

**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD  
308 Byrne Street  
Smithville, TX 78957  
512-237-2108  
Divine Service 10 AM

**Pastor Timothy Appel**



**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!** We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: “How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.”

**In our readings today:** *In His covenant with Abraham, the Lord promised to be with him, to bless him and to make him “the father of a multitude of nations.” It is “an everlasting covenant” in Christ Jesus, the seed of Abraham who is blameless before God Almighty. All who believe in this Lord Jesus are the offspring of Abraham and are blessed “throughout their generations” (Gen. 17:1–7), because the Christ has suffered many things. He was rejected and killed, and after three days He rose again (Mark 8:31). To comprehend this theology of the cross, we must set our minds “on the things of God,” and not “on the things of man” (Mark 8:33). “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). Therefore, having been “reconciled to God by the death of his Son,” much more “shall we be saved by his life” (Rom. 5:10). Baptized into His cross and resurrection, “we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,” and by faith we rejoice in the hope of His glory (Rom. 5:1–2).*

**Hearing,** Ask an usher for one of the wireless hearing assistance units.

**Holy Communion** is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus’ own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

### **A Prayer Before Worship**

*O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen*

### **PRELUDE**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP BELL**

### **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

# Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685



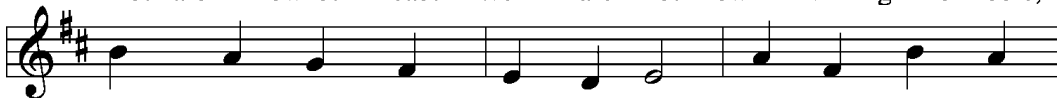
1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Stand

**Invocation** (*God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.*)

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**Confession:** (*We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.*)

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Absolution:** (*God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.*)

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**Introit:** (*Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.*)

*Ps. 115:11–13, 18; antiphon: Ps. 25:6*

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

**You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!  
He is their help and their shield.**

The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us;  
he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;

**he will bless those who fear the LORD,  
both the small and the great.**

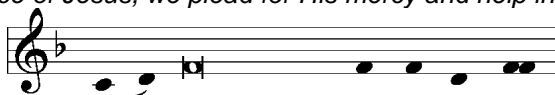
We will bless the LORD  
from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

**Kyrie:** (Shortened form of the Greek “Kyrie eleison,” meaning “Lord, have mercy.” In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.)

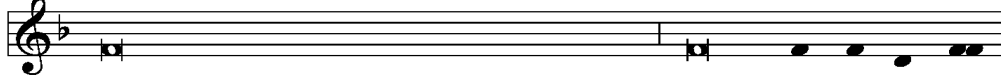
LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



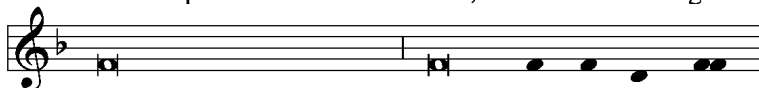
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



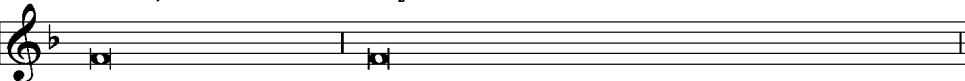
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



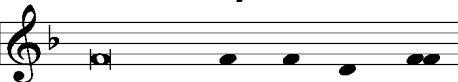
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



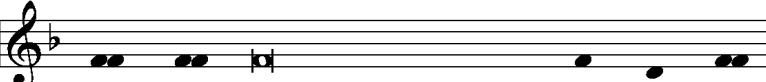
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



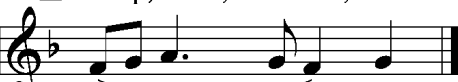
let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**G** A - men.

**Salutation:** (*The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.*)



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**Collect:** (*Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They "collect" the Gospel theme for the day.*)

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

**Scripture Readings:** (*Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.*)

**Old Testament Reading**

*Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16*

**P** Today's Old Testament reading is from Genesis, the seventeenth chapter

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup>that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you....

<sup>15</sup>And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:** (*The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.*)

*Heb. 12:2*

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

**the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,

**and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

## Epistle

Romans 5:1–11

**P** Today's Epistle reading is from Romans, the fifth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through 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. <sup>3</sup>More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and 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.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Holy Gospel

Mark 8:27–38

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>27</sup>And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” <sup>30</sup>And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

<sup>31</sup>And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

<sup>34</sup>And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? <sup>37</sup>For what can a man give in return for his life? <sup>38</sup>For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Creed:** *(God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)*

**Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart**

*LSB 708*



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from  
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and  
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer - me. Earth  
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,  
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And

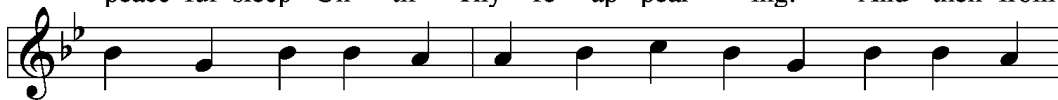


has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were  
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy  
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in





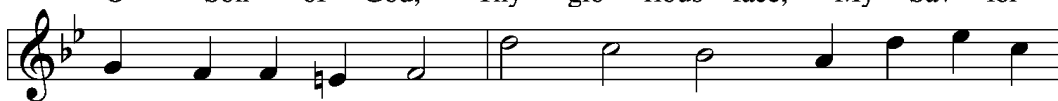
void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my  
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false  
peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.  
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.  
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious  
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my  
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.  
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.  
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

**Sermon** "Words and Lives Shaped by Jesus' Cross"

Mark 8:27-38

*(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)*


**Votum**

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

**Offertory:** (*The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.*) LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new  
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way  
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;  
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

**Prayer of the Church:** (*The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.*)

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

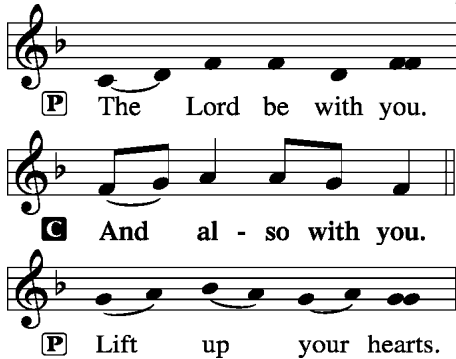
*Close of the Prayers*

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

**Preface:** (*The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.*)

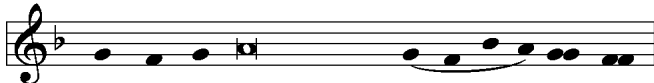
LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And al - so with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus:** (*Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9).*) LSB 195



**C** 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. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**Lord's Prayer:** *(We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.)*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

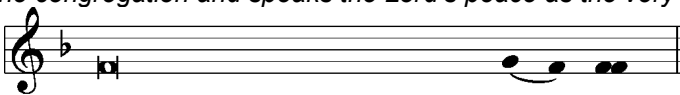
**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Words of Our Lord:** *(We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.)* LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini:** *(Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.)* LSB 163



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

**Agnus Dei:** *(Latin for "Lamb of God." As John the Baptist cried (John 1:29), so we sing to Christ, our Lamb who was sacrificed for our sins.)* LSB 163



**C** 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



Sit

**Distribution**

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

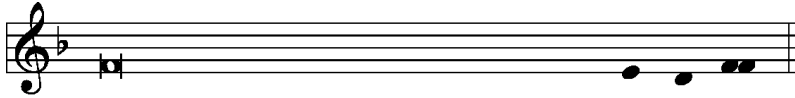
**Post-Communion Collect:** *(We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)*

- P** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**Benediction**

LSB 166



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



# Lift High the Cross

LSB 837

*Refrain*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,

2 Led on their way by this tri-um-phant sign,

3 All new-born sol-diers of the Cru-ci-fied

4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,



Our king vic-tor-ious, Christ, the Son of God.

The hosts of God in con-qu'ring ranks com-bine.

Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.

As Thou hast prom-ised, draw us all to Thee.

*Refrain*

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

## Silent Prayer After Worship

*Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically  
Model and share the gospel with the lost.**

Grace Lutheran Church  
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Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst  
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957  
Office Phone: 512-360-2800  
Fax Number: 512-237-5990  
Email: [gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com)

**Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service**

<b>8:30am</b>	<b>Galen Bunte</b>	<b>Organist(s):</b>	<b>June Parker</b>
<b>Elders:</b>	<b>Kerry Becker</b>		<b>Esther Wolff</b>
<b>10am Elders:</b>	<b>Brad Zimmerhanzel</b>		<b>Kim Appel</b>
	<b>Colby Zimmerhanzel</b>		<b>Ruth Eaton</b>
<b>Trustees:</b>		<b>Altar</b>	<b>Becky Watson</b>
		<b>Guild:</b>	<b>Helen Fleck</b>

**AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<b><u>Sun. Feb. 28</u></b>	<b><u>Mon Mar 1</u></b>	<b><u>Tue. Mar 2</u></b>	<b><u>Wed. Mar. 3</u></b>
8:30am-Worship/Communion 10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study	7pm-Elders		5:30pm- Youth Confirmation 7pm- Lenten Service
<b><u>Thurs. Mar. 4</u></b>	<b><u>Fri. Mar. 5</u></b>	<b><u>Sat. Mar. 6</u></b>	<b><u>Sun. Mar. 7</u></b>
6pm-LWML			10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study

**Ongoing Worship Services at Grace**

At their February meeting, the Board of Elders set Sunday, March 7, as the target date to begin the transition back to one worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. Here are some important details:

- Appropriate distancing will be maintained by making use of our entire facility. In addition to continuing the practice of roping off pews in the sanctuary, the balcony and parish hall will both be available. Some chairs will be set up ahead of time in the parish hall in those places that allow for the best view of the sanctuary, but you may also choose to use the rest of the parish hall to sit farther away, according to your preference. You will still be able to hear, receive the Lord's Body and Blood, and be together with your brothers and sisters, even at a distance.
- When you arrive at church, please go in an expedient manner to your seat and remain there, as much as you are able. Similarly, when you leave, please avoid lingering in the narthex and other common areas as much as possible.
- Please continue to wear a mask or face-covering to worship and throughout as much of your time at worship as possible, both in accordance with the ordinances from our leaders and especially out of our love for each other as fellow Christians, knowing that others may have greater risk or concern.

- The online signup will be gradually phased out. For the first week, however, it will be especially helpful for you to sign up in advance if you are planning to come in order to allow for better advance preparations of the physical set up.
- For the time being, family Sunday school will continue to be offered after worship in order to continue to allow for appropriate distancing, both in Sunday school and as people are coming and going to and from worship.

Please note that this plan is subject to change based on the continuing conditions of the pandemic and feedback from you. We welcome your questions, comments, and concerns as preparations are made to return to one worship service; please be in touch with any member of the Board of Elders or with Pastor Appel. We ask for your patience and prayers as we move once again to worshipping all together as a congregation.

### **Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts Individually**

For those who are not yet attending in-person worship, opportunities to receive the gifts of God through other means continue to be available. Please be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you. Even in the midst of a pandemic, no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. Options include, but are not limited to:

- Live stream the 10:00 AM service on our Facebook page
- Individual appointment to receive Jesus' Body and Blood at Grace
- Socially distant outdoor home visit to receive Jesus' Body and Blood

This offer is made in earnest. ***You are not imposing on my time by requesting this of me; this is precisely why God has given time to me.*** Please let me know how I can best serve you in Christ's name during this time! —Pastor Appel

### **Supplies for Increased Gatherings**

As you are able, please consider donating supplies that will continue to help us provide a clean environment here at Grace. The items we need most are disinfecting wipes, disinfecting spray, and hand sanitizer. Thank you for supporting our congregation in this way!

### **Visit with Pastor**

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, you can do so via e-mail ([timothyappel@gmail.com](mailto:timothyappel@gmail.com)) or phone (512-237-2108 at church or 512-237-9664 at home). Pastor Appel is normally in the office between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons as well, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits. If you are unable to reach Pastor, please contact your Elder (listed on bulletin board outside of Office).

### **Online Resources**

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/](http://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/)). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. Bulletins and newsletters are also available online at our website, [www.glcs.org](http://www.glcs.org).

### **Support Grace Lutheran Learning Center**

Our Learning Center continues to navigate the difficult days of the pandemic by God's grace, seeking to serve the children and families of our community with the love of Jesus. As God has blessed you, please prayerfully consider supporting our Learning Center financially. Thank you for your prayers and support of this outreach of our congregation!



### **KFUO Bible Study Resources**

Please make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by the LCMS radio station, KFUO, where Pastor Appel hosts the Bible study, *Sharper Iron*, every weekday morning at 8 AM. **This week on [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org),** hear sacred music for Lent on Joy! with Ron Klemm on 3/3 at 1:00 p.m. CT, worship with us in Midweek Lenten Service and organ recital on 3/3 at 11:00 p.m. CT, study Mark 10-11 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Ephesians 4-6 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or wherever you get your podcasts.

### **Family Sunday School**



Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids, you are welcome to join us to learn God's Word together. Tables are spaced appropriately throughout the parish hall, with one family per table. Pastor introduces a new Bible story each week, and our learning includes both activities done as individual families and as a large group. We also include a hymn and a craft each week. We finish about 11:45 am. Please join us to learn God's Word together as families and as a congregation!

### **Lent 2021 Services and Offerings**

This year, Ash Wednesday is February 17. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the penitential forty-day season of Lent that prepares us for Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord. Although we will not be having soup suppers this year due to the ongoing pandemic, each Wednesday during Lent (February 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24) will offer a devotional worship service at 7 PM. This year's Lenten midweek services will focus on the fifth chief part of the Catechism, Confession and Absolution. Our offerings will go to support the mission work of the Lord in three places: our Learning Center, Faith Lutheran High School, and pastoral education costs at Zion Lutheran Church in Schulenburg. Make plans to join us for these Lenten services to grow in the repentance and faith that Jesus gives.

**March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

#### **Third Sunday in Lent**

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Epistle Reading: 1Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22(23-25)



### **New Student Registration**

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is underway. Two new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to **March 12, 2021** will have registration fees waived for the 2021-2022 school year. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at [www.faithlutheranhighschool.com](http://www.faithlutheranhighschool.com).

### **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

### **Spring Raffle**

FLHS raffle tickets are now available!! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 8-12, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include:

- Exotic Deer Hunt with Lodging (no meals)
- Flounder Giggling Trip on Texas Coast
- 3 Nights at Pelican Bay Resort, Rockport
- Custom Fire Pit
- \$500 Visa Gift Card
- Custom Cedar Carved Truck and Commemorative Silver Coin
- Handmade Quilt (Queen)
- Dessert a Month for a Year
- Casserole a Month for a Year

Limited amount of tickets available - get yours today! Please contact any FLHS delegate, student, staff or call (979) 242-2889 to get your tickets!!

### **Free Wednesday mornings?**

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Chapel will be led by Pr. Dustin Beck as a Lenten Worship Service, beginning at 10:30 am.

### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

As a Thrivent member, you may have Choice Dollars that allow you to designate where the funds go, and by sending them to Faith, you can help us continue in our mission of Instilling Wisdom Today for Faithful Leaders Tomorrow! The deadline to designate your choice dollars from 2020 is **March 31, 2021**.

### **Thank you, Thank you!**

Thank you for all the support you have showered upon Faith Lutheran HS! We are so blessed! Whether you remembered us in your prayers, time, talents, or gift, we are forever grateful and your gifts make a bigger impact than you know! THANK YOU!