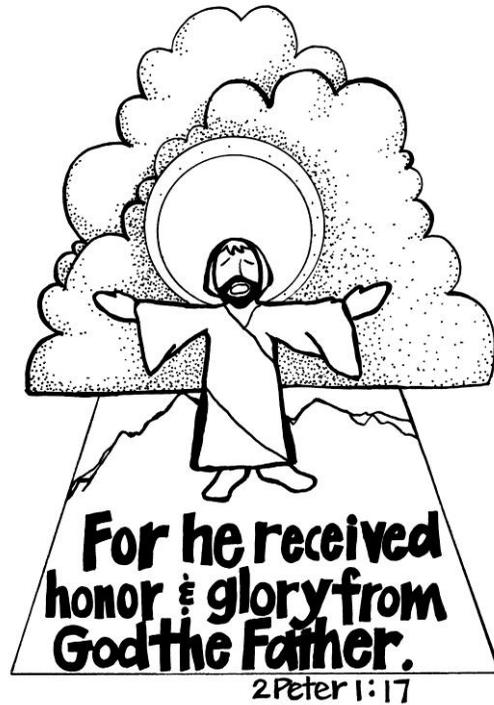


***February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023***  
***The Transfiguration of Our Lord***



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

**Guest Pastor John Austin**



**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:**

The Transfiguration confirms *“the prophetic word ... to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place”* (2 Peter 1:19). The divine glory of Jesus is manifested in the word of His apostles, who were *“eyewitnesses of his majesty”* (2 Peter 1:16). *“He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun”* (Matt. 17:2). Moses and Elijah witnessed the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this Lord Jesus, and the Father testified concerning Him: *“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased”* (Matt. 17:5). By His own blood, shed on the cross, Jesus makes and seals the new covenant with us. Hence, *“the appearance of the glory of the Lord”* is no longer *“like a devouring fire”* (Ex. 24:17), but it is graciously revealed in His own body. As *“Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel”* went up the mountain with Moses and *“beheld God, and ate and drank”* (Ex. 24:9, 11), we also behold the Lord our God in Christ Jesus, and we abide with Him as we eat and drink His body and blood at the altar.

**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**

**WELCOME**

# 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

LSB 414



1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy  
2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past And  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, We  
5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,  
beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -  
hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y  
see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the  
we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.  
glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.  
vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.  
leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching 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 unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  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. 99:1-5; antiphon: Ps. 99:9*

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy!

**The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!**

**He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**

The LORD is great in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the peoples.

**Let them praise your great and awesome name!**

**Holy is he!**

The King in his might loves justice.

You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!**

**Holy is he!**

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy!

## Gloria Patri



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

**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 186*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Hymn of Praise:** *(Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.)*

**Gloria in Excelsis**

LSB 187

The musical score is written on ten staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The text is as follows:

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

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

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**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, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, 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**

*Exodus 24:8-18*

**P** Today's Old Testament reading is from Exodus, the twenty-fourth chapter

<sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

<sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

**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.)*

*Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all nations!

**Extol him, all peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

**bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

## Epistle

*2 Peter 1:16–21*

**P** Today's Epistle reading is from 2 Peter, the first chapter.

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 17:1–9*

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice



**Hymn of the Day:** *(This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)*

**Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory**

LSB 416



1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo-ry, Heav-en's voice, the daz-zling light;  
2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la-tion, They shall gain and keep its truth,  
3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per-ception With the pur - est light that shines,



Mo-ses and E - li - jah van - ish; Christ a - lone com - mands the height!  
Not by build-ing on the moun-tain An - y shrine or sa - cred booth,  
And re-cast our life's in - ten-tions To the shape of Your de - signs,



Pe-ter, James, and John fall si-lent, Turn - ing from the sum-mit's rise  
But by fol - low - ing the Sav-ior Through the val - ley to the cross  
Till we seek no oth - er glo - ry Than what lies past Cal - v'ry's hill



Down-ward toward the shad-owed val-ley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.  
And by test - ing faith's re - sil-ience Through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.  
And our liv - ing and our dy-ing And our ris - ing by Your will.

**Sermon**

*(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 192



**C** 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 with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts.



- C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



- C** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, 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 at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. 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).)

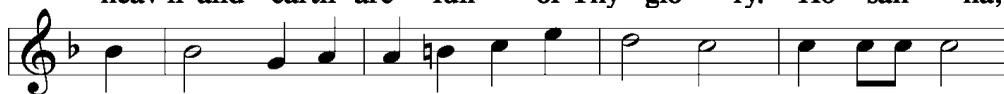
LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, 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 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**G** 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 198



**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

### Distribution

#### Jesus on the Mountain Peak

LSB 415



1 Je - sus on the moun-tain peak Stands a - lone in  
 2 Trem-bling at His feet we saw Mo - ses and E -  
 3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came: God pro - claim - ing  
 4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak,  
 li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law  
 in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!  
 sing be - fore Him, First and Last and on - ly One.

Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing,  
 Shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:  
 Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der,  
 All cre - a - tion shall a - dore Him!

Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!

### Jesus Comes Today with Healing

LSB 620

1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my  
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and  
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the  
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to

door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.  
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,  
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,  
 me this hour — In this or - di - nar - y sign.

He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His  
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the  
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter  
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His

in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."  
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.  
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.  
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
 Whose own feast of love I savor,  
 Bidden by His gracious call.  
 Wedding garments He provides me,  
 With a robe of white He hides me,  
 Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,  
 Comfort in my tribulation,  
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.  
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
 Cleanses me from sin and error,  
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**G** Amen.

**Post-Communion Canticle:** *(Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)*

**Nunc Dimittis**

LSB 199

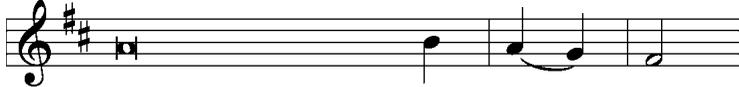


**G** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

**Thanksgiving**

LSB 200

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**G** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**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.



**C** A - men.

### Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction:** *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)* LSB 202

**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  $\text{†}$  give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit

# Alleluia, Song of Gladness

LSB 417



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, Voice of joy that  
2 Al - le - lu - ia, thou re - sound - est, True Je - ru - sa -  
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways Be our song while  
4 There - fore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, bless - ed



can - not die; Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them  
lem and free; Al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er,  
here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia, our trans - gres - sions  
Trin - i - ty, At the last to keep Thine Eas - ter



Ev - er raised by choirs on high; In the house of  
All thy chil - dren sing with thee, But by Bab - y -  
Make us for a while for - go; For the sol - emn  
With Thy faith - ful saints on high; There to Thee for -



God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.  
time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.  
ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

## 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



Altar flowers today were given to the Glory of God in celebration of Elizabeth Penn's birthday!

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

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

**Elders:** Tommy Oates Organist(s): June Parker  
Bert Bunte Esther Wolff  
**Altar** Marilyn Burns Kim Appel  
**Guild:** Mary Lou Oliver Ruth Eaton

**AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<u>Feb. 19</u>	<u>Mon Feb. 20</u>	<u>Tue. Feb. 21</u>	<u>Wed. Feb.22</u>
8:45am-Sunday School & Bible Study 10am-Worship/Communion	4pm-Quilting 6pm-GLLC Mtg 7pm-Evangelism		ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Ash Wednesday Service
<u>Thurs. Feb. 23</u>	<u>Fri. Feb. 24</u>	<u>Sat. Feb. 25</u>	<u>Sun. Feb. 26</u>
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON			8:45am-Sunday School & Bible Study 10am-Worship/Communion

Attendance  
Sunday Worship (2/12) 94

**Adult Bible Study**

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the guest pastor for that week. Join us to spend time together in God's Word.

**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).

**KFUO Bible Study Resources**

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org:** We begin Lent with an Organ Recital and Worship Service on Ash Wednesday (2/22 at 11:00 a.m. CT), study John 9-10 on Sharper Iron's "The Word Became Flesh" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study 2 Timothy 1-4 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

**GEMS: (Girls Embracing Mission Service)**

All girls in 5th-12th grade are invited to attend our monthly GEMS (Girls Embracing Mission Service) meeting on Sunday, February 26, at 2:00 at Holy Cross, Warda. Come join us for a devotion, snacks, and activity time. This month we will continue working on the fleece blankets we started at our last meeting. If time allows, we will also start making sock dolls. Both the blankets and the dolls are for the Children's Advocacy Center in Bastrop. As always, moms are welcome to attend too! Hope to see you there!

### Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up:



Please plan to join us for the annual Lutheran Writers Round Up at Faith Lutheran High School on Friday, February 24. We are honored to have some new authors this year, including TX District president, Rev. Michael Newman. Donna Snow, who is a highly sought-after speaker and well-known in LWML circles, is joining us as well. Another author new to this event is Rev. Christopher Kennedy, pastor in San Antonio, whose third book will be released on February 14. Sarah Baughman and Ruth Meyer are both returning authors with books published by Concordia Publishing House. You are invited to join us at 8:00 for a live broadcast of Sharper Iron, with host Rev. Timothy Appel and guests Rev. Michael Newman and Rev. Dustin Beck. Then we will

have a live broadcast of KFUE show The Coffee Hour at 9:00, where the authors will be interviewed. The main event begins at 10:00 with author presentations, followed by a meet and greet time, lunch, and an afternoon Q & A session with the authors. Hope to see you there!



### Lent Midweek Worship 2023

This year, Ash Wednesday is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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. Each Wednesday during Lent (February 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29), we will have a soup supper at 6 PM followed by a worship service at 7 PM. Make plans to join us for these services in the coming weeks to grow in the repentance and faith that Jesus has given.

### Lent Soup Suppers 2022

Prior to the Lent midweek services on February 22, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, we will have congregational soup suppers beginning at 6 PM. Instead of bringing soup by last name we will be using a sign up sheet. Individuals and families are needed to provide pots of soup each week. Please sign up in the narthex to indicate your willingness to provide soup for one or more of these dates. Consider joining us in this opportunity for our congregation to get to know each other better and grow in the love of Christ toward each other! We also need people to sign up to host the different midweek suppers. LWML will be starting us out by hosting Ash Wednesday soup supper.

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

**Ash Wednesday**

**Guest Pastor: Pastor Keistman**

Old Testament Reading: Joel 2:12-19

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**February 26th, 2023**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**Guest Pastor: Pastor Hahn**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 3:1-21

Epistle Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11





### **Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up**

FLHS will welcome Sarah Baughman, Rev. Christopher Kennedy, Ruth Meyer, Rev. Michael Newman, and Donna Snow on Friday, February 24th for the 4th annual Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up. The authors will give a presentation beginning at 10 am and then be available for questions and book signings. See our flier for the Round Up to see the full list of opportunities during the event. We are blessed to offer this event to our community, so please plan to join us!

### **Spring Raffle**

FLHS raffle tickets are now available!! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 6-10, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include:

- 3 Nights at Port Aransas Beach Condo for 8 people
- \$750 Visa Gift Card
- \$750 Visa Gift Card
- Stoeger STR-9C 9mm
- Private Catered Meal for 12
- K2 Cooler, Ribeye Roll, and \$100 Visa Gift Card
- Handcrafted Wooden Train & Metal "JOY" Sign
- Antique Side Table, Oversized Custom Charcuterie Board, and Tree Change Doll
- Casserole of the Month for a year
- Dessert of the 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!! You don't want to miss out!!

### **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. 8th Grade parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

### **New Student Registration**

Registration for the 2023-2024 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 **Friday, March 10, 2023** will only pay \$100 in registration fees. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org).

### **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.

### **New Scholarship Opportunity**

Applications are now being accepted for an academic-based scholarship from the Amanda (Zoch) Knox Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund will pay for the full tuition for an incoming 9th grade student of Faith Lutheran beginning in the Fall of 2023. Applications are available from Mrs. Kueck or from Cyndy Zoch ([cyndy.zoch@gmail.com](mailto:cyndy.zoch@gmail.com)) and are due May 1, 2023.

### **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 2022 is **March 31, 2023**.