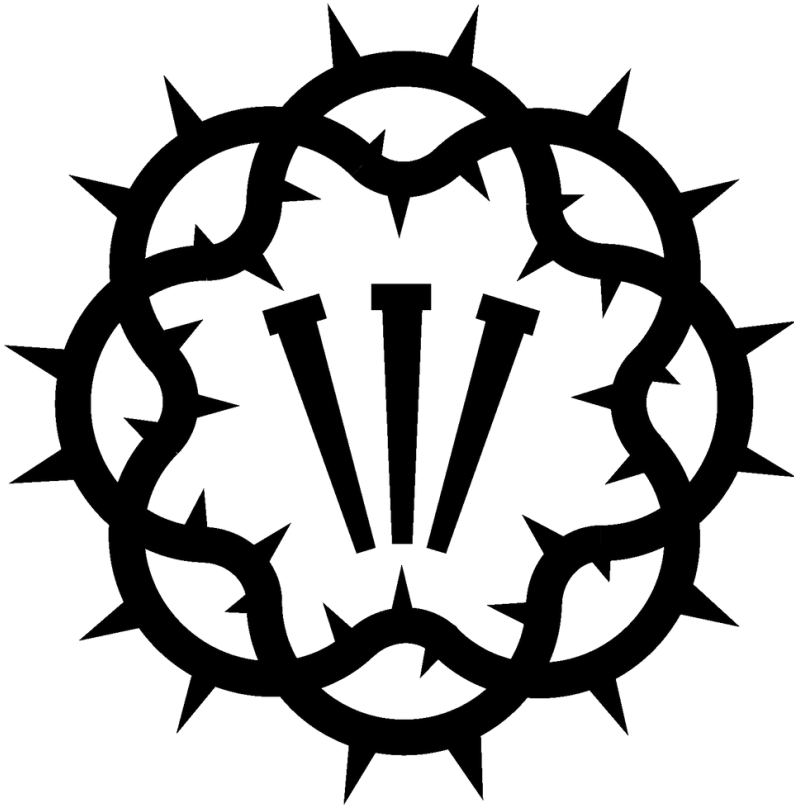


Third Sunday in Lent



March 8, 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

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" - *arr. Donald Busarow*

"Open Now The Gates of Beauty" - *arr. Peter Pindar Stearns*

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.

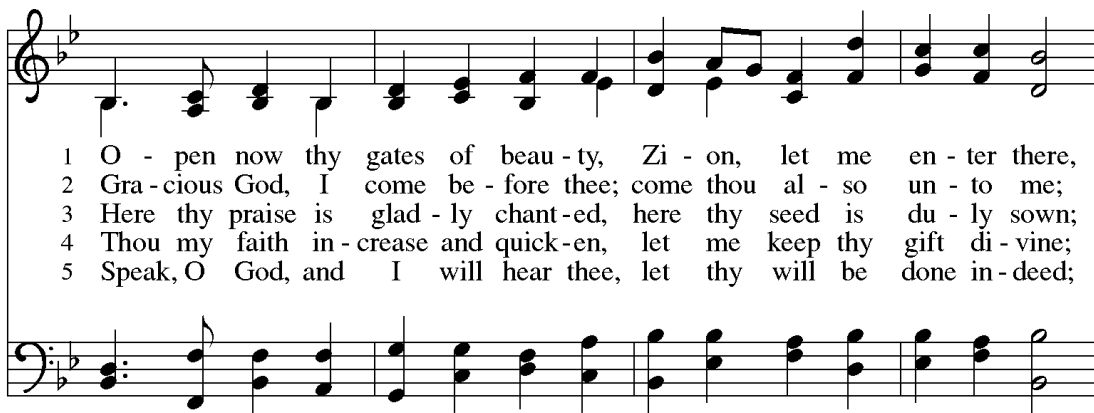
C **O most merciful God, who gave your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, that by your grace we may come to everlasting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

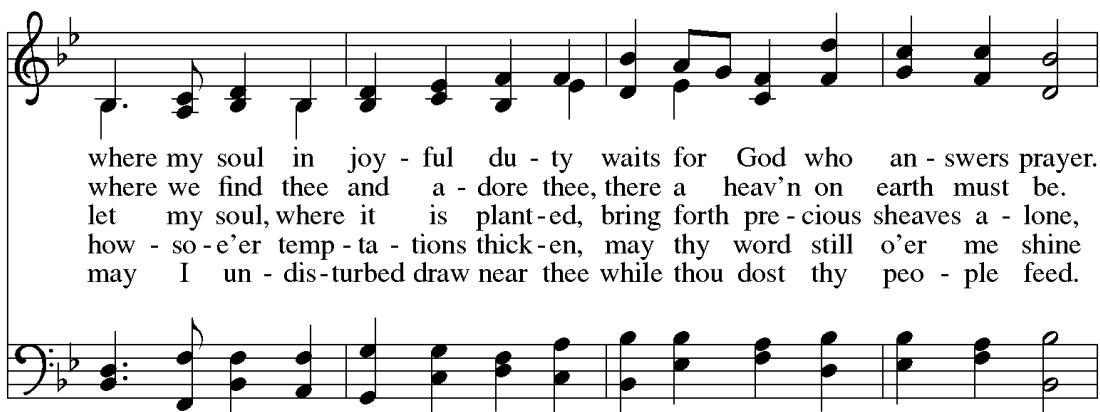
C **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

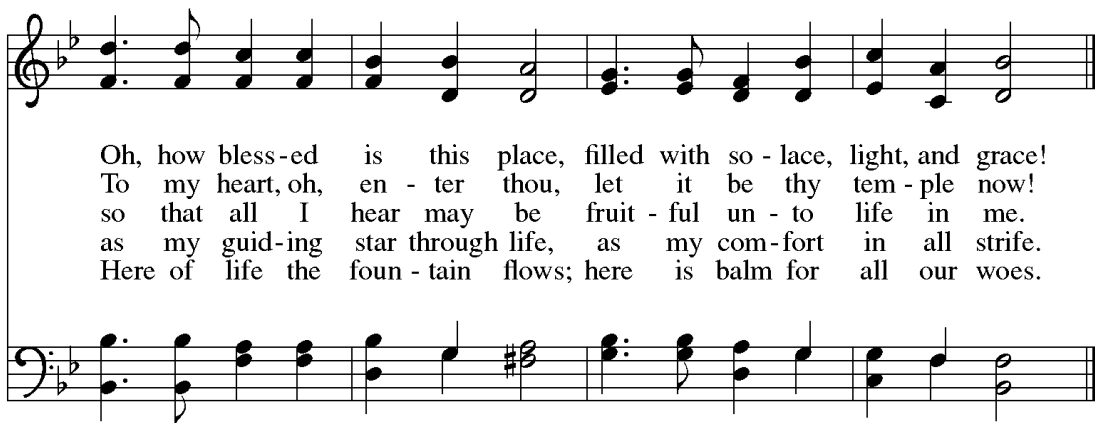
"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

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. **C** 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



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
Merciful God, the fount of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. By your grace, give us this water always, that we may drink from the well that flows forth with the beauty of your truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms 95:1-9



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.



L ¹Come, let us sing | to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | ¹our salvation.
C ²Let us come before his presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to | ¹him with psalms.
L ³For the Lord | is a great God,
and a great King a- | ¹bove all gods.
C ⁴In his hand are the caverns | of the earth,
and the heights of the hills | are his also. Refrain

L⁵The sea is his, | for he made it,
and his hands have molded | the dry land.

C⁶**Come, let us bow down and | bend the knee,
and kneel before the | Lord our Maker. Refrain**

L⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep | of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken | to his voice!

C⁸**Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did | in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they | tempted me.**

L⁹They put me | to the test,
though they had | seen my works. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

RETURN TO THE LORD



☩ 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 4:5-30, 39-42

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



☩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

⁵So {Jesus} came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹

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 Louise Talley and Clinton Johnson*

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 "A Lenten Journey" - *arr. Larry Seifert*

Larry Seifert - Piano

11:00 "O Blessed Cross of Calvary!" - *J. Paul Williams/Lloyd Larson*

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)



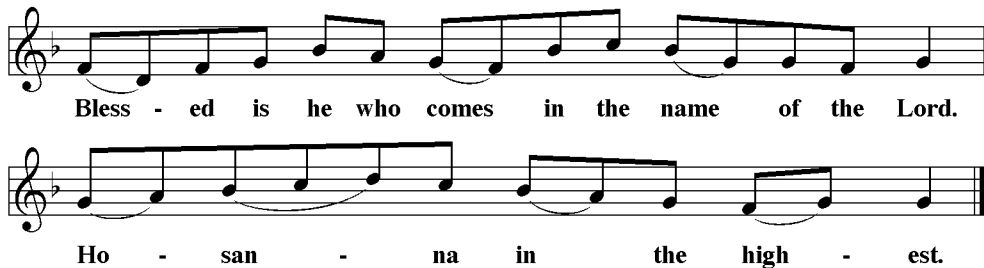
☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



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



Ho - san - - na in the high - est.



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...

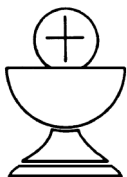
P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (*John 1:29*)
C **Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!**
(*Revelation 19:9*)

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.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

THE RITE OF SENDING

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

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"Tuba Tune on Kingsfold" - arr. Franklin D. Ashdown

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.

Flowers are given by...

Jodie, Miguel, and Alaina Arreguin in celebration of Jodie and Rick's 15th wedding anniversary (March 5), Rick's birthday (March 11), and Alaina's birthday (March 9).

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** 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.



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, February 25: 12:15pm: 20; 7:00pm: 35; total: 55
Second Sunday in Lent, March 1: 8:15: 83; 11:00: 93; total: 176

MUSIC NOTES

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" – arr. Donald Busarow

The author of this hymn, Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498), intended to be in a medical profession, but the cultural upheaval of the Italian Renaissance turned him to monastic life where he spent his energies fighting the intrusion of pagan philosophies from Plato, Seneca and Ovid into the Christian church. His *Laudi Spirituali* were written to combat and replace objectionable secular songs in church use at the time. He condemned the immorality and worldliness of Pope Alexander VI, and his powerful influence over the populace of Florence incurred the wrath of both the Pope and the city officials. He was condemned a heretic, hanged, and his body burned May 23, 1498.

"Open Now They Gates of Beauty" – arr. Peter Pindar Stearns

This hymn by Benjamin Schmolck (1672-1737) first appeared as seven German stanzas in his *Der geistliche Kirchen-Gefährte* (Schwiednitz, 1732). Two years later, in his *Klage und Riegen*, he titled it "The First Step into the Church; or Presenting Ourselves before the Lord." It is one of more than 1000 hymns written by Schmolck, a Lutheran pastor in predominantly Catholic Schweidnitz, where he was severely restricted in his work. He was a popular preacher, and despite poor health and eyesight carried on a vigorous and successful ministry.

"A Lenten Journey" – arr. Larry Seifert

This arrangement is a medley of Lenten favorites:

"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" - This hymn by Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) first appeared with the tune NEAR THE CROSS in *Bright Jewels for the Sunday School* (1869). Fanny Crosby is the best-known writer of gospel hymns, having written at least 8500 hymns in her lifetime. Blind by the time she was six weeks old, she began writing verses when she was eight, her first hymns when she was twenty-four, and discovered her hymn-writing vocation when she was forty-four.

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" – Though the source of this American folk hymn is unknown, it is probably one of the "white spirituals" which thrived for more than two hundred years in the rural Appalachian culture. Unlike black spirituals, this music has no refrain. The tune may have been

adapted from an English folk tune brought to these shores by the early settlers.

“Jesus Paid It All” – The text for this hymn was written by Elvina M. Hall on the flyleaf of a hymnal one Sunday morning, during a lengthy pastoral prayer. She gave the poem to her pastor and he in turn coupled it with a new tune written by the church organist, John T. Grape.

“O Blessed Cross at Calvary” – J. Paul Williams/Lloyd Larson

This text by J. Paul Williams with the pensive musical setting by Lloyd Larson leads us focus on Christ’s sacrifice on the cross.

“Tuba Tune on Kingsfold” – arr. Franklin D. Ashdown

KINGSFOLD is the tune for the hymn “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say.” The text for this hymn by Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) was written while he was pastor at Kelso, Scotland. According to the author, it is based on John 1:16, “Of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace,” and others would suggest Matthew 11:28 and John 8:12. The hymn was originally published under the title “The Voice from Galilee” in Bonar’s *Hymns Original and Selected* (1846).

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER	Molly King
ASSISTING MINISTER	8:15 Donna Dettmann
ORGANIST	11:00 Fred Pfanz
SACRISTAN	Linda Hoch
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Fred Pfanz
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
CANTOR	Maria Laderman
ACOLYTE	Peggy Jones
LECTOR	8:15 Molly Young
	11:00 Ali Milner
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:15 Randy Stoll
USHERS	11:00 Joanne Figge
	8:15 Lisa Kuhar, Chris Banks
GREETERS	11:00 Sue Monroe, Tami Stone
	8:15 Bill Kuju, Aaron Singleton, Jim Caldwell
LITTLE LAMBS	11:00 Mike Grubb, Beverly Grubb, Tom Seamon
	8:15 Bonnie Sawyer
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	11:00 Kathy Bobb
ALTAR GUILD	8:15 Susan Riches
	11:00 Amy Quinn
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Kaitlyn F., Donna P.
	Team 2: Julie Hartfelder, Karen Bale, Tami Banks, Carolyn Rearick, Sue Miller, Bonnie Sawyer, Marge Cepek, JoAnn Slemmer
	Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves

Acknowledgements

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“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary” – arr. Donald Busarow, from *Five Chorale Preludes for Organ* by Donald Busarow, ©2004 Augsburg Fortress

“He Is Risen” – arr. Peter Pindar Stearns, from *Eight Hymn Preludes for Easter for Organ* by Peter Pindar Stearns, ©1986 Malcolm Music, Ltd.

“O Blessed Cross of Calvary!” – J. Paul Williams/Lloyd Larson, ©2011 Beckenhorst Press

“Tuba Tune on *Kingsfold*” – arr. Franklin D. Ashdown, from *British Inspiration: A Collection for Organ* by Franklin D. Ashdown, ©2005 Augsburg Fortress



100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081

Phone: (614) 882-3026

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

Website: www.grace43081.org

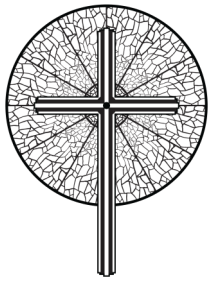
<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

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 8-15, 2026

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

March 8	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT	
	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:40 am	Sunday School and Confirmation
	9:45 am	Adult Learning (Fellowship Hall)
	11:00 am	Worship Service
MON	1:00 pm	Ruth Circle (Rose Garden 1)
	4:30-7:30pm	HOA Meeting (Rose Garden 2 & 3)
	5:30 pm	Arrival/Set-up- YPCO (Sanctuary and Loaves and Fishes Café)
	7:00 pm	Grace Sisterhood @ TBA
	7:30pm	Amazing Grace Concert Series presents Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio (Sanctuary and Loaves and Fishes Café)
TUES	noon-6pm	Blood Drive (Gathering Space and Loaves and Fishes Café)
	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)
	7:30 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
FRI.	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
SAT	9:30 am	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	1:30-3:30pm	Ice Skating @ Chiller North
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
March 15	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (WELCOME PASTOR DENNIS DI MAURO)	
	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	MS and HS Lunch Club at Chipotle

Date	Upcoming Events
March 16 (Mon)	Band of Brothers – 6:30 PM
March 17 (Tue)	Senior (Social) Moment – 10:30 AM
March 18 (Wed)	Mid-Week Lenten Service – 12:15 PM Holy Communion; 6:00PM Congregational Soup Supper; 7:00 PM Evening Prayer
March 19 (Thurs)	Supper Club @ MiaMar Grill– 6:15 PM
March 21 (Sat)	Men of Grace Bible Study – 8:00 AM
March 21 (Sat)	First Communion Class – 9:00 AM–Noon
March 22 (Sun)	9:30AM GLCC Information Session/SubSplash Info
March 25 (Wed)	Mid-Week Lenten Service – 12:15 PM Holy Communion; 7:00 PM Evening Prayer
March 29 (Sun)	Palm Sunday Skit
March 29 (Sun)	Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Boston Bruins – 5:00 PM (ticket deadline 3/4)
March 30 (Mon)	Euchre Group-1:00 PM
April 1 (Wed)	Fully Transition to SubSplash Giving (see Online Giving Update)
April 11 (Sat)	Game Day
April 12 (Sun)	Confirmation
April 18 (Sat)	Hustle for Habitat 5K – Hoff Woods Park
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.

Thank you for your faithful generosity and support of Grace's ministry!



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: <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!

**LAETARE Mid-Lent Congregational Soup Supper!
Wednesday, March 18, 6 PM**



Although we are not having every week Lenten soup suppers, we will have one fellowship soup supper March 18, 6 PM! The fourth Sunday in Lenten is traditionally "Laetare Sunday," which means "Rejoicing Sunday," to give the church a brief respite of joy in the middle of Lent. The following Wednesday, our soup supper will give us a bit of joy and fellowship in mid-Lent!

The Kitchen Krew will provide soup, with a freewill offering to cover the cost. Larry Seifert, our resident baker, will provide breads! Please sign up at the Welcome Desk at church, or send an email to the church office if you intend to come, so we have plenty of soup and bread! Come enjoy an evening of fellowship in the middle of Lent!

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 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!

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.

Attention Lovers of Grace's Loaves & Fishes Hospitality! : Do you enjoy a wonderful hot cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate with a Tim Bit on Sunday mornings at Grace? Do you have a desire to help offer the 'hospitality of Grace?' to other members and visitors on Sunday mornings? Loaves & Fishes is looking for **YOU!** Please contact Vanessa Stewart to explore what leadership in this ministry opportunity could offer to your Grace family!

**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.

**HELP
WANTED**

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

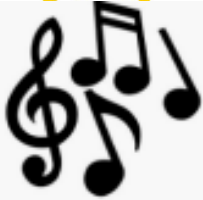
Youth and Family events for 2026

- March 14, 1:30-3:30pm Chiller Polaris, Ice skating
- March 15, MS & HS Lunch Club @ Chipotle
- **March 21, 9:00am-noon-First Communion Class**
- 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

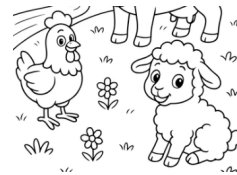




Pick up a **Lenten offering box** at the Welcome Center and fill it with loose change and during Lent. Return it on Easter to support WARM's Bac a Pac program — helping local children facing food insecurity. *Let's multiply blessings together.* Let me know if you have any questions.— Molly King



Good News at Grace! Our Youth Sunday School raised **\$155** to purchase a *Small Farm of Animals* through World Vision! Six ducks, two chickens, and two rabbits will provide eggs, nutrition, and sustainable income for a family in need. What a beautiful reminder that even small gifts can make a lasting impact. Way to go, Youth Sunday School!



Senior “Social” Moment, Saint Patrick’s Day party, March 17, 10:30 AM!

All seniors of the congregation and friends are invited to our March Senior “Social” Moment on Saint Patrick’s Day, March 17, 10:30 AM! Of course, all are also invited to wear something green and maybe bring a GREEN treat to share!



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.



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.

Pages 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.**



Little Lambs

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



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.

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.
- **Band of Brothers:** Our monthly Bible study and fellowship group for younger men/working men, will be Monday, March 16, 6:30 PM. We have two chapters remaining in the Tony Dungy book on being men in today’s world.
- **Grace Sisterhood’s** next meeting is **March 9 at 7pm**. 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, March. 2 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, March 9th at 1:00 p.m.** We will be discussing Lesson 5, Growing Through Being in the Middle, in our study series on Life’s Challenges. Marge Zimmerman will facilitate the discussion. Verna Kreachbaum will provide light refreshments. 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.

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



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.

FOOD/HYGIENE MONTHLY TOTAL= 458 lbs.; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL=629 lbs.
MONTHLY MONETARY= \$1,339.50 ; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL MONETARY= \$1,991.50



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.

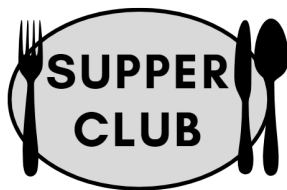
Westerville Habitat Partnership is excited to host our second annual Hustle for Habitat 5K race Saturday, April 18, 2026 at Hoff Woods Park. This 5k run/walk will include 150-200 residents from Westerville and Central Ohio who love Habitat, love running, or just love helping members of their community. 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



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is **Tuesday, March 10 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



HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



On February 19, Grace Supper Club dined at BJ's Brewhouse and had a wonderful evening of fellowship together. For March we have a reservation at MiaMar Grill on Thursday, March 19 for 6:15 p.m. MiaMar is located at 732 North State Street, Westerville 43081 (in the Giant Eagle shopping center.). In order for us to have an accurate headcount, we ask that you sign up in advance and include the total number in your party. A sign up sheet is available at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!** Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.”



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.

Let Us Sing to the Lord

Find the 35 **bold** words from Psalm 95:1-7 (ESV).

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

Oh **come**, let us **sing** to the **LORD**; let us make a **joyful noise** to the **rock** of our **salvation**! Let us come into his **presence** with **thanksgiving**; let us make a joyful noise to him with **songs of praise**! For the **LORD** is a **great God**, and a great **King above** all gods. In his **hand** are the **depths** of the **earth**; the **heights** of the **mountains** are his also. The **sea** is his, for he **made** it, and his hands **formed** the **dry land**. Oh come, let us **worship** and **bow down**; let us **kneel before** the **LORD**, **our Maker**! For he is our God, and we are the **people** of his **pasture**, and the **sheep** of his hand.

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YOUTH
PHILHARMONIC
OF CENTRAL
OHIO

"Strings and Stories"

*A concert of music based on
old songs, folk songs
and emotional moments.
The music evokes stories
to be told.*

100 E. Schrock Rd
Westerville

March 9, 2026 7:30 pm

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Amazing Grace Concert Series
presents

YPCO



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