



Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

Second Sunday in Lent ~ March 5, 2023
Grace Lutheran Church *8:30 am Service*
Welcomes You to Worship

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota
Web Site: glcwtm.org ~ gracelc@midconetwork.com
Church Office: 605-886-5737
Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501

PRELUDE

Congregation responses in Bold Print

Setting 3 p 138

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING SONG:

"Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

ELW 326

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.

- We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.
- 3 Divine eternal lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for land of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ 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. 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.**

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

KYRIE *p 138*

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. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... **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**

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

Pew Bible p 8

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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

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

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Pew Bible p 916

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.

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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

"Return to the Lord"

p 142

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17 Pew Bible p 863

The Holy Gospel according to St John, the third chapter. *Response: **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.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"This Is the Spirit's Entry Now"

ELW 448

1 This is the Spirit's entry now:

the water and the word,
the cross of Jesus on your brow,
the seal both felt and heard.

2 This miracle of life reborn

comes from the Lord of breath;
the sinless one from life was torn;
our life comes through his death.

3 Let water be the sacred sign

that we must die each day
to rise again by his design
as foll'wers of his way.

4 Renewing Spirit, hear our praise

for your baptismal pow'r
that washes us through all our days.
Come, cleanse again this hour.

APOSTLE'S CREED....

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

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.
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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *(We greet you all in peace.)*

OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY of Grace Lutheran Church

SONG of OFFERING: *“Create in Me”* **ELW 186**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

Let us pray... Almighty God, **who made us who we are, we offer all of ourselves to You.**

Take our talents, our energy and our joy, and use us to share Your love.

Take our mistakes, our regrets and our pain, and use us to bring Your healing. Magnify the gifts we offer before You today, to spread Your peace in the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

PRAYER PETITIONS:

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless all who are called to ministry, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, sharing with all your church the joy of your grace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our earthly home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and agricultural engineers who love your earth and desire to care for the natural world and use the resources so that no one may suffer from food insufficiency.

Protect wildlife and livestock who must endure the severe elements of winter. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and address its root causes. Strengthen those who bear witness to Christ through their actions of justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Dennis, Dick, Judy, Sharlee, Sylvia, Janelle, Lavern, Elvira, Brenda, Rick, Roger, Bob, Tracy, Steve, Dorothy, Raaf, Caden, Robert, the family of Carolyn Ronke, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound.. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Bring to Grace an enthusiastic youth director with a desire to inspire and revive our ministries with children and youth. Equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: **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.**

BENEDICTION: *(based on John 3: 16-17)*

Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem, so God sends you into the world this day to be light and love, healing and hope. Go now to be light for the world!

And may the grace and peace of God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer come upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen**

SENDING SONG: ***"Restore in Us, O God"*WOV 662**

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|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove. | 3 | Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy. |
| 2 | O Spirit, wake in us
the wonder of your power;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
like springtime bud and flower. | 4 | Three personed God, fulfill
the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may see you face to face. |

DISMISSAL: Go with peace. Jesus saved the world. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Announcements for March 5th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Dennis Carlson, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Sharlee Kjellsen, Sylvia Larson, Janelle Marx, Lavern McPeek, Elvira Moen, Brenda Norton, Rick Raml, Roger Rust, Denton (Bob) Schaefer, Tracy Schaefer, Steve Schlenner, Dorothy Schooley, Raaf Stolp, Caden Thompson, Robert Wittrock, the family of Carolyn Ronke, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, our Law Enforcement personal, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders.

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** today is given "In loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling" from the Schmeling Radio Fund. **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given from Geri Mohror in honor of a Happy Heavenly Birthday for Bounce Mohror who would have been 92 on March 3. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to ***Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201***

On the CALENDAR - For the week of March 5th thru 12th

Today	8:30 am AND 11 am Worship service 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday school 1 pm – Services at Edgewood 2 pm - Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly at NeSoDak
Monday	1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 Grace Foundation meets at Joy Ranch
Tuesday	7 pm SD Synod Council Training by Zoom
Wednesday	8 am Fruit will be delivered – need volunteers 10 am service at High Rise Noon – Community Lenten Service & Luncheon 4 pm First Communion Class 6 pm Wednesday School 6 pm Prophets of the Bible Study 7 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Youth Group meets in Youth Room
Thursday	Fruit Pickup in the morning 10 am Service at Stoneybrook 5:00 pm Finance & Stewardship committee meets 6 pm Grace Council meets
Saturday	9 am to 3 pm – “Got it at Grace” Spring Craft/Vendor Fair
Sunday	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 8:30 am AND 11 am Worship service w/communion 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday school

Upcoming Events:

March 8th and 15th – First Communion Classes.

April 16 – Country Gospel Jamboree 2-4 pm; noon meal; silent auction.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: Dee Haugan

PIANIST: Isaak Montemayor

SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstensen

USHERS: Geri Mohror, Ashley Andrews

Sound/Video Tech Team: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, & Dylan Jordan

Pastoral Calls: You can reach Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501(cell or text) or by E-mail: cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com

Community Lenten services on Wednesday:

Holy Name and IC will conduct the worship service and luncheon this week for the Community Lenten services. The service will begin at 12:05 and held in the sanctuary at Grace Lutheran. Lunch follows in the Fellowship Hall.

Application made for Ukraine Refugee Family

An application to sponsor Tokarev Igor Pavlovich, his wife Lyubov, and children Ramir and David, ages 7 and 10, has been made. The process can take a few weeks followed by travel arrangements. The process may take a month or more. Igor is a welder by profession and loves his job he says. The family is from the city of Zaporozhye and currently in Poland. Sign-up sheets are in the office to donate household items and furniture; kitchen necessities and food to stock a kitchen; bedding, towels, and other needed items. Rides for the first week or two are also needed so they can make application for work and school, and a vehicle at a reasonable price. If you would like to provide financial assistance for their flight or with any other financial needs there is a separate fund set up through Grace to help get them started.

HELP CREATE A SPECIAL 140TH ANNIVERSARY QUILT

To commemorate the 140th anniversary of Grace Lutheran Church, we invite the congregation to help make a quilt! The quilt will be approximately 60" X 80" and made of 7 ½" blocks, which we will provide. Each family can take 1 block and design it however you wish to memorialize your family and Grace Lutheran. When finished, return to Darlene Bresson (or the church office) **no later than August 13th** so it can be sewn together and displayed for the 140th celebration. Blank quilt square are available at the church office.

Spring Craft/Vendor Fair is Saturday March 11

Thirty booths are registered to sell their wares during the annual spring craft/vendor fair set for Saturday, March 11th. The annual spring shopping opportunities begins at 9 am with items to refresh your house, patio, and yard or decorate for Easter.

For those early morning shoppers, caramel rolls are available with lunch concession beginning late morning, the menu includes pulled pork sandwich, cole slaw or mac salad, chips and a drink for \$9.00. Dessert is also available. Stop by for a fun day of shopping, great lunch, and time to see your friends.

Beth St Martin to speak on drug addiction on telling Ryan's Story

Beth Koch St Martin of Milbank, SD will speak at Grace Lutheran at 7:30 pm, Wednesday evening, following Lenten worship on March 29th. Her talk is called Ryan's Story and tells the story of a family dealing with the addiction of a child and the pain and grief of dealing with the loss of a loved one. The goal of Ryan's Story is trying to "erase some of the stigma around drug addiction" and help people understand it can happen to anyone. St Martin tells the story from the non-addict view and then talks about grief, coping with grief, and "what I do to cope with grief" she said. Officer Alexis Buysse from the Watertown Police Department will be on hand to answer questions about what local law enforcement are dealing with.

Country Gospel Jamboree! April 16th

Terry Foster and the Classic's will be the featured band for this years Country Gospel Jamboree. Area musicians and singers are encouraged to come join in the fun with a number or two with the band sharing their musical talents. To sign up, Contact Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501. There will be a noon meal served until 1:30 prior to the jamboree. The meal will consist of a Chef salad or hamburger or brat with mac salad, baked beans and chips for \$10.00. The meal will be eat in or take out. Denise Biller is in charge of the meal.

A silent auction will also be held from noon to 3:30 pm in the hallways around the fellowship hall. Donations to the silent auction are welcome. If you have items to donate to the silent auction, contact Darlene Bresson or drop the items off at the office.

All proceeds from the Jamboree activities go to the General Fund of Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you for your generous donations.

Dinner for Two for a year Tickets available

Tickets are now available for a chance to win *Dinner for Two* for each month for a year. The twelve dinners for two are at: Minervas, 2nd Street Station, Guadalajara, Dempseys, Mavericks, El tapatio, North Shore, Lone Pine Bar & Grill, Perkins, Harrys, Senior Max's, and the Watertown Brewing. Cost of the tickets are just \$5.00. The winner will be drawn during at the April 16th Jamboree at approximately 3:30 pm. All proceeds go to the General Fund of Grace Lutheran Church.

“Lutheran Outdoors” is the March Mission of the Month by the Missions Committee.

This mission consist of three different camps offering a summer camp experience for children or for the whole family to get away or it may also be a winter retreat. It consists of Outlaw Ranch, NeSoDak and Klein Ranch, all in South Dakota. Marti Knudsen, of NESODAK, will attend the March 19th worship services to talk about the camps.

OUTLAW RANCH - For all ages! Youth camps for K-12, Mission, leadership and adventures experiences for Middle School and High School youth, and Family Camp for all ages. Youth can hike, fish, canoe, and ride horses in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota while God is molding them into young leaders. Families can get away to experience an all-inclusive, faith-filled family vacation. Open year-round.

NeSoDak - Located on Lake Enemy Swim, in Northeast South Dakota, NeSoDak provides a safe place for youth to build relationships, develop new skills, and live in a grace-filled community. NeSoDak offers specialty waterfront camps for a variety of ages. NeSoDak also features a high comfort retreat center for retreat groups, family vacations, hunting, and fishing trips. Open only in the summer.

KLEIN RANCH - For youth who have completed grades 5-12 and adults. If you love horses you will love Klein Ranch. Programs at Klein are focused on small group experiences and riding the wide-open prairie. Klein Ranch is a unique camp that offers youth the opportunity to begin to stretch their boundaries, and abilities, as they ride horses on 2,300 acres of Wild West ranch. Open only in the summer.

Check out the Website for the 2023 Summer Camp Schedules. Your donations will help send a child that can't afford the cost of this adventurous camp. What a difference it can make in a child's life. A place where God's people can receive preparation for a life of faith, love, and living in the loving arms of God.

Volunteers need for *Watertown Fruit by Grace* this week:

March 8th – 8 am – to unload the truck - the Fruit will be delivered

March 8th – Fruit Deliver – day for orders to be picked up – helpers to carry out

March 9th – Continued carry out for fruit pick up.

March 11th – “*Got it at Grace*” Vendor Fair – to sit at booth to sell fruit

Proceeds from the Watertown Fruit by Grace go to the Grace Lutheran Church General Fund. Contact Darlene Bresson for more information or to sign up for these times of sharing.

**When you are unable to be at worship, catch it on our website at glcwn.org
And Grace Lutheran Watertown Facebook.**