April 21st, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

Pastor David Woelmer



<u>Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!</u> 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 Lord Jesus is "the good shepherd" who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). His life is not taken from Him, but He lays it down willingly, of His own accord, because He knows and loves the sheep. As the One sent by the Father, He has the "authority to lay it down" and the "authority to take it up again" (John 10:18). So has He done, and now He continues to love and serve as the Good Shepherd of the sheep by the voice of His Gospel. He thus calls all people into the fold of His Church, so that there may be "one flock, one shepherd" (John 10:16). That is why the apostles "were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead" (Acts 4:2). Since "there is salvation in no one else," His voice rings out to this day through the preaching of His name, "for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). His voice comforts our hearts against all condemnation and gives us courage to "love one another" and "to lay down our lives for the brothers," as He laid down His life for us (1 John 3:16, 23)

<u>Holy Communion</u> 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.

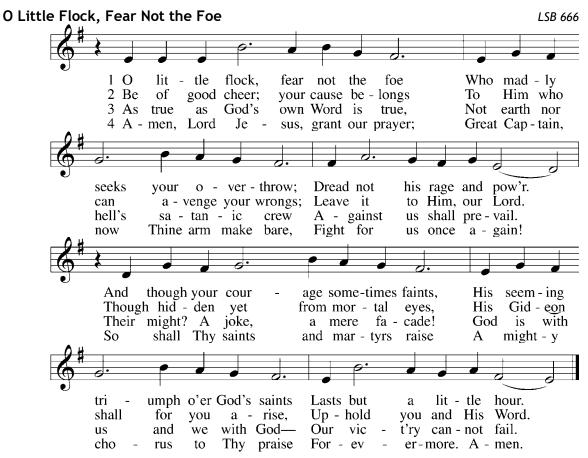
A Prayer Before Worship

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

Exchange of Peace

By the second century, it was common for Christians to follow St. Paul's encouragement to "greet one another with a holy kiss" (Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12) during the Church's worship. Though the place in the worship service and the manner of this greeting have changed throughout the Church's history, it has always served as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:2-3). It's more than a simple "holy howdy" or a warm greeting to one another. Instead, it's an extension of the reconciliation and forgiveness that Jesus has accomplished for us. We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you."



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.

 \mathbf{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.

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.
- 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.

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G Amen.
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Service of the Word

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

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

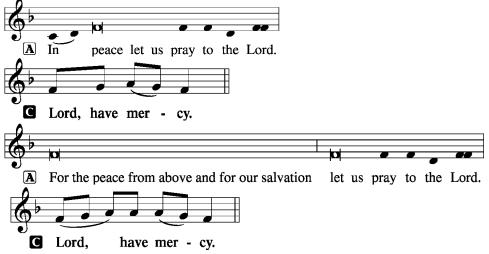
as it was in the beginning,

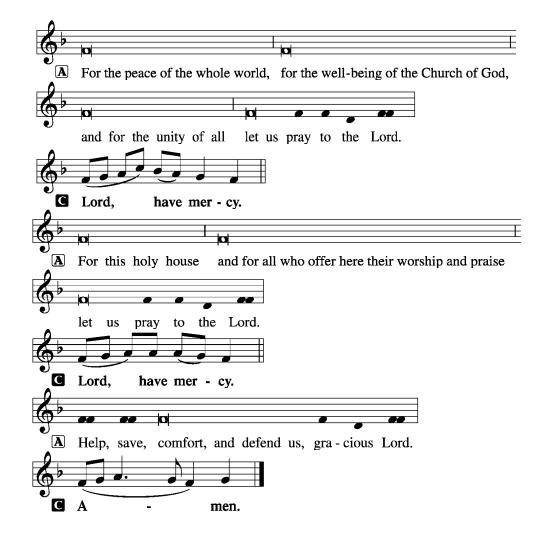
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

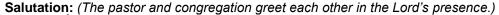
Kyrie: (Shortened form of the Greek "Kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy." In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.) LSB 152

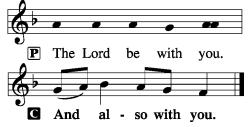




Hymn of Praise: (*Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.*)







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.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Scripture Readings: (Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.) First Reading Acts 4:1-12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the highpriestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

PThis 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.)

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 John 3:16-24

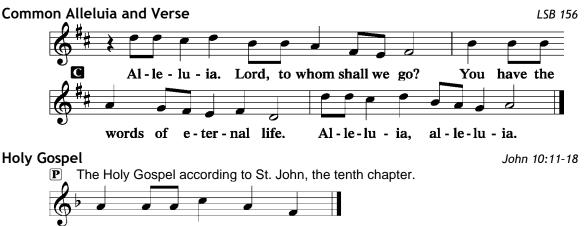
¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

Stand



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord. ¹¹[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."



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.) **Nicene Creed**

 I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

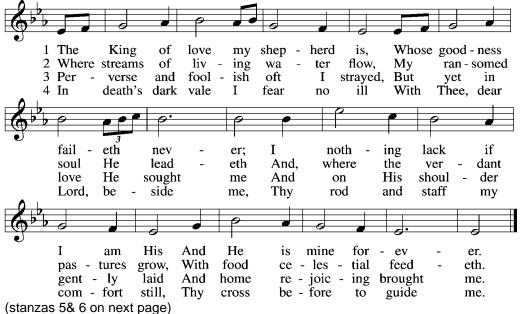
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God. Light of Light. very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

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.*)

LSB 709

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever!

Sermon "King Hezekiah: Shepherd or Hired Hand?"

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

Votum

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.)



Sit

Offering: (The congregation responds to God's forgiveness by bringing Him the first fruits of what He has given.)

Choral Offering "Jesus, Name Above All Names" Composed by: Nadia Hearn GLC Choir Stand

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.

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 160



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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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 161





Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer: (We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.) LSB 162

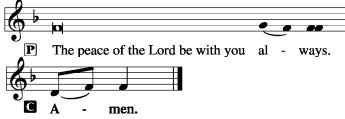
- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us 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 162

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 + → body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

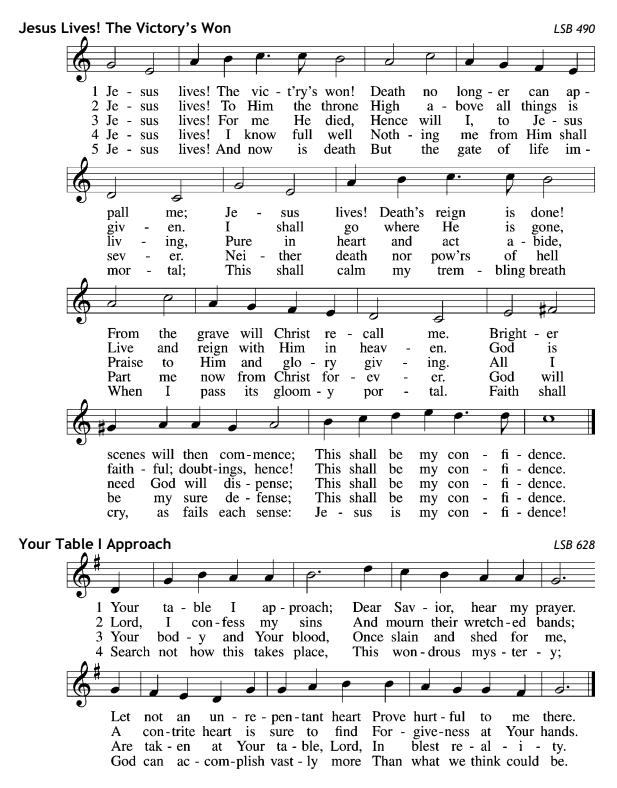
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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



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





5O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.6Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

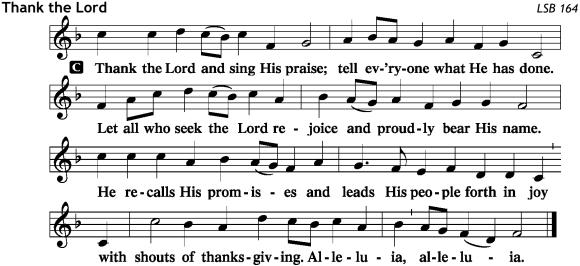
Stand

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



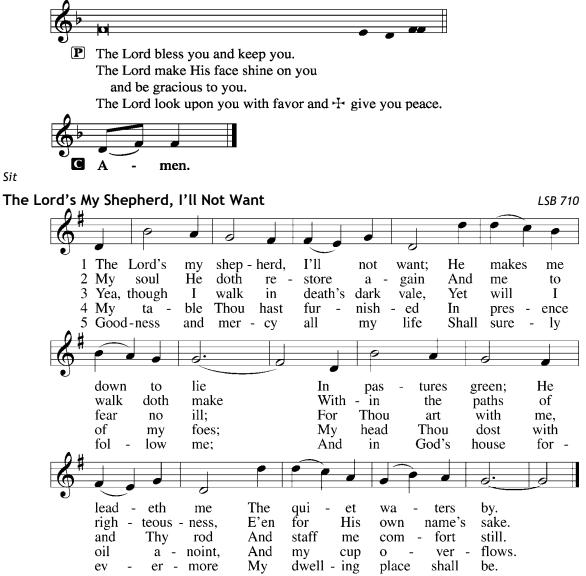
Post-Communion Collect: (We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)

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 in 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: (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 166



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

April 21st, 2024 The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.

Grace Lutheran Church 308 Byrne, Smithville, TX.78957 Office Phone: 512-237-2108 Fax Number: 512 237-2832 Email: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com Web Site: www.glcs.org

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

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders:	Brad Zimmerhanzel	Organist(s):	June Parker
	Bert Bunte		Esther Wolff
			Kim Appel
Altar	Toni Ann Kadlecek		Ruth Eaton
Guild:	Donna Kadlecek		

Donna Kadlecek

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. Apr. 21</u>	Mon Apr. 22	Tue. Apr. 23	Wed. Apr. 24		
8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion	8am-Braille	6pm-Choir	10am-GLLC Chapel 5:30pm- Youth Confirmation Class		
11:30am-Adult Instruction Class					
<u>Thurs. Apr. 25</u>	<u>Fri. Apr. 26</u>	Sat. Apr. 27	<u>Sun. Apr. 28</u>		
NEWSLETTER		9am-Board of	8:45pm- Sunday School & Bible		
DEADLINE/NOON		Education Mtg	Class		
		Ŭ	10am- Worship/Communion		
			Voters Meeting after Service		

Attendance

Sunday Worship (4/14) 119

Visit with Pastor

If you need to contact Pastor Woelmer, you can do so via e-mail (rev.davidwoelmer@gmail.com) or phone (214-218-8354). Pastor Woelmer is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits.

Online Resources

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (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.

Adult Bible Study

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

KFUO Bible Study Resources

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study Isaiah 63-66 and Lutheran Service Book 487 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Proverbs 8-12 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear about Love Fulfilling the Law in the Apology of the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (4/27 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUO Radio app!

GEMS:

All girls 5th-12th grade are invited to attend our monthly GEMS (Girls Embracing Mission Service) meeting on Sunday, April 28, at 2:00 at Holy Cross, Warda. We will finish our posters, discuss convention details, and plan a summer get-together. We'd love to see you there! Contact Ruth Meyer at 979-540-9868 with any questions!

April 28th, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter First Reading: Acts 8:26-40 Epistle Reading: 1 John 4:1-21 Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8



Track Season

Track Season is well underway! We have three students - Kaylee, Robert, and Grant - who are preparing for the regional meet on Thursday and Friday, April 25 and 26 in Seguin. Good luck athletes!!

Youth Camps

Summer camps are back! We are excited to offer a variety of camps for youth this summer. Ages are for grades NEXT school year. May 28 to May 30 - Volleyball - Grade 3 to 8 - \$25 June 10-12 - Basketball - Grades K to 8 - \$25 June 17-19 - STEM Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$50 June 24-26 - Art Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$50 July 1-2 - Archery - Grade 4 to 8 - \$20 Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information! Don't wait --- Sign up today!! <u>Space is</u> limited!

7th Annual Golf Tournament

Faith Lutheran High School will be holding their annual golf tournament fundraiser on Friday, May 31st at Frisch Auf Country Club in La Grange Texas. Shotgun start at 8:00 AM with the possibility of an afternoon flight also. For more information on entering a 4 person team or to sign up as a sponsor, please call (979) 242-2889 or visit our website at <u>www.flhstx.org</u>.

The Spring Thing!

FLHS is proud to present The Spring Thing! This will be a showcase of our students' work in the fine art department, including vocal, instrumental, and handbell pieces. Please join us Wednesday, May 8th, at 7pm.

New Student Registration

Registration for 2024-2025 is underway. <u>Five new students</u> have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at <u>www.flhstx.org</u>.

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are currently looking to utilize Action Grants to offset expenses associated with our summer camps!