

A large purple cross is positioned on the left side of the graphic. To its right, the words "Second Sunday" and "in" are written in a black, sans-serif font. Below these words, the word "Lent" is written in a large, flowing purple cursive script.

Second Sunday
in
Lent

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
March 5, 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 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: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

#445, Page 4

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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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 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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis:

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills —
from where will my help come?

²**My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

³He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

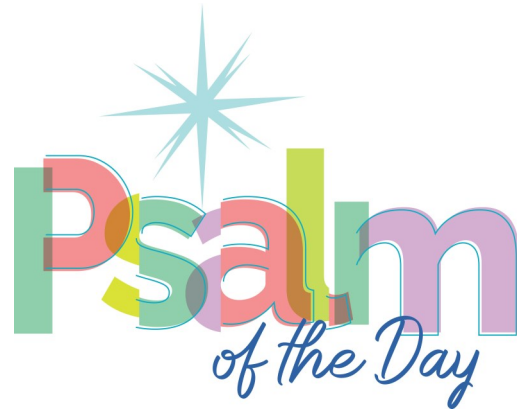
⁴**He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶**The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**



We read responsively.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans:

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

Continued

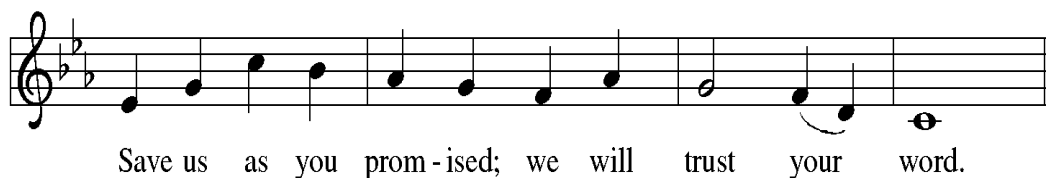
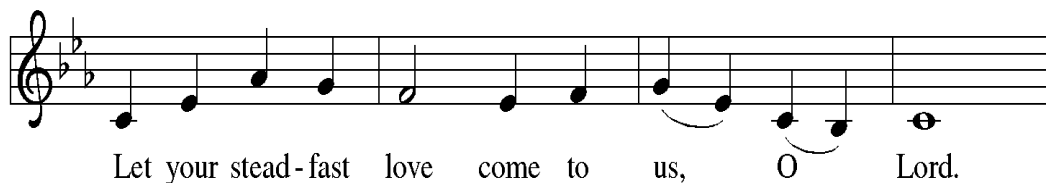
¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: John 3:1-17

The Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Glory to you O Lord.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?" ¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through 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: "God Loved the World"

#323, Page 10

God Loved the World

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.
 Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

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 (D major). 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

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent.

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and Sacrament to our sisters and brothers. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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: “How Firm a Foundation”

#796, Page 21

Dismissal

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

Postlude



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How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American



Worship Assistants

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	Open
Altar Guild:	Lisa & Glen Gray
Assisting Minister:	Linda Meyer
Communion Assistants:	Ron Almarode Gloria Nelson
Council Person of the Week:	Stephen Van Stee
Offering Steward:	Pat Brady Vivian Proctor
Ushers:	Jack Eckstrom Jim Nelson



Altar Flowers

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

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

*March 12, 2023
Third Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.*

*Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching*

*Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42*



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

Jimmy Owens

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

Phoenix Oberg, Friend of Sarah Kite

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

Liz Ann Binns

Fred Brower

Sandra Hoy

Kathryn Johnson

Phyllis Kite

Bill Lucas

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

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

Continued

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

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
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

Isabelle Bokelman (3/1)	Ernestine Moomaw (3/2)
Cynthia Long (3/3)	Richard Bump (3/3)
Sylvia Almarode (3/4)	Berenice Archambeault (3/5)
Thea Franklin (3/10)	Nancy Schwiesow (3/11)
Kaitlyn Hull (3/11)	



IN OUR



Thoughts and Prayers

The Needs of the World

The Earthquake Devastation in Turkey and Syria

The War in Ukraine and heightened tensions between Russia and the U.S.

The Rail Derailment and Environmental Concerns in East Palestine, Ohio and our railway system

Winter Storms in the U.S.

President Jimmy Carter in Hospice Care, and his legacy of service and concern for the World

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

Our friends in Christ at St. John Episcopal, as they offer Godspeed to their rector, Benjamin Badgett at the end of February

Our Neighbors

Our neighbors in the Wenonah area



Jack Eckstrom will be available today to take final photos for the Grace Pictorial Directory.



Nicaragua Mission Team Report – March 19—Members of the team that visited and worked at CICRIN, the Nicaraguan Christian Children’s Center and School on Ometepe Island, last month will share a report about their work at a fellowship gathering after worship on Sunday, March 19, (rumor has it that Nicaraguan coffee and light refreshments will be served!)



Morning Prayer Group

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group—The group meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. We pray for the people on the Grace prayer list and for the concerns of members, 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 lasts 20-30 minutes. 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.



Our Ushers will be hosting this Sunday’s gathering in the Fellowship Hall after worship. Please join them.



Easter Flowers—White Easter Lilies and White Regal Geraniums with green foil will be used for Easter Sunday at the altar and may be purchased in memory or honor of a loved one(s). Flowers are \$12 each. Please complete the inserted form and return it to the church office, along with payment, **by Sunday, March 26**. Please make checks payable to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and designate them for Lilies and/or Geraniums.



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.



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 contact Eric Hilker 978-793-9845, Pastor Paul Pingel, 540-216-4454, or Susan Myers, 434-760-1660.



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.



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



Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) - Turkey and Syria Devastation -
https://www.elca.azureedge.net/-/media/Logos/ELCA_4c_horizontal-sm.ashx?rev=45a802554acb4683b176d662d88d85ba

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.



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 - *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 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 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
March 5-March 12**

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY— 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 Confirmation Class First Sunday Fellowship - Ushers</p>
Monday	03/06	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children (Conference Room)
Tuesday	03/07	9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	<p>Quilting (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>Strategic Planning Meeting (Conference Room)</p>
Wednesday	03/08	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—Grace Lenten Worship—The Apocrypha—Grace</p> <p>Hand Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice</p>
Thursday	03/09	8:30 a.m. 10:00—12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30—7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<p>Grace Walkers (Meet in Parking Lot)</p> <p>Unconscious Bias Workshops (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>Virginia Organizing (Conference Room)</p> <p>CCEJ Group Zoom Meeting</p>
Saturday	03/11	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	03/12	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<p>Adult Bible Class—Matthew</p> <p>Third 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</p>



Monday

Deuteronomy 6:1-15
 Hebrews 1:1-14
 John 1:1-18
 Morning Psalm 145, Evening 29

**Tuesday**

Deuteronomy 6:16-25
 Hebrews 2:1-10
 John 1:19-28
 Morning Psalm 146, Evening 133

Wednesday

Jonah 3:1—4:11
 Hebrews 12:1-14
 Luke 18:9-14
 Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 33

Thursday

Deuteronomy 7:6-11
 Titus 1:1-16
 John 1:29-34
 Morning Psalm 147;13-21, Evening 62

Friday

Deuteronomy 7:12-16
 Titus 2:1-15
 John 1:35-42
 Morning Psalm 148, Evening 65

Saturday

Deuteronomy 7:17-26
 Titus 3:1-15
 John 1:43-51
 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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youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

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