



First
Sunday
in Lent

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
February 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.”

Service of the Word via You Tube

(Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting One)

Congregational responses are in bold print

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this wonderful evening 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.



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.

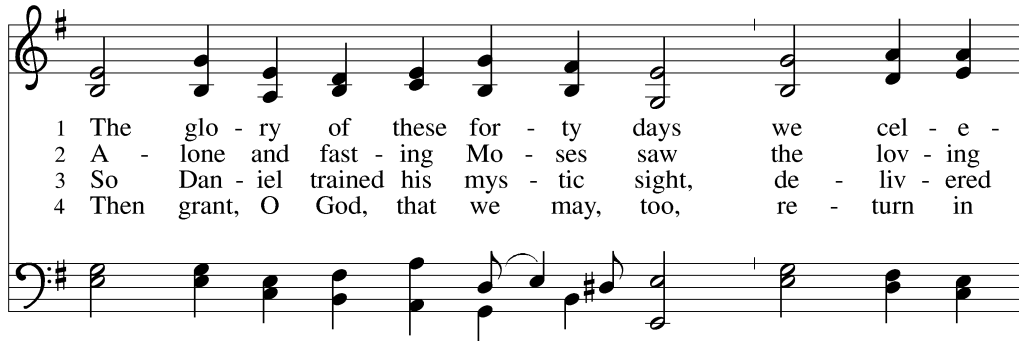
Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and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

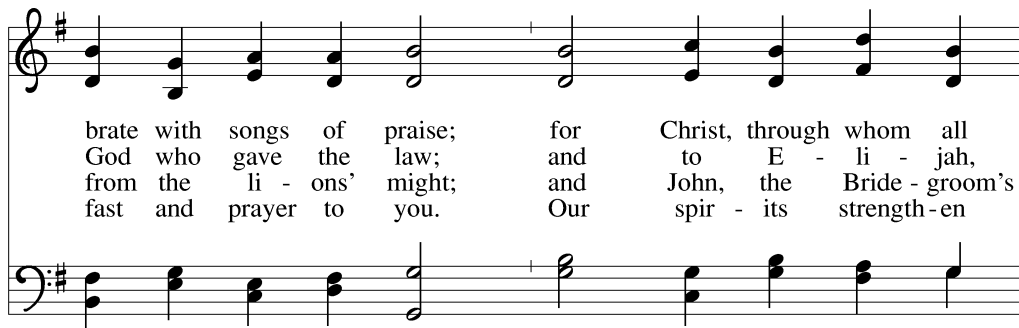
Gathering Hymn: "The Glory of These 40 Days"

#320, Page 4


The Glory of These Forty Days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
 Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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Greeting

The grace 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 mercy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
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 mercy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us 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.

We sit.

Word

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A reading from Genesis:

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of the Lord.

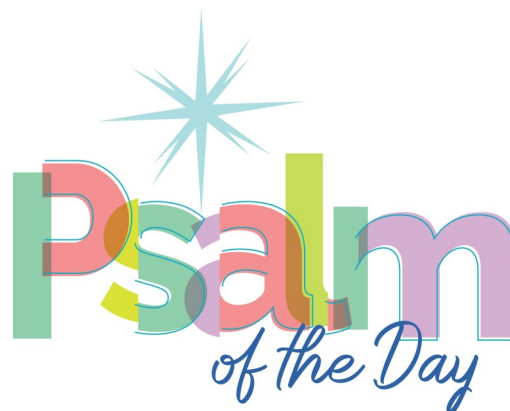
Thanks be to God.

Congregation stands.

Psalm: Psalm 2

We read responsively.

¹Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?
²**The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,**
³"Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us."
⁴**He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD has them in derision.**
⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
⁶**"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."**
⁷I will tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have begotten you."
⁸**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.**
⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
¹⁰**Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**
¹¹Serve the LORD with fear,
with trembling ¹²kiss his feet,
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Happy are all who take refuge in him.



Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

A reading from Romans:

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia," with lyrics placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody for "al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The third staff begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by the melody for "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life." The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you O Lord.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on 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: "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

#325, Page 10

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 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.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notes are simple, with many slurs and ties, and are aligned with the lyrics below them.

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:



S108

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

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.

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: "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

#618, Page 21

Dismissal

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

Postlude



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Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

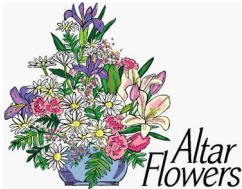
Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932



Worship Assistants

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	Open
Altar Guild:	
Assisting Minister:	Ron Almarode
Communion Assistants:	Donna Gum Karen Walck
Council Person of the Week:	Andrew Sell
Offering Stewards:	Pat Brady Robin Crowder
Ushers:	Fred Biggers David Proctor



*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the
Glory of our God*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

*March 5, 2023
Second Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.*

*Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching*

*Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-7*



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*)

Marge Cloutier

Nancy Schwiesow

Ellen Moyer

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

Judy Drayer, Mother of Peggy Caister
Steven Eckstrom, Son of Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom
Bruce Joleaud, Brother-in-Law of Mike Trauscht
Arta Smith, Friend of Rick and Kathy Bump

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

Douglas Williams, Friend of Sylvia Almarode, has returned from Kuwait

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

Emily Almarode
Sandra Hoy
Bill Lucas

Liz Ann Binns
Kathryn Johnson
Glenn Myers

Fred Brower
Phyllis Kite
Jimmy Owens

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

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace
Beth Hausrath Crickenberger, Friend to Many at Grace
Nina Crowe, Mother of Cathy Crowder

Continued

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

Natalie and Nicole Dodge, Friends of Ron and Sylvia Almarode

Kyle Getler, Member Relative

Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf

Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump

Kathy Hale, Friend of Charlie and Bette Karol Wilson

Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Rosalind Holt, Friend of Gail Johnson

Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht

Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace

Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier

Ken & Letty Rosen, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Judy Simpson, Sister of Sharon Lynch

Larry Spoon, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many

Liz Stone, Aunt of Betty Karol Wilson

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 Annette Boyette, Grandmother of Adrienne Carper

Family of Kathryn Buchanan, Former VP and Treasurer of the VA Synod

Family of Cecil Layman

Family of Jim Wise

Family of Carl Wondersek, Father of Marlene Shaw

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Ed Driskill (2/28)

Carol Varner (2/28)

Kim Hull (2/28)

<u>The Needs of the World</u>	<u>The Church</u>
<p>The Earthquake Devastation in Turkey and Syria</p> <p>The War in Ukraine and heightened tensions between Russia and the U.S.</p> <p>The Rail Derailment and Environmental Concerns in East Palestine, Ohio and our railway system</p> <p>Winter Storms in the U.S.</p> <p>President Jimmy Carter in Hospice Care, and his legacy of service and concern for the World</p>	<p>Grace's Strategic Planning</p> <p>Our friends in Christ at St. John Episcopal, as they offer Godspeed to their rector, Benjamin Badgett at the end of February</p> <p><u>Our Neighbors</u></p> <p>Our neighbors in the Wenonah area</p>

NEWS & Notes



Synod Assembly 2023 - 3rd Delegate Needed! - Based on our membership at Grace, we are eligible for three delegates to Synod Assembly. 2023's assembly is an important one because we will be electing a new bishop, given Bishop Bob Humphrey's retirement. If you are interested in serving (a three day event June 9-11), please contact Grace President Robin Crowder, or Pastor Paul.



Wednesday Morning Prayer Group—The group meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. They pray for the people on the Grace prayer list and for the concerns of both members and our community, nation and world. There is no need to lead or pray out loud, you can join in the group prayers or sit quietly. The session only lasts 20-30 minutes and is not a commitment for every week. We invite you to join us whenever you can.



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. There will be the opportunity for the groups to explain what their group does, who is involved, answer questions, and have fellowship and a few light refreshments. Please sign up your group so the congregation can learn more about what goes on in the life of our church! A sign-up sheet has been placed in the back of the church with enough dates for all of the groups at Grace, which are listed! Please see Sylvia Almarode if you have any questions.



Let mutual love continue.
Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.
Hebrews 13:1-2

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). Grace member Eric Hilker, PhD in Religion and Ethics, will lead our group as we learn the history of hospitality, how it has evolved, what it means today, and talk about our own experiences. What does “hospitality” mean to us, to Grace church? How do we continue to evolve our “hospitality-ministry”? **If interested, please meet with us immediately after church today** - we’ll answer questions and organize when/where to get started! Or, contact Eric Hilker 978-793-9845, Pastor Paul Pingel, 540-216-4454, or Susan Myers, 434-760-1660.



3Rs - Raising Resources for Readers will hold our NINTH annual Celebration/Fundraiser at Basic City Beer Co. **today** from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. All Grace Church members are invited to attend and we encourage you to invite others. So many of you have been long-time and generous supporters - THANK YOU! Please join us on the 26th for a good cause and let us celebrate 9 years of providing books to our local, Waynesboro students!



Grace - WARM Cold Weather Shelter: As Christians, we are called to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked and care for the sick.

Thanks to all the volunteers for providing such gracious and humble hospitality to our homeless neighbors January 23 - 30. We received wonderful feedback from numerous guests:

- "We are so glad to be back here!" (returning from the December 5-12 week)
- "I'm FULL!" "It was so delicious!" "Can I have seconds?" (one guest had SEVEN helpings one night!)
- "Is there any way I can get a shower tonight?" (so we opened 14-15 slots instead of just 12)
- "Do you have any more socks?" (and more were brought in)
- "Thank you for letting us have Sunday School with you."
- "We felt so welcome. It felt like YOU WANTED US to be here!"

Thank you to everyone that contributed: prayers, finances, greeting, cooking, staying overnight, shopping, cleaning! We had just under 80 different volunteers for the week which included 46 different members of Grace who invited 3 friends to join us, 13 volunteers from Waynesboro-Kiwanis, 11 from Zion Lutheran Church, 4 from St. John's Episcopal Church, plus one intern, Hannah! These volunteers put in over 425 hours of work from set-up to break-down, not counting a lot of shopping and cooking hours. At the last minute, Karen Van Stee brought our Adult Sunday School class downstairs; we had about 4 Grace members and 6-8 guests fully participating; then 13 guests joined us for our Service of Holy Communion!

Thank you Grace church for your generosity, your warmth, your willingness to be hands-on. *Susan Myers*



What is happening at Grace?—If you would like to know when/if there is a meeting, if a room is available, who is preaching, when a service is being held, when yoga is taking place, etc., all you need to do is go to our website (gracewaynesboro.org) and click on the "Calendar" at the top of the page. The calendar for the current month will come up. You can scroll through the months on the top left of the calendar. We make every effort to keep this calendar up to date. If you would like to add an event, etc., please call the Church Office.



Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) - Turkey and Syria Devastation - two earthquakes have left a significant area of both countries in utter disaster. THOUSANDS of buildings collapsed, and relief/recovery efforts are still gearing up. Tens of thousands have already been discovered dead. 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.



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.



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 receiving bread and individual cups of wine; pastor and assistants will
- mask when the CDC "risk" color is orange (high)
- 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



The Season of Lent

The ancient practice of Lent was preparing candidates for Holy Baptism, by walking them through the life of Jesus, from Ash Wednesday through Easter. This preparation reviewed Jesus' life, his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, followed by his death on the cross, and his rising to new life. It anticipates our life in Christ, where each day we die to sin, and rise to the new life the Risen Christ has for us.

Come and take part in this ancient practice, and find your journey of faith renewed during the Season of Lent!

Sundays during the Season of Lent - February 26th, March 5th, March 12th, March 19th, March 26th
10:00 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion

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 1** - *Zion Lutheran Church* - An Overview of the Apocrypha and finding God's Grace there.
- **March 8** - *Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church* - The Wisdom of the Apocrypha - God in all things.
- **March 15** - *St. James Lutheran Church* - The short and surprising stories of the Apocrypha - Finding God - and the very human - in this world.
- **March 22** - *Bethlehem Lutheran Church* - The history of the Apocrypha - revealing the origins of a familiar holiday and the expectations of a Messiah.
- **March 29** - *Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church* - The Story of You - and finding God in your prayer, wisdom, stories, and history.



Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday, April 2

10:00 a.m. Procession with Palms, Joined by Memberships from Other Congregations

Maundy Thursday, April 6

10:00 a.m. Chapel

7:00 p.m. Confession and Forgiveness/Foot Washing/Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 7

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

Easter Vigil, April 8

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

Easter Sunday/Resurrection of Our Lord Worship, April 9

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion

9:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion



**Life of Grace Church
February 26-March 5**

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY— SUNDAY	02/26	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	<p>Adult Bible Class—Matthew</p> <p>First Sunday in Lent <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship Zoom Confirmation Class Hospitality and Grace Meeting Photos Taken for Photo Directory</p> <p>3 R's Celebration/Fundraiser - Raising Resources for Readers—Basic City Beer Company</p>
Tuesday	02/28	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	<p>Quilting (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>Round Tables (Fellowship Hall)</p>
Wednesday	03/01	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<p>Prayer Group (Chapel)</p> <p>Yoga (Seminar Room)</p> <p>Lenten Soup Supper—Zion Lutheran Lenten Worship—The Apocrypha—Zion Lutheran</p> <p>Hand Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice</p>
Thursday	03/02	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<p>Grace Walkers (Meet in Parking Lot)</p> <p>Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting</p>
Saturday	03/04	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	03/05	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<p>Adult Bible Class—Matthew</p> <p>Second Sunday in Lent <i>Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship Zoom First Sunday Fellowship Confirmation Class</p>

Monday

Deuteronomy 4:9-14
 2 Corinthians 10:1-18
 Matthew 6:7-15
 Morning Psalm 145, Evening 29

**Tuesday**

Deuteronomy 4:15-24
 2 Corinthians 11:1-21a
 Matthew 6:16-23
 Morning Psalm 146, Evening 133

Wednesday

Deuteronomy 4:25-31
 2 Corinthians 11:21b-33
 Matthew 6:24-34
 Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 33

Thursday

Deuteronomy 4:32-40
 2 Corinthians 12:1-10
 Matthew 7:1-12
 Morning Psalm 147;13-21, Evening 62

Friday

Deuteronomy 5:1-22
 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
 Matthew 7:13-21
 Morning Psalm 148, Evening 65

Saturday

Deuteronomy 5:22-33
 2 Corinthians 13:1-14
 Matthew 7:22-29
 Morning Psalm 149, Evening 98

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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