



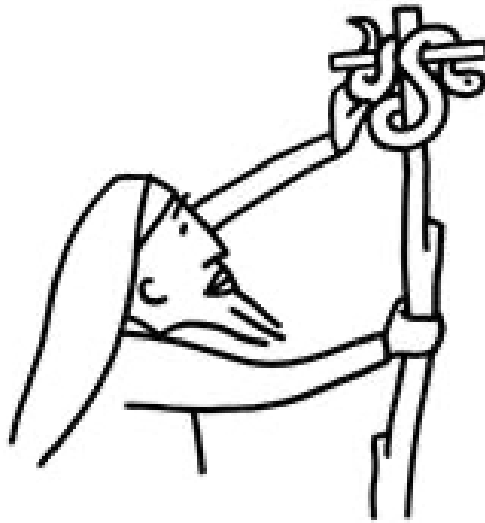
WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

OFFICE: 630-365-6751 * E-MAIL: general@graceoflilylake.com

WEB ADDRESS: www.graceoflilylake.com

Sunday, March 10th, 2024 * 9:30 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.

Announcements are televised or found on our website.

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.

We hope all people find it easy to follow along.

GOD GATHERS US

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

Jesus, Still Lead On

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

All: Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW 624 Red Hymnal

Jesus, Still Lead On ELW 624 Red Hymnal



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray... O God,

C: rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: **And you also.**

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

Sunday School Children

“He’s Got the whole world in His Hands”

HEARING GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

P: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John

All: Glory to you O Lord

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 3:14-21

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today’s first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“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. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You O Christ!

MESSAGE FOR ALL

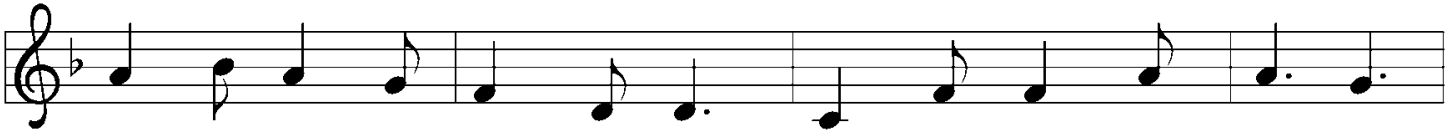
Pastor David Mercurio

SONG OF DAY

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335 Red Hymnal

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross ELW 335 Red Hymnal



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Megan Brannen, Ann & Steve Butcher, Jane Cutler & Jim, and Joan Mortensen

P: Let us pray.

C: Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Everyone

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

ALL: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

ALL: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

P: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The blessing may be repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

P: Stir up in *(name)* the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

New Members making public affirmation stand and face the assembly.

Congregational representative

L: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: Jesus,

C: you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

(An offering will be taken after the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Touch that Soothes and Heals

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.

Please respond accordingly



P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers. Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love. Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.

P: Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ALL: 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

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

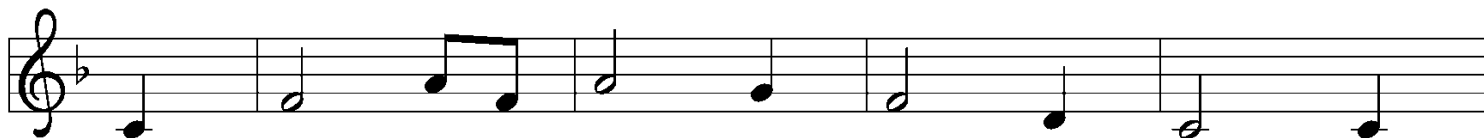
TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion hymns:

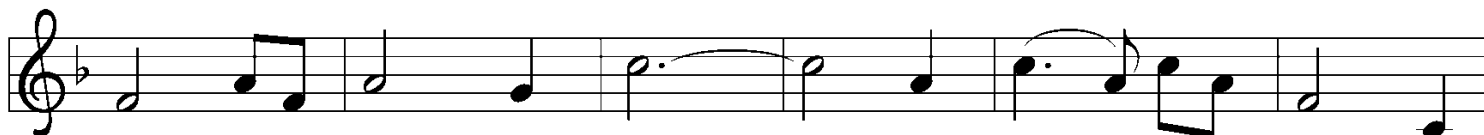
Amazing Grace

ELW 779 Red Hymnal

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound ELW 779 Red Hymnal



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

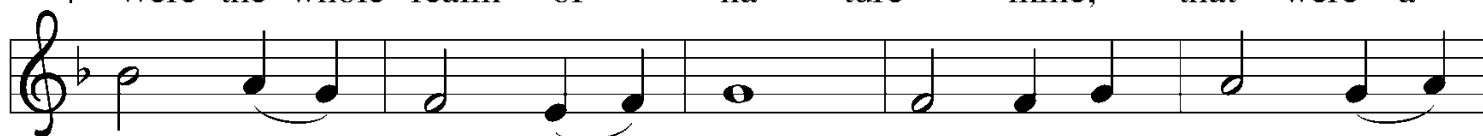
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803 Red Hymnal

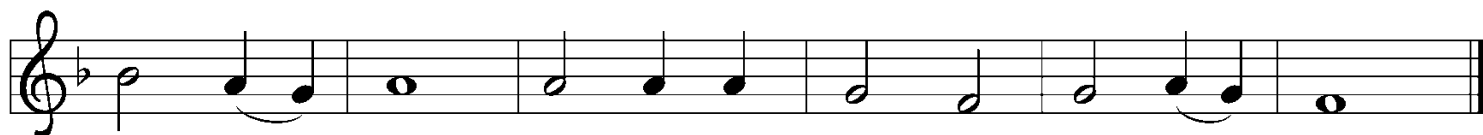
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross ELW 803 Red Hymnal



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714 Red Hymnal

O God of Mercy, God of Light ELW 714 Red Hymnal



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.

Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous God,

C: at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

LBW 368 Green Hymnal

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord LBW 368 Green Hymnal



1 I love your king - dom, Lord, the place of your a - bode;
2 I love your church, O God! Its walls be - fore you stand,
3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
4 Sure as your truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be giv'n



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of your eye and grav - en on your hand.
its sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, its hymns of love and praise.
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✝ give you peace.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

All: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2024

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

You deliver your people from their distress. (*Ps. 107:19*)

Ephesians 2:1-10

Saved by grace through faith for good works

3/10/24 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MASKING-Update We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. Please continue Masking at your comfort level.

ALTAR FLOWERS There will be no flowers on the altar for Lent.

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is up and on the wall in the Gathering Room. The price for 2024 will be \$20.

REBECCA CIRCLE FRONTIER SOUP SALE-every week. See display in Narthex.

REBECCA CIRCLE LUNCHEON & MTG Will be held in the Grace room on March 19th at 12:30pm. Please RSVP to Kathy Hooey 630-341-2293 or

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP Will be held at on March 28th, 7pm at Grace

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP Will be held on March 29th, 7pm at Lily Lake Congregational Church

EASTER EGG HUNT on Sat., March 30th at Lily Lake Park. Anyone who would like to volunteer to hand out candy/eggs to children, please contact Pastor David.

EASTER WORSHIP Will be at Grace on March 31st at 9:30am

EASTER BREAKFAST will be held at Grace between 8:30am – 11:30am. Please see Grace's webpage for more info: www.graceoflilylake.com

SPAGHETTI SUPPER will be in Fellowship Hall on Sat., April 13th from 4pm-7pm.

LINE DANCING continues on Wednesdays, from 6 – 7pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school meets on the first and third Sundays of the month through May 2024.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES are held on Saturdays at 3pm thru March 16th, and also on Wednesdays at noon (with soup lunch) thru March 20th, led by Pastor David. See Grace webpage for more info www.graceoflilylake.com.

LECTORS ARE NEEDED for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

NOISY OFFERING We collect a Noisy Offering whenever you wish to empty your change purse or pockets! Our next project we are collecting for is for our office copier repair or replacement. Thank you for your support!

BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside.

Thank you for your generous donations!

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

We are thankful for your 2024 offerings and donations. Offerings collected last week= \$4,521. Our weekly donation needs are ~ \$3,400. Blessings to all for your support of Grace.

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 130th year of ministry ~

VISIT OUR Website www.graceoflilylake.com

FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services

Our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

630-365-6751

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.

* For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

* For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.

* As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

* Adam & Julia Sajdak, grandson & granddaughter in law of Bill and Lori U'Ren

* Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren

* William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey

* David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

* The continued support of our members

* For all members of healthcare around the world

* For those serving as first responders and in the military

* For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT... Andrew Kinsel and his family in Ukraine, Bob Acker, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Joanna Alverado/Klaus, Vicki Barclay, Aina Baumanis, Makenzie Bay, Viola Bradshaw, Jim (brother of Rita Burnham), Jane Cutler, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, David Diehl (Kelly's cousin), Jan Docherty, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Marge Granquist, Lucille Hammers (Cathy Lindquist's sister), Joyce Helander and Jim Serafin, Howard (friend of Alexa Diehl), Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Marlene Klingner, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Ray Larsen, Gay Leslie, Pat and Chili Lindgren, Cathy Lindquist, Sherry Manke, Janelle McDonald, Joan Mortenson, Linda Mowers (sister-in-law to Pat Lindgren), Ray Navarro, Bob Nelson, Alaina Neufeld, Ed Nordwind, Oksana & her sister Maria (friends of Natalia Diehl), Donald Overby, Carol Prevenas, Kirk Reardon, Nancy and John Schaefer, John Schnaitman, Tia Thorne, Shirley and Norm Turner, Crystal Vines, Cordelia Vogel, Pastor Arne Walker, Kristy Weydert, Wayne Whiteside, Kelly Wilken & her family (Missy Barton's sister), Ron & Sharon Wilken (Missy Barton's parents), Bud Wise, & Barbara Zegiel.

Our thoughts and prayers to the Morris family on the passing of George Morris on Feb. 27th.

Memorial will be at Grace March 30th visitation 1-3pm with Service following at 3pm

If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, leave them on the

answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!

ALSO - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just see a Rebecca Circle member.

*Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers.
Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.*