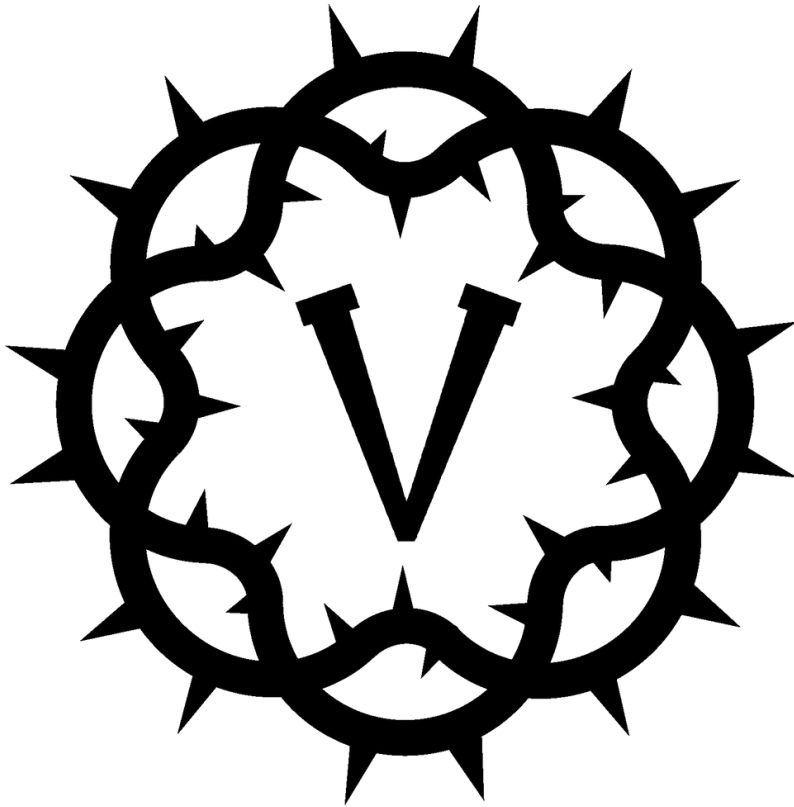


Fifth Sunday in Lent



March 22, 2026

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, we invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form in the bulletin or at the Welcome Desk to let us know you were worshipping with us today. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor, an usher, or placed in the offering.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Busy Bags for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available at the ushers table in the entry-way, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available at either worship service, after the Gospel reading for children ages 3 through third grade During Little Lambs Children's Ministry children and their leader go to the Nursery to enjoy age appropriate Biblically-oriented activities during the Sermon, creed and prayers. They return during the offering to join us for Holy communion! This gives little ones a Bible break during the service, while allowing parents to focus on the sermon!

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) at www.thenalc.org!

PRELUDE

"Ebenezer" - *arr. Aaron David Miller*

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
(Matthew 28:19b)

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C **And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word and deed; wherefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who gave your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and bestows on them His Holy Spirit. The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you, being penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of His Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow" (v. 1-2)



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the



goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -
ter - ror, bright - ning all the path we tread. One the



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the
ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of
nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.
for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.

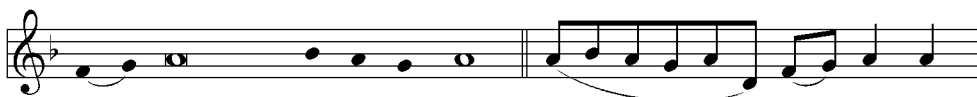
The Liturgy of The Word

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE



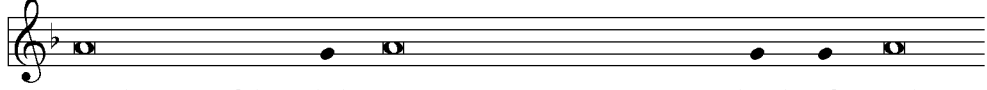
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, your Son is the resurrection and the life, who came into the world that whoever lives and believes in Him shall never die. Give to us such confidence in Him, and His death and resurrection, that we have power and courage to proclaim the good news that in Him there is abundant life and eternal life; for we ask it in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O LORD God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the LORD God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'" ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130



With the LORD there is mer-cy and plen-teous re-demp-tion.



L ¹Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, ¹hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my ¹supplication.

C ²If you, Lord, were to note what is ¹done amiss,
O Lord, ¹who could stand?

L ³For there is forgive- ¹ness with you;
therefore you ¹shall be feared.

C ⁴I wait for the Lord; my soul ¹waits for him;
in his word ¹is my hope. Refrain

L ⁵My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen ¹for the morning,
more than watchmen ¹for the morning.

C ⁶O Israel, wait ¹ for the Lord,
for with the Lord ¹ there is mercy;
L ⁷with him there is plen- ¹teous redemption,
and he shall redeem Israel from ¹all their sins. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

RETURN TO THE LORD



C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.



C Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when

Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?”⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.”¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.”¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died,¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus wept.³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me.⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.”⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.



Please be seated.

LITTLE LAMBS: At this time, Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available for children ages 3 through third grade at both services after the Gospel reading. The children leave the sanctuary with the teacher and enjoy an age appropriate Biblically oriented lesson and activity. They return during the offering to join us for Holy Communion.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. David Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

TE DEUM: *The Te Deum (also known as Te Deum Laudamus) is an early Christian creedal hymn of praise. The title comes from the opening Latin words, "You, God, we praise..." Authorship is ascribed to Saints Ambrose and Augustine, on the occasion of the latter's baptism by the former in 338 AD. The hymn combines a vision of the heavenly liturgy with a declaration of faith.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Te Deum"

1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.

1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
 4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;

1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther. ▶

5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
 6 You sit at the right hand of God

5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
 6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.

5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
 6 We believe that You will come

5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
 6 to be our judge.

7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
 8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your her - i - tage.
 9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.

7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
 8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
 9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.

7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
 8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
 9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.

7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
 8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
 9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Remember in our prayers... Twyla Ridder, Jennifer Rockwood, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Ernestine Dietz, Betty Milner, Mary Cooney, Amy Seifert Unkefer, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross, The family of Bill Muller

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*Matthew 5: 22-24; John 20: 19*)

C **And also with you.**

You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "Blessings" - *Laura Story*

Heather Bush - Vocal Solo, Ron Kenreich - Piano

11:00 "Wounded Dove" - *arr. Gene Grier/ Lowell Everson*

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

THE OFFERTORY



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 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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)



☐ 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 him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

THE SANCTUS (Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9)



☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
 In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
 that all those who believe in him should not perish,
 but have eternal life.
 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.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P 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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6: 9-13)*

C **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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (*John 1:29*)

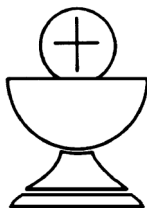
C **Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!**
(*Revelation 19:9*)

LAMB OF GOD (*John 1: 29*)

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. A - men

Please be seated.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children or adults who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord’s sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray. Please place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion:

O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood. Amen.

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion:

Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Selected Communion Music by Ron Kenreich

After all have communed, please stand.

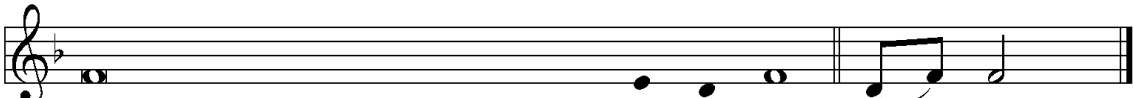
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

THE BENEDICTION (*Numbers 6: 24-26*)



P The Lord bless you and keep you. **G** A - men
 The Lord make his face to shine on you
 And be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.
 In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit †

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow" (v. 3-4)

3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as
4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,
from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the
with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its
per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the
bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall
glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -
come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing
ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y
of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all
Fa - ther reigns in the love for - ev - er - more.
shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.

THE RITE OF SENDING

Children Go in peace, serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Finale from Concerto No. 5" - G. F. Handel

Ron Kenreich

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Please keep Barb Muller and family in your prayers, as her husband Bill Muller passed away March 15, 2026.

Romans 14: *Whether we live or whether we die, we belong to the Lord.*

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form and place it in the offering or hand it to an usher to let us know you were worshipping with us today.

WELCOME



Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our giving without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. **It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. You can now give:**

- online <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/87gkvf2>,
- through the app (<https://subsplash.com/grace-evangelical-luther/app>) or
- Scan the QR code to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

Mid-Week Lenten Service, March 11: 12:15pm: 31; 7:00pm: 36; total: 67

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 15: 8:15: 84; 11:00: 100; total: 184



ASTRALIS
CHAMBER
ENSEMBLE



April 19, 4pm
Amazing Grace Concert Series
Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church

You're Invited!

2026 ANNUAL WESTERVILLE COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST

"Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking
Him in All Generations"

Benefitting the Mission of  WARM

National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2026

7am-8:30am

Doors open at 6:30am

The Renaissance

409 Altair Pkwy, Westerville

RSVP by April 7

Tickets: \$45 per person

Register at

warmwesterville.org/prayer-breakfast

GUEST SPEAKER

JENNIFER SHAW



Telly Award winning speaker,
Amazon best-selling author,
5-time top 40 Billboard artist

Out of the Depths

Find the 27 **bold** words from Psalm 130 (ESV).

S R F M I E S R W R T R N Y D
G W A E P N Q A E U A E E C R
J R H O A J I D E T W D M R O
K N H M O R E Q T L N E H E W
X L M V B E E E U A P M C M I
I N U B M O N D T I F P T U S
L Q U F Z T J S G N T T A E R
F O R G I V E N E S S I W A A
C O V V U T I B H Y T O E R E
R L E E H N N Y V B H N W S L
Y P U O R E D E P T H S A M R
E C I O V S A M L O R D I P V
P D M D S N V R Q P T I A W G
S D I T S A F D A E T S M L W
P P I U H I Y U D N O L S K J

Out of the **depths** I cry to you, O **LORD!** O Lord, **hear** my **voice!** Let your **ears** be **attentive** to the voice of my **pleas** for **mercy!** If you, O LORD, should **mark iniquities,** O Lord, who could **stand?** But with you there is **forgiveness,** that you may be **feared.** I **wait** for the LORD, my **soul** waits, and in his **word** I **hope;** my soul waits for the Lord **more** than **watchmen** for the **morning,** more than watchmen for the morning. O **Israel,** hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is **steadfast love,** and with him is **plentiful redemption.** And he will **redeem** Israel from all his iniquities.

Serving Today

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| PREACHER/ OFFICIATING | The Rev. Dr. David Wendel |
| COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER | Molly King |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | 8:15 Jim Caldwell 11:00 Andrea Bush |
| ORGANIST | Ron Kenreich |
| SACRISTAN | Fred Pfanz |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Dr. Helen Kang |
| BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR | Maria Laderman |
| CANTOR | Heather Bush |
| ACOLYTE | 8:15 Caroline Young 11:00 Nate Holmes |
| LECTOR | 8:15 Vanessa Stewart 11:00 Karen Holmes |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANTS | 8:15 Vanessa Stewart, Ted Ray 11:00 Heather Bush, Nelson Grover |
| USHERS | 8:15 Bob Andrews, Steve Young, Randy Stoll 11:00 Joe Moleno, Merlin Breen, Dick Jones, Brice Graves |
| GREETERS | 8:15 Shirley Hodek 11:00 Tracey Nave |
| LITTLE LAMBS | 8:15 Julie Young 11:00 Amy Quinn |
| NURSERY ATTENDANTS | Kaitlyn F., Donna P. |
| ALTAR GUILD | Team 1- Linda Seamon, Cheryl Bush, Andrea Bush, Jean Clafin, Dorothy Crain, Denise Reynard, Barb and Tom Moser, Ruth Osborn, Jaya Koppera |
| SOUND TECHNICIANS | Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves |

Acknowledgements

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Hymns:

“Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow.” Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789–1862; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt. Music: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944; arr. Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010. Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO, OneLicense. Text and Tune: Public Domain.



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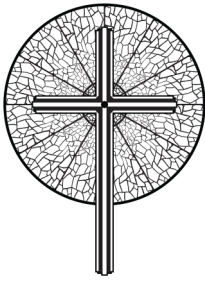
<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.



This Week at Grace: March 22-29, 2026

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

March 22

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8:15 am Worship Service

9:30am **GLCC Information Session/SubSplash Info**

9:40 am Sunday School and Confirmation

9:45 am Adult Learning (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 am Worship Service

12:15pm Passion Sunday Play Rehearsal

Easter Flower Order Deadline

WARM Bac-A-Pac Easter treat packing in the Gathering Space between services

MON

TUES

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

WED.

LENTEN MID-WEEK SERVICES

10:30 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

12:15 pm **Holy Communion**

6:00 pm Grace Ringers Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm **Evening Prayer**

7:30 pm Grace Singers Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Rose Garden 2&3)

7:30 pm Scioto Valley B&PC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURS

9:15 am BSF Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm Music and Worship

7:30 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

FRI.

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SAT

10am-noon Palm/Passion Sunday

9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

March 29

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

8:15 am Worship Service

9:40 am Sunday School and Confirmation

9:45 am Adult Learning (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 am Worship Service

5:00 pm Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Boston Bruins

| Date | Upcoming Events |
|-----------------|--|
| March 30 (Mon) | Euchre Group-1:00 PM |
| April 1 (Wed) | Fully Transition to SubSplash Giving (see Online Giving Update) |
| April 2 (Thurs) | Maundy Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:15 PM- Spoken service • 7:00 PM- Full service with music & singing |
| April 3 (Fri) | Good Friday Tenebrae <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:15 PM- Spoken Service marking the Biblical Way of the Cross • 7:00 PM- Service with music marking the Biblical Way of the Cross |
| April 5 (Sun) | Easter Sunday Service at 8:15 and 11 AM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Worship and Lord's Supper • Organ, Brass Ensemble and Chancel Choir • Children's Easter Story-time • Professionally-staffed Nursery |
| April 11 (Sat) | Game Day |
| April 12 (Sun) | Confirmation |
| April 12 (Sun) | Secret Sister Forms Due |
| April 18 (Sat) | Hustle for Habitat 5K – Hoff Woods Park |
| April 19 (Sun) | Secret Sister Gathering After Second Service |
| April 26 (Sun) | Columbus Fury Event |
| May 3 (Sun) | MS & HS Lunch Club |
| May 17 (Sun) | OWL Reveal Party |
| May 30 (Sat) | Westerville Putt Putt |
| July 12–16 | Vacation Bible School – Rainforest Falls |



Online Giving Update

By April 1, 2026, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is moving our online giving from Vanco to Subsplash. This change will make giving easier and help reduce administrative costs so more funds support ministry.

If you currently have recurring giving set up through Vanco, please create your new giving profile at:

<https://subsplash.com/u/-KJ4PQ7/give> OR scan the QR code

Then cancel your recurring gift in Vanco before April 1.

If you need assistance, contact Debbie Yoho in the church office at 614-882-3026 or

d.yoho@grace43081.org.

Giving by cash, check, bill pay continue to be options as well to participate in giving. Thank you for your faithful generosity and support of Grace's ministry!

Lenten Midweek Worship Services

Wednesdays, Holy Communion 12:15 PM and Evening Prayer 7 PM

Following Ash Wednesday, two opportunities for midweek Lenten worship will be offered this year, with a simple, spoken Service of Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 12:15 PM and Evening Prayer from the Lutheran Book of Worship at 7 PM. Both will have brief homilies based on either the first or second lesson from the preceding Sunday and will last no more than 30 minutes.

We will not have soup suppers every week this year, taking a break from this practice in previous years. It's always good in the church to try something new and different, assessing whether "What we have always done" is still meeting current needs and serving a valuable purpose. Our focus this year will be on the midweek worship services, with additional opportunities for prayer, worship and devotion! **Thank you to those who prepared and served, especially Kitchen Krew, for the March 18 Laetare Mid-Lent Congregational Soup Supper, our soup supper gave us a bit of joy and fellowship in mid-Lent!**

2026 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

"Grace Upon Grace; A Devotional Journey From Ashes to Easter" from the Rev. Dr. David Wendel is now available to **download** at www.Grace43081.org and to share with others who may be seeking a faithful Lenten resource. Each day includes three readings, Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel, although there is some flexibility, especially when arriving at Holy Week and Easter. *This Lenten devotional is dedicated to the members and friends of Grace Lutheran, Westerville, although I hope others will find it helpful and a useful companion along the Lenten journey from Ash Wednesday to the Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Sunday! My prayer is that each day God will share with us, grace upon grace!*



Service Recording: The recorded 8:15am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.



2025 End-of-Year Giving Statements were emailed out January 28. If no email is on file or if you have requested a paper copy, you should soon receive a statement in the mail if you haven't already. Questions? Contact Debbie Yoho, 614-882-3026 or finance@grace43081.org.



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Vanessa Stewart with any questions or concerns.

**HELP
WANTED**

Little Lambs Children's Ministry serves children ages 3 through 3rd grade, providing a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson during the 8:15 AM and 11:00 AM worship service. Children leave after the Gospel reading and return during the offering for Holy Communion. **We are currently seeking caring and committed leaders to help guide our Little Lambs each Sunday at our 11:00 AM service.** If

you enjoy working with children and sharing God's love in a meaningful way, we'd love to have you join the team! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Molly King.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

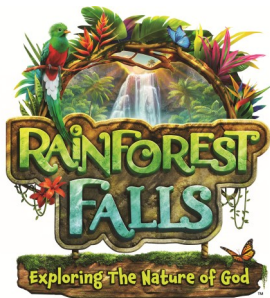
Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

Youth and Family events for 2026

- March 29
 - Palm Sunday skit
 - Columbus Blue Jackets Faith and Family Night, 5pm game vs. Boston Bruins (**Ticket sign-up deadline: March 4**)
- April 11, Game Day
- April 12, Confirmation
- April 26, Columbus Fury
- May 3, MS & HS Lunch Club
- May 17, OWL Reveal Party
- May 30, Westerville Putt Putt



Pick up a **Lenten offering box** at the Welcome Center and fill it with loose change and during Lent. Return it on Easter to support WARM's Bac a Pac program — helping local children facing food insecurity. *Let's multiply blessings together.* Let me know if you have any questions.— Molly King



SAVE THE DATE

This year our VBS program is Rainforest Falls, Exploring the Nature of God. Our program is July 12-16.

COLLECTING ITEMS FOR VBS

I know it's early to start collecting donations but our program recommends we collect these things early to make sure we have enough. We will be creating a rainforest. **The items we would like to start collecting for our rainforest are twinkling white lights, green paper and green plastic table clothes.** There is a bin in the gathering space for donations.

If you have any questions let Molly King know.



Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 6:00pm. Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Chancel Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 7:00pm! All are welcome! Contact Helen Kang.

Joyful Voices Youth Choir rehearsal schedule: contact Helen Kang.

Youth & Family Sunday Morning and Worship Resources

We are excited to support families and help children grow in faith! Here's how we welcome and care for your family Sunday mornings and during worship:



Nursery Care: For infants through age 6

☐ Enjoy worship, Adult Learning or fellowship in the Loaves and Fishes café while your little ones are lovingly cared for.

☐ **Pagers available** for parents – we'll page you if needed.

Busy Bags: Keep little hands busy during the service!

☐ Age-appropriate books and activities.

☐ **Located on the coat tree** by the entrance to the sanctuary.

Children's Bulletins

☐ Engaging bulletins with activities that follow the lectionary.

☐ Available at the **usher's table**.

Little Lambs Children's Ministry

☐ **For ages 3 through 3rd grade**

Children leave worship after the Gospel reading for a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson and return during the offering for Holy Communion.

☐ Available at **both worship services**.

Sunday School

☐ **Every Sunday, 9:40 – 10:30 AM, September 7 – Memorial Day Weekend**

☐ **Classes for Preschool through High School**

☐ **Adult class also available**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is committed to helping young people and families grow in faith and community. Contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org, 614-882-3026

BIBLE STUDIES

- **NEW Adult Education class:** Please consider joining the adult bible study for a new study entitled "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table". In this video Bible study, bestselling author and pastor Louie Giglio unpacks Psalm 23 to offer insight into how to overcome the enemy's lies and find peace and spiritual security in any circumstance. This study is facilitated by Bill Kulju and will begin on **March 1** in the fellowship hall at 9:45am.
- **Grace Sisterhood's** next meeting is **April 13 at 7pm at The Hoover Bar and Kitchen**. We will continue meeting the 2nd Monday of each month (so mark your new 2026 calendars so you can join in the fellowship). We will be starting a new Bible Study, "Women and Identity" by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun & Tracey D Bianchi. All younger/working women of the congregation (and friends!) are invited and welcome! Contact: Melissa Hodek
- **Katharine Circle** will meet **Monday, April 6 at 1 p.m.** at church to continue our study, "Ambidextrous Christianity." Dorothy Crain will lead Session 6,.Come and join us for study and fellowship! Call Dorothy Crain, 614-264-5304, with questions.
- **Men of Grace Bible Study:** All men of Grace Lutheran Church (and friends!) —next meeting **Saturday, March 21, 8 AM** in the Loaves and Fishes Cafe. We continue the study of the Gospel of Luke! Pastor Wendel facilitates the study. Join us for breakfast, study and fellowship.
- **Ruth Circle** will meet in Rose Garden Room #1 on **Monday, April 13 at 1:00 p.m.** We will be discussing our study series on Life's Challenges. All are welcome.

- **Wednesday Women's Bible** is studying "The Promise and Power of Easter" By Christine Caine and Lisa Harper. This is a 4 week Bible study of the Lenten season taking in the details of Jesus' life, the agony of His death, and the overwhelming joy of His resurrection. Join us **Wednesday mornings at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall!** You will be warmly welcomed! Interested contact Molly King.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you shop at Kroger? If you do and haven't already, please **enroll** in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** and choose **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (org. #: PV731)** as your non-profit organization. It's a Win-Win for everyone! Of your Kroger purchases 0.5% will be credited to Grace! It adds up quick and is easy to do. If you are already signed up, you no longer need to re-enroll. Enroll at: www.krogercommunityrewards.com. From November through January, 48 generous households chose Grace for the Kroger rewards program and donated a total of \$143.20.



**RED CROSS
BLOOD
DRIVE**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: We had over 40 presenting donors. Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, May 19 from noon-6pm: You can schedule an appointment by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-Red Cross. Questions? Vanessa Stewart

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14) March Most Needed list:

- Canned Fruit, Pasta & Tomatoes
- Cereal
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, BBQ sauce)
- Dishwasher detergent
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Paper Products (Paper Towels, Toilet Paper)
- Pudding & Jello Mix



WARM
Westerville Area Resource Ministry

We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM). Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

Who is an Intercessor? From Donna Dettmann

Quite simply, intercessory prayer is the act of praying on behalf of others.

Any Christian becomes an intercessor in prayer since it's offered to God through and by Christ. Jesus closed the gap between us and God when He died on the cross. Because of Jesus' mediation, we all can now intercede in prayer, on behalf of other Christians, asking God to grant their requests.

All Christians have the Holy Spirit in their hearts; therefore, the Holy Spirit intercedes for us in accordance with God's will and we are to intercede for one another. "... the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." (Romans 8:26-27 NIV)



Let the Intercessory Prayer Team join you in prayer asking God for your need.

1. Use the Prayer Chest is at the back of the church - on the table with prayer request forms and pens.
2. You can also use the Grace website: grace43081.org (The link for "Prayer Request" is found under "More" on the top right-hand side of the first page.) Your name is optional. IPT members are sent prayer requests to pray daily for 2 weeks and your confidentiality is important to us.

Westerville Habitat Partnership is excited to host our second annual Hustle for Habitat 5K race Saturday, April 18, 2026 at Hoff Woods Park. This 5k run/



walk will include 150-200 residents from Westerville and Central Ohio who love Habitat, love running, or just love helping members of their community. They also love supporting our business partners. As we prepare for this event we are seeking a sponsorships to support these efforts. Please consider or share with others who may want to connect and come RUN with us. \$500 and \$1000 sponsor levels will include 2 race entries. THANK YOU for your support. Contact: Tabitha Gusler, Member WHP, Hustle for Habitat 5K Committee, 740-504-0669, TabithaG@kw.com

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Euchre group will meet Monday, March 30, 1pm– A sign-up sheet is at the welcome desk. If you sign-up and need to cancel close to the group's meeting, please reach out to Lois Rumph or Karen Bale.

Secret Sisters (Current Sisters and Potential New Sisters) Reveal Spring Fling: It is time for our Spring Fling Reveal Party. **It will be held on April 19 right after the 11:00 service in the Rose Garden Rooms.** At this time will get to meet and thank our Secret Sisters for the past year. So, save your final gift to your sister for that day. **New sisters are welcome to join us for our Spring Fling for some great fellowship and to nosh on a light lunch.** We will also get our new sisters assigned on this day. If you are planning on attending the Spring Fling, please RSVP

to denise.reynard@rocketmail.com.

Please watch out for the Secret Sister forms to complete and leave them in the box. We are asking if you are interested in signing up that you complete and turn in the form **no later than April 12, 2026.**

As far as the new year is concerned, there are plans in the making for at least three luncheons. I was thinking a chili cook off for those who make killer chili in September, in December a sugar cooking decorating luncheon (we can take them home with us) and then in April the reveal. I may slide one in for the summer, a movie afternoon, but

honestly, I have not gotten too far into the planning of these yet. If you have any ideas that you would like to share with me for these luncheons, please feel free. If you are interested in helping to plan any of or all of these with me, please reach out to me at the above email or see me at church.

I hope to see all current Secret Sisters and a great new bunch of Secret Sisters ready to join in the fun.



Ohio Mission Region Convocation: Our next convocation will happen on May 1-2, 2026, at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, OH 43123. The theme of the convocation this year will be **“Not Ashamed.”** We hope that every congregation and pastor of our SEOMD will be represented! You may click here: [tps://forms.gle/119ws9hHCxpGrAAj7](https://forms.gle/119ws9hHCxpGrAAj7) to get to the online registration form. Please get the word out to your congregational leaders and members. It would be great to see a large turnout at this important event in the life of our NALC Ohio Mission Region!



ASTRALIS
CHAMBER
ENSEMBLE



April 19, 4pm
Amazing Grace Concert Series
Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Living Out Our Mission,

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church offers:

Two services of Word and Sacrament every Sunday
Traditional, Faithful, Biblical Worship
A Parish that is Committed to “Inreach” and “Outreach”
A Strong Sunday School Program
Children and Youth Ministry and Learning Opportunities
In-depth Adult Education/Adult Studies
Vacation Bible School in the summer
Adult Fellowship Activities
Congregational Fellowship Activities
Grace Care Team
Outstanding Music Program for Worship and Outreach,
including Grace Chancel Choir, Grace Youth Choir,
Grace Ringers
“Amazing Grace” Community Concert Series
Advent and Lenten Midweek Evening Prayer services
Outreach through Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM)
Founding Congregation of Habitat for Humanity Partnership
Alcoholics Anonymous meetings

And more...

In the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Won't you join us?

+

+

+

How did you find us?

- Drove by the church, saw the sign**
- Met a member who invited me**
- Saw ad in the Columbus Dispatch (online or print?)**
- Received a mail invitation**
- Attended an Amazing Grace Concert**
- Attended an event (VBS, Youth, etc.)**
- Visited the Grace Lutheran booth at Farmer's Market**
- Searched online**

Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church!

If you are a visitor, thank you for coming! We are pleased to have you with us! We are a congregation which seeks to “Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness...” Psalm 96:9. Our style, our worship environment and especially our music is intended to heighten our glory and praise, in response to God’s gifts of grace in Word and Sacrament! If you have no church home, we invite you to become a member of Grace and to grow with us in faith!

**We would appreciate a record of your visit!
Completed forms can be placed in the offering or handed to an usher.**

Date _____
Name(s) _____
Address _____
Email _____
Phone _____

____ I am a member of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church/will commune today.
____ I Am a Visitor (____ 1st Time ____ 2nd Time ____ Regular Visitor)
____ I am a Regular Attendee.

I am a member of _____ Church
City/State _____

____ I am visiting from out-of-town.
____ I have recently moved to this area from _____
____ **YES, I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF GRACE CHURCH!**
____ Please include me in e-mail communications. My e-mail address is:

____ I would like to talk with the pastor.
____ I would like information about children/youth ministries.

Today in worship, please pray for (Hand this request to usher before the service):

Other information you would like to share: _____

All who are baptized, have communed before, and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, are welcome to commune with us today