' pockets. This great need will likely be reflected in our community in the weeks and months ahead. Grace is working with other congregations in Waynesboro to determine whether we can work TOGETHER to help address the needs of our community. Please support our contributions to local Food Banks (see the announcement), and if you are interested, let Pastor know if you would like to attend future meetings with other congregations asking "how do we move forward?"



Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food pantries. We have made ***thirty-two*** deliveries thus far, fifteen to Main Street United Methodist, and seventeen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,398 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Covid Policy at Grace

- Masking is optional during worship.
- We will continue to post the CDC "risk" color (green [low], yellow [medium] or orange [high risk] in the narthex
- There is a "social distance" section available in the front of the worship space
- Holy Communion will continue to be offered by coming up front and
- Masks and hand sanitizer continue to be available in the narthex.

We continue to encourage:

- Vaccination and keeping up-to-date with current shots
- Staying home when not feeling well, especially with flu and other infections on the rise this time of year
- Masking if you have not been vaccinated for Covid or Flu



Wednesdays in Lent - "The Apocrypha - The Story of You"

Apocrypha is considered a part of Holy Scripture in the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, but we know little of it in the Lutheran and other Protestant Churches. During this Lenten Season, we'll take a look at our Faith Story - "The Story of You"- through the lens of the Apocrypha. The books of the Apocrypha were written in the period of history between the Old and New Testament. They contain Prayers, Wisdom Literature, Short (and sometimes wild!) Stories, as well as "straight up" History. We'll discover that this collection of sacred documents "off the beaten path" can be a strong aid to our own baptismal journeys of faith; "the story of you" on the way to the cross, the tomb, and the resurrection of our Lord.

6:00 p.m. - Soup Suppers

7:00 p.m. – The Apocrypha

- **March 29 - Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church** - The Story of You - and finding God in your prayer, wisdom, stories, and history.

Monday

Jeremiah 7:1-15

Romans 4:1-12

John 7:14-36

Morning Psalm 145, Evening 6

Tuesday

Jeremiah 7:21-34

Romans 4:13-25

John 7:37-52

Morning Psalm 146, Evening 91

Wednesday

Jeremiah 8:4-7, 18—9:6

Romans 5:1-11

John 8:12-20

Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 51



Thursday

Jeremiah 10:11-24

Romans 5:12-21

John 8:21-32

Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 102

Friday

Jeremiah 11:1-8, 14-17

Romans 6:1-11

John 8:33-47

Morning Psalm 148, Evening 130

Saturday

Jeremiah 13-1-11

Romans 6:12-23

John 8:47-59

Morning Psalm 149, Evening 143



April 2—Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Procession with Palms

We will be joined by First Baptist, Second Presbyterian, St. John Episcopal, Christ Tabernacle, and Main Street United Methodist Churches to gather outside (weather permitting), read and celebrate the entry of our Lord Jesus into Jerusalem, and begin the journey of each congregation into the week of his Passion.

April 6—Maundy Thursday

10:00 a.m.

Chapel—Confession and Forgiveness/Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar

7:00 p.m.

Confession and Forgiveness/Foot Washing/Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar

April 7—Good Friday

7:00 p.m.

The Passion of Our Jesus Christ-Tenebrae

April 8—Easter Vigil

7:00 p.m.

Service of Light/Old Testament Salvation Readings/Affirmation of Baptism/Holy Communion

April 9—Easter Sunday/Resurrection of Our Lord Worship

8:30 a.m.

Holy Communion

9:45 a.m.








Easter Breakfast

11:00 a.m.

Holy Communion



**Life of Grace Church
March 26-April 2, 2023**

DAY	DATE	TIME	MEETING
	03/26	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Class—Matthew <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class
Monday	03/27	7:00 p.m.	 Covid Committee Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday	03/28	9:30 a.m.	 Quilting (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	03/29	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	 Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room) Lenten Soup Supper—Grace Lenten Worship—The Apocrypha—Grace  Hand Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice
Thursday	03/30	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Grace Walkers (Meet in Parking Lot)  Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting
Saturday	04/01	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
	04/02	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Class—Matthew <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class

Members of Grace Congregational Council

Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)

Nancy Schwiesow, Vice-President (301-943-0888)

Bob Barrette (434-760-4419)

Fred Biggers (434-981-1954)

Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176)

Jean Morgan (540-649-4422)

Susan Myers (434-760-1660)

Andrew Sell (612-695-8361)

Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772)

Karen Walck (765-480-9920)

Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Vivian Proctor, Secretary

Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor, Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music,

Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary,

Email: 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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