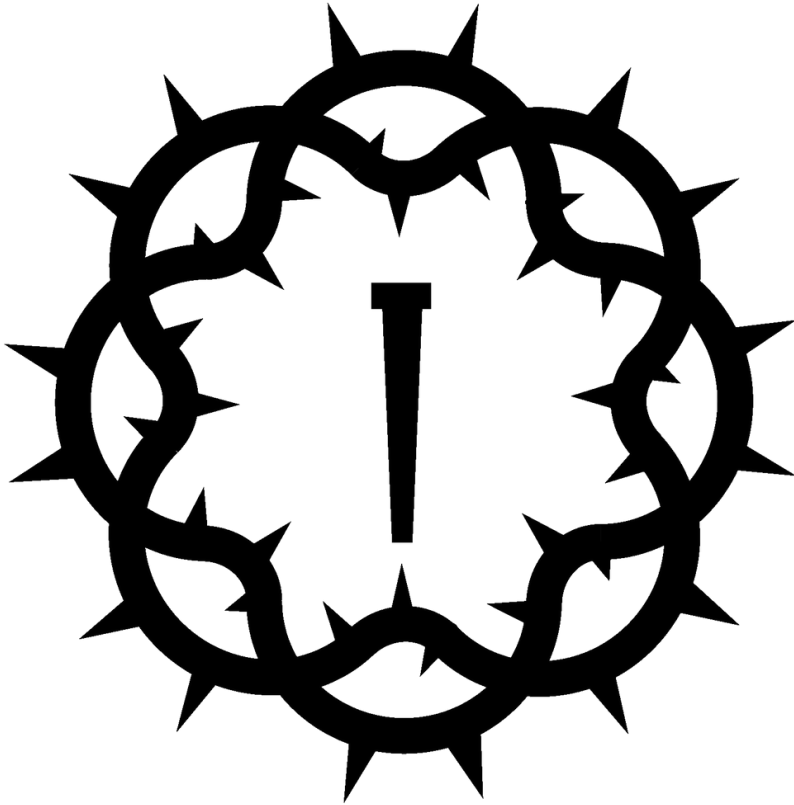


First Sunday in Lent



February 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

"The Glory of These Forty Days" - arr. Timothy Albrecht

"Aria on *Gethsemane*" - arr. Philip Moore

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

"The Glory of These Forty Days"

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

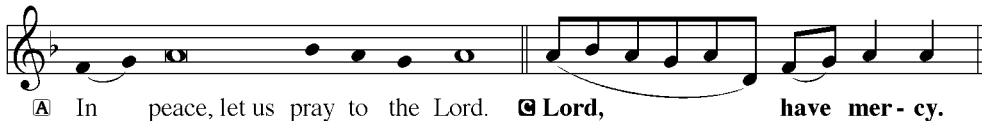
things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

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.**

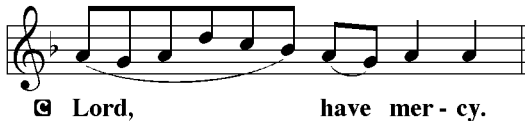
KYRIE



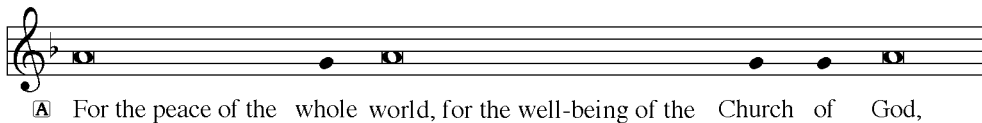
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer-cy.



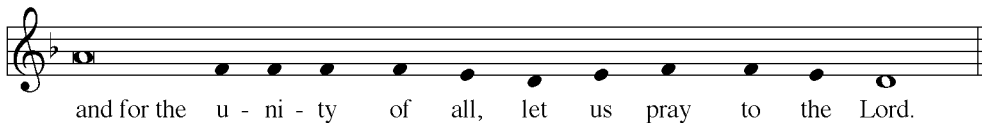
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer-cy.



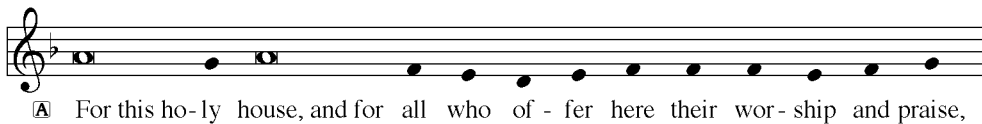
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



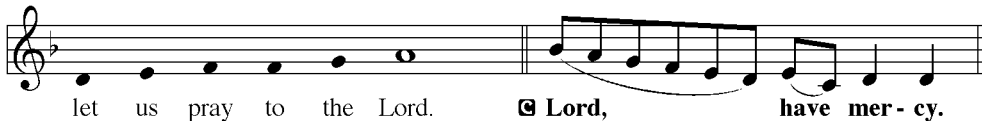
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



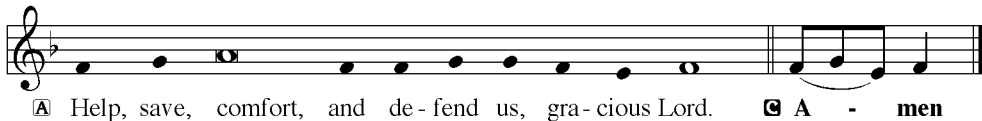
G Lord, have mer-cy.



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



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

O Lord our God, our strength and our defender, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word and, when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 3:1-21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” ¹⁶To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” ¹⁷And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” ²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

L The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32:1-7

Refrain

Mer-cy em-brac-es those who trust in the LORD.

Psalm
Tone

*

L ¹Happy are they whose transgressions¹ are forgiven,
and whose sin is¹ put away!

C²**Happy are they to whom the Lord im-¹putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there¹ is no guile!**

L ³While I held my tongue, my bones with-¹ered away,
because of my groaning¹ all day long.

C⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me¹ day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the¹ heat of summer. Refrain**

L ⁵Then I acknowledged my¹ sin to you,
and did not con-¹ceal my guilt.

C⁶**I said, “I will confess my transgressions¹ to the Lord.”
Then you forgave me the guilt¹ of my sin.**

L ⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in¹ time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they¹ shall not reach them. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned — ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

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: Matthew 4:1-11

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



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’” ⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’” ¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

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: “Listen to Him!”

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 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 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" - arr. David Paxton

Martha Crist - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ

11:00 "Lenten Prayer" - Giovanni Battista Pergolesi/arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

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)



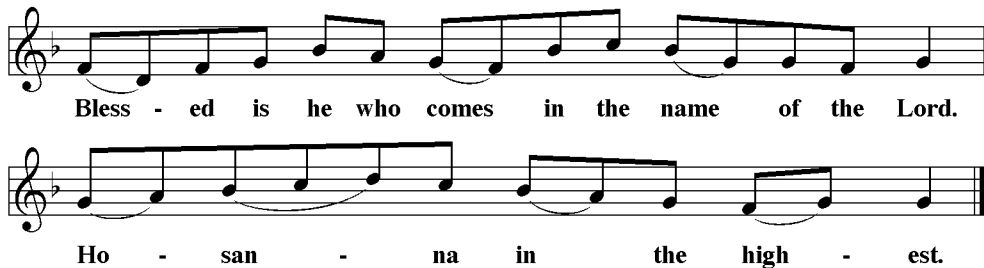
☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



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!**

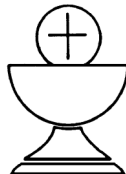
(*Revelation 19:9*)

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.

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 MUSIC

Martha Crist - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ

"O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile" - *arr. Lani Smith*

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.

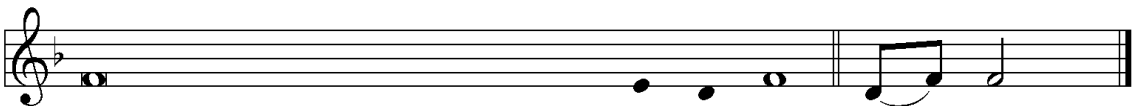
C **Amen.**

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*)

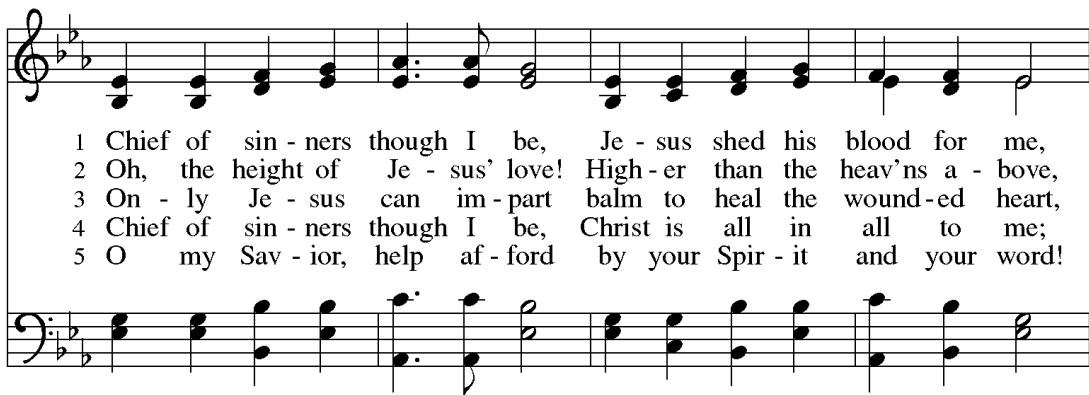


P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ... give you peace.
In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit ✠

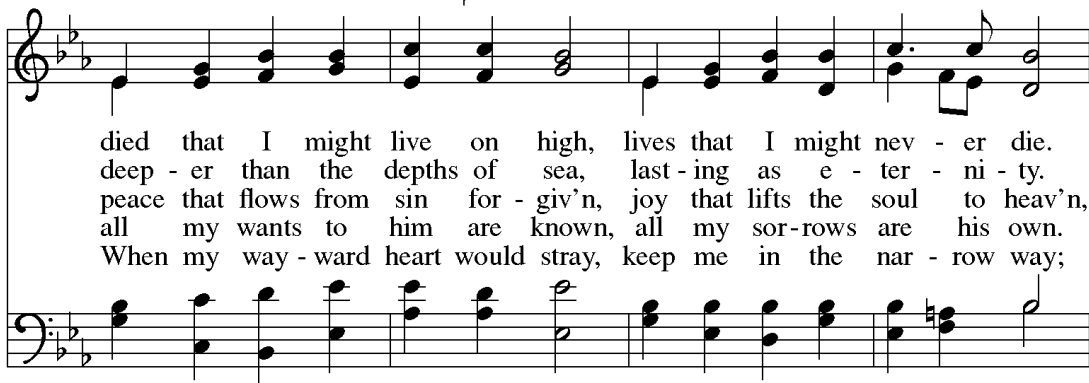
C **A - men**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

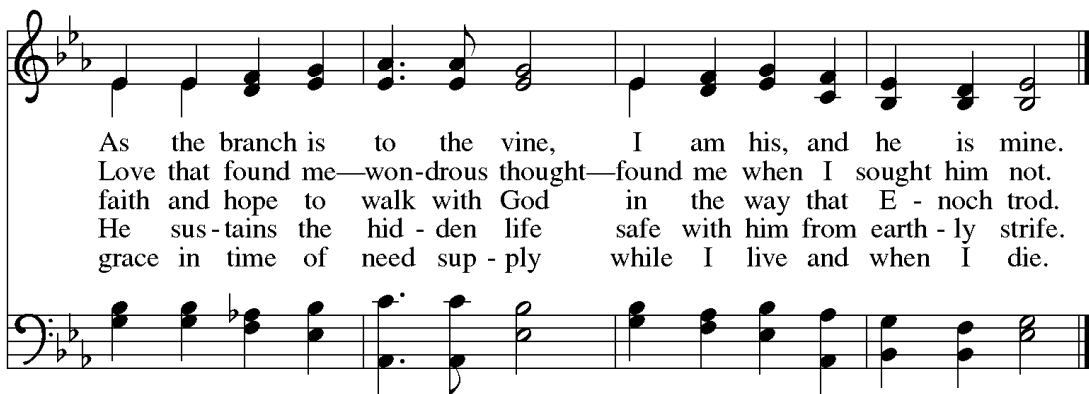
"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!



died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.
 deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.
 peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
 all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.
 When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;



As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.
 Love that found me—won - drous thought—found me when I sought him not.
 faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
 He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.
 grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

THE RITE OF SENDING

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

POSTLUDE

"Toccata in A Minor" - Jan Pieter Sweelinck

Linda Hoch

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...

*Bill and Twyla Ridder in celebration of grandchild, Erin Chaffee's birthday.
Chris Troutman and family in memory of John Troutman's birthday.*

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 webpage 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. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan 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.

Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 15: 8:15: 70; 11:00: 159; total: 229
Amazing Grace Concert Series, February 15, 4pm: 67

MUSIC NOTES

"The Glory of These Forty Days" – arr. Timothy Albrecht

This anonymous Latin hymn for Lent is sometimes attributed to Gregory the Great (540-604), bishop of Rome at the end of the 6th century. The hymn runs out the fasting and deliverance of Moses, Elijah, Daniel, and John in relation to Christ and then asks that we too may in fasting and prayer turn to God.

"Aria on Gethsemane" – arr. Philip Moore

GETHESEMANE is the tune for the hymn "Chief of Sinners Though I Be." William McComb (1793-1870) included this hymn in his collection called *The Poetical Works of William McComb* (1864), where it was titled "Christ All in All." It takes as its point of departure 1 Timothy 1:15 and emphasizes grace in Christ. The reference to Enoch, who "walked with God" (Genesis 5:22 and 24) assumes that such a walk of "faith and hope" is itself the fruit of God's grace in Christ.

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" – arr. David Paxton

As a result of her life-long interest in religious education, the author, Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898), wrote 150 hymns for children. This one attempts to explain the deeper meanings of the forty days of Lent – fasting, praying, temptations, penitence which point to the joys of Easter which

follows the penitential season.

“Lenten Prayer” – Giovanni Battista Pergolesi/arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

“Lenten Prayer” is adapted from Giovanni Battista Pergolesi’s *Salve Regina*. Pergolesi (1710-1736) was an Italian composer of numerous instrumental and vocal works in the Baroque style. He is especially revered today for his very successful comic operas. However, many of his sacred choral works are also highly regarded for their expressiveness and melodic charm.

“O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile” – arr. Lani Smith

This hymn by F. W. Faber was first published in his *Jesus and Mary* (1849) in 12 stanzas of 4 lines and headed “Jesus Crucified,” and again, after revision, in his *Hymns* (1862). It was brought into special notice by being included in an abbreviated and altered form in *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861). The original refrain reads, “Jesus, our Love, is crucified.” This was changed in *Hymns Ancient and Modern* to “Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.”

“Toccatà in A minor” – Jan Pieter Sweelinck

Jan Pieter Sweelinck (1562-1621) studied in Venice with Giovanni Gabrieli, and in 1580 succeeded his father as Organist of the Old Church in Amsterdam. In his compositions and by his teaching he served as example for the whole North German school of organists.

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER	Molly King
ASSISTING MINISTER	8:15 Fred Pfanz
ORGANIST	11:00 Roger Retherford
SACRISTAN	Linda Hoch
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Fred Pfanz
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
CANTOR	Maria Laderman
ACOLYTE	Fred Pfanz
LECTOR	8:15 Camden Strete
	11:00 Maggie Hoch
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	8:15 Vanessa Stewart
USHERS	11:00 Jack Nickoli
	8:15 Regina Place, Vanessa Stewart
GREETERS	11:00 Eric Bush, Cheryl Bush
	8:15 Chris Banks, Dan George, John Kotik, Bela Bernhardt
LITTLE LAMBS	11:00 Tom Moser, Andy Laderman, Michael King
	8:15 Ellen Paulus
NURSERY ATTENDANTS	11:00 Denise Reynard
ALTAR GUILD	8:15 Julie Young
SOUND TECHNICIANS	11:00 Denise Reynard
	Kaitlyn F., Donna P.
	Team 4
	Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves

Acknowledgements

Artwork and portions of the liturgy from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2008 . Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27032.

Scripture texts are from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1946, 1952, and 1971 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Copyright Information for One License

Hymns:

“The Glory of These Forty Days.” Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt. Music: J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543. Text/Music: Public Domain.

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be.” Text: William McComb, 1793-1870. Music: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901. Text and Music: Public Domain.

“The Glory of These Forty Days” – arr. Timothy Albrecht, from *Augsburg Organ Library: Lent, Series II*, ©2005 Augsburg Fortress

“Aria on PETRA/REDHEAD NO. 76” – arr. Philip Moore, from *Oxford Hymn Settings for Organ (Vol. 3): Lent and Passiontide*, ©2015 Oxford University Press

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” – arr. David Paxton, from *The Road to Redemption: Organ and Piano Duets for Palm Sunday to Easter* by David Paxton, ©2010 Lorenz Publishing Company

“Lenten Prayer” – Giovanni Battista Pergolesi/arr. Patrick M. Liebergen, ©1995 Alfred Publishing Co.

“O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile” – arr. Lani Smith, from *From Palms to Resurrection: Duets for Organ and Piano* – arr. Lani Smith, ©1995 Lorenz Publishing Company

“Toccat in A Minor” – Jan Pieter Sweelinck, from *Treasury of Early Organ Music*, ed. E. Power Biggs, Mercury Music Corp.



100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081

Phone: (614) 882-3026

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

Website: www.grace43081.org

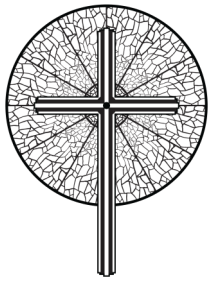
<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

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: February 22– March 1, 2026

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

	Feb. 22	FIRST 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	Euchre Group (Loaves and Fishes Café)
TUES	6:30 pm	Council Meeting (Rose Garden 1)
	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)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Dartball vs. Fishinger Rd CC
	7:00 pm	Music and Worship Meeting
	7:30 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
		Visits with Pr. David
FRI.	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
SAT	9:30 am	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
March 1		SECOND 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

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!

Visits with Pastor David
Thursday, February 26, 5-7 PM



Do you have something you'd like to ask or discuss with Pastor Wendel? Would you like to connect? Thursday, Feb. 26, 5-7 PM, Pastor will have 30-minute appointments available for anyone interested in signing up. This is your time to talk about whatever you wish!

This serves as a reminder that Pastor David is available any time to visit with you, either at church, in your home or wherever is comfortable, at a time which is convenient for you! Don't hesitate to email or text Pastor Wendel to arrange a time other than the regularly scheduled evening of visits!

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.



Sunday school classes put together boxes for a Lenten Offering. Everyone is encouraged to fill it with loose change and turn it in on Easter. The money goes to Warm's Bac a Pac program for children who have food insecurity. There will be more at the Welcome Center if you would like one. Let me know if you have any questions.– Molly King

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Boston Bruins: Faith and Family Night
Who: Grace Family and Friends
Where: Nationwide Arena
When: Sunday, March 29, 5pm
Tickets: \$45 per person, lower bowl with a Meal Voucher
Sign up by March 4 or contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org.



Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 6:15pm. 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.



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**.

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

Youth and Family events for 2026



- March 14, 1:30-3:30pm Chiller Polaris, Ice skating
- March 15, MS & HS Lunch Club
- **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 19 Columbus Fury
- May 3, MS & HS Lunch Club
- May 17, OWL Reveal Party
- May 30, Westerville Putt Putt



Senior (Social) Moment will be Tuesday, March 17, 10:30 AM at the church!

This is an opportunity for all seniors of the congregation (and friends) to meet for fellowship and light refreshments!

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.



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: Band of Brothers will meet Monday, March 16, 6:30 PM:** Our monthly gathering of younger men/working men will take place Monday, March 16, 6:30 PM at the church, study continues of "Uncommon," a book by football coach Tony Dungy.
- **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) February Most Needed list:

- Canned Tomatoes
- Lima & Navy Beans
- Pudding & Jello Mix
- Cooking Oil
- Baking Soda
- Pickles
- Vinegar
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Dishwasher Detergent
- Cereal



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.

“Let Us Pray For You” From Donna Dettmann, Let the Intercessory Prayer Team Help You Show Your LOVE. By Donna Dettmann What does the Bible say about “Love”? '



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. 13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'
(1 Corinthians 13: 4,5,6b,7a,8,13)

You know the needs of your family, friends and neighbors. Ask IPT to join you in praying for those you love. To make your prayer request:

- * The Prayer Chest at the back of the church - on a table with prayer request forms and pens.
- * Use the Grace website: grace43081.org - The link for "Prayer Request" is found under "More" on the top righthand side of the first page.

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



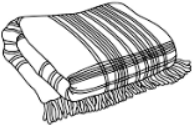
April 18, 2026 at Hoff Woods Park in Westerville



**RED CROSS
BLOOD
DRIVE**

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

Spiritual Care Team of the NALC Disaster Response: Grace's Collection Drive, Help Us Bring Comfort and Hope



We are organizing a collection of quilts, blankets, and Bibles to support individuals affected by recent disasters. Your generous donations will provide warmth, comfort, and encouragement to those in need.



What We Need:

- New or gently used quilts and blankets
- New or gently used Bibles (any translation)

Collection Dates: Please bring your donations during our collection drive, which will run throughout February.

Drop-Off Location: Gathering Space

Contact: For questions or to arrange a donation pickup, please call 614-207-1061 or email jcfigge@gmail.com

Together, we can make a difference. Thank you for your support!

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Grace Dartball team: All games are Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30. The team is looking forward to another fun season. If interested in joining the team, please contact Chris Banks -cbanks5@gmail.com / 614-203-8429. Next Game: March 5- Playoff Round 1

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