

Grace Notes



2022

The season of Lent begins on March 2 this year. As we prepare to enter this penitential season, we have the opportunity to see how the Bible teaches us to pray in contrition and confession of our sins. Let's take a look at Psalm 6; pause for a moment, read and pray the whole Psalm, and then come back to consider this Word of God with me.

When our sins overwhelm us, Psalm 6 teaches us to pray in humility. The very first verse assumes the posture of lowliness before God: "O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath." King David recognizes that his sins have earned only anger and wrath from the LORD. The reality is quite straightforward. God has given His commandments. Sinners have broken His commandments. God's anger and wrath result. Though we often try to complicate matters by making excuses, the matter is that really simple. Our sins deserve God's wrath; our only recourse is to plead for His mercy in lowliness and humility.

In that humility, David is quite honest about his sinful condition. In verse 3, David prays, "My soul is also greatly troubled." He acknowledges the spiritual reality of his sinful nature. But he also prays in humility concerning his sin's effects on his physical reality. In verse 2, he prays, "Heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled." He is even more specific in verses 6 and 7: "I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with weeping. My eye wastes away because of grief; it grows weak because of all my foes." Notice how this honest acknowledgement of the spiritual and physical effects of sin puts us in the same place of pleading for God's mercy. We cannot heal these hurts. Only the true God can deliver us from the guilt of our sin and its effects.

As Psalm 6 teaches us to pray in this humility for God's forgiveness, it also teaches us to pray in confidence that God will answer according to His mercy. In verse 9, David prays without doubt: "The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer." David could pray in such confidence because he was looking forward to the

promised Savior. We join David in such confidence because we have seen God's promise of the Savior fulfilled in Jesus. True God in our humanity, Jesus has taken all of our sins upon Himself and borne the anger and wrath of God in our place. St. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:21 concerning the great exchange that God gives us through Jesus: "For our sake [God] made [Christ] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

That reality of God's certain forgiveness in Christ shapes David's prayer toward holy desires and turning away from temptation. In verse 8, David prays, "Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping." In verse 10, he prays, "All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled; they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment." In Christ, sin, death, and the devil have no power over David or any Christian. The Savior has defeated these enemies for us; we are set free from their power in order to flee from their danger and run toward the good works God has prepared for us to do. For this reason, we pray with David for God's continued protection from these enemies who still seek to attack us.

Psalm 6 gives us marvelous instruction in our prayers of confession and repentance this Lenten season. When we recognize our sins, we come before God in humility and lowliness, recognizing that we deserve His anger yet pleading for His mercy. As we pray, He calls His Word to our minds so that we are renewed in confidence that He forgives us by His grace for the sake of His Son Jesus. Strengthened by His grace, we pray for His help to flee our sinful desires and grow in His holiness. God grant us such prayers during this Lenten season and always!

In Christ,
Pastor Appel

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation 7pm-Ash Wednesday Service	3 6pm LWML 	4 Pastor Away- Family Day	5
6 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School 6:30pm- Youth Group	7 5pm-Quilting 7pm Elders  Elders Meeting	8 9am Pastor Circuit Mtg	9 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Lenten Service	10	11 Pastor Away- Family Day	12
13 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	14 7pm LLL	15	16 10am GLLC Chapel 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Lenten Service	17	18 Pastor Away- Family Day	19
20 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	21 5pm-Quilting 6pm GLLC Mtg 7pm-Evangelism Mtg	22	23 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Lenten Service	24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON 	25 Pastor Away- Family Day	26
27 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion 11am-Family Sunday School	28 8am Braille	29	30 10am GLLC Chapel 5:30pm-Youth Confirmation 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Lenten Service	31		

Grace Lutheran Church

308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: (512) 237-2108
Fax Line: (512) 237-2832

Email address: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com
Web Site: www.glcs.org

Sunday School 8:45 AM
Midweek Classes 8:45 AM
Worship Service 10:00 AM

Elders: Davey Kadlecek
Jack Page

Mar Altar Becky Watson
Guild: Tammy Campion

Organist(s):
June Parker
Esther Wolff
Kim Appel
Ruth Eaton



As of, 2022

Name	Balance
Prosperity Checking Acct	
CEF-General	
CEF-Land/Youth	
CEF Scholarship	
Legacy Deo	
Total Dedicated Funds	
General Fund Balance	

Grace Lutheran Learning Center

401 Wilkes Street
Smithville, TX 78957
Office Phone: 512-360-2800
Fax Number: 512-237-5990

Email address: gracelutheranlearn@att.net

We now accept CCMS enrollment

Pastor Timothy Appel

If you need to contact him, his email address is: timothyappel@gmail.com and his home phone number is 512-237-9664, or contact our Office at 512-237-2108. If you are not able to reach either number and it is an emergency, contact your Elder. (Elders list on bulletin board by the Office)

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts

When you are not able to make it to the weekly Divine Service on a regular basis, please know that opportunities to receive the gifts of God at other times are available. I encourage you to be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you, because no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. When circumstances do not allow you to join the congregation for a time, I certainly encourage you to make use of the Facebook livestream to hear the Scriptures and the sermon; I also would welcome the opportunity to set an appointment with you to study God's Word with you and bring you the Body and Blood of Jesus on an individual basis. ***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! –Pastor Appel



CHURCH OFFICE

Normal hours are 9 to 2 Mon. – Fri. If you need any help from the office i.e., copying documents, record information, info to be put in the bulletin and/or newsletter, etc., please feel free to stop by, call, etc. We are there to provide you with whatever you need from the church office. You may also leave a note in the Secretary's box in the Narthex, and we will get back with you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.



In the Hospital

If you are admitted to the hospital, I would like to visit you in order to share God's Word and share a prayer with you in that difficult time. As you are able please let the church office know or ask the hospital to call the church office so that I can best minister to you. **Pastor Appel**

Pastoral Check-Up



Many go to their doctor regularly to check on their physical health; why not do the same with your pastor concerning your spiritual health? I know that the previous year was difficult in many respects. How has your Christian faith been challenged? How has your Christian faith grown? Let's visit! Let's find some time to talk so that I can minister to you with the Word of God so that your faith in Christ will grow even in the midst of this life's troubles and trials.



There is a plastic container in the Narthex for collection of **used bulletins & white printed papers** to be recycled at the Smithville Recycling facility. If there are any questions please ask Katie or John Stelling for info



Mar. 2 Dorine & Bobby Hoskins
Mar. 4 Debbie & Lee Hampton
Mar. 12 Kristina & Brandon Pietsch
Mar. 13 Esther & Timothy Wolff
Mar. 19 Kayla & Brandon Herschap



Mar. 1 Victoria Caldwell
 Mar. 4 Eugene Randle
 Mar. 5 Barbara Johannessen
 Mar. 6 Tommy Higgins
 Melissa Brown
 Mar. 9 LaVerne Wallace
 Timothy Wolff
 Mar. 10 Brandon Pietsch
 Mar. 13 Mitchell Randle
 Mar. 14 Jeanie Kaiser
 Jeremy Rector
 Mar. 15 Steve Pauley
 Mar. 16 Tim Claiborne
 Mar. 17 Ronald Pietsch
 Mar. 18 Allan Hancock
 Ramon Wolff
 Quinn Vanegas
 Mar. 19 Elois Currivan
 Margie Hicks
 Mar. 20 Mike Davis
 Mar. 23 Patsy Wiggins
 Mar. 24 Katie Swartz
 Mar. 25 Thomas Brown
 Mar. 28 Brenden Kadlecek
 Brad Zimmerhanel
 Mar. 29 Elizabeth Caldwell



Braille volunteers meet the 4th Monday of each month @ 8am. We carpool to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings to assemble braille bible study books.



The BORN Again Emporium continues to be available for donations and shopping. We continue to be all volunteer with the exception of the two workers who assist with unloading donations. We appreciate everyone who donates and shops with us. Due to your generosity we are able to give back to the community. Last quarter we were able to give back \$35,000. Some of you may have seen the FB posts. Among the recipients are the Smithville Food Pantry, St. Vincent DePaul, and the Meals on Wheels program. FB highlighted the presentation of the awards to the Workforce Center. They have been busy moving forward to assist the people in the community. Also we awarded a donation to the Community Clinic. This money will be used to assist in the dental program. They had gotten the donation of a dental bus. They now have two dentists and the funds will be used in this program to assist the community. Grace continues to partner with First Presbyterian. Our next rotation will be April 4 to April 8. The store will be closed for Holy Week. Donations continue to be welcome on Friday and Saturday from 9 to 2. Join us as you are able.

Wishing these Friends a Happy Birthday! from your "Grace" family

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear correctly, please contact the church office so we can correct our files. Thank you.

KFUO Bible Study Resources



Looking for Bible study opportunities during the week? Make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by our very own LCMS radio station, KFUO (www.kfu.org). Their variety of programs will provide something of value to every person who listens. Of

particular interest for Grace, every weekday morning at 8 AM, you can hear Pastor Appel host the Bible study, *Sharper Iron*, with guest pastors from around the country. If you can't catch the show live, you can listen to archived episodes at www.kfu.org/category/sharper-iron/.



Board of Education
Sunday School
Midweek News

Dear Member of Grace Lutheran Church,

The Board has chosen our next Sunday School Mission to be the "Smithville Community Medical Clinic". We would like to invite everyone to contribute to the Sunday School offering for this very worthy mission. Our previous mission funds went to a missionary in need through LCMS.

We are discussing Easter and making decisions on how to help our young members celebrate this wonderful time of year. Please stay tuned for further information.

As this year advances, we look forward to restarting events and or services that have been put off. If there is anything that you would like to see start up again, please feel free to contact a board member so we can discuss this during our next meeting which will be on March 12th.

Please join us for adult bible class at 8:45AM and-or Family Sunday School immediately after church every Sunday.

Our Board members for this year are: Charlie Johannessen, Toni Ann Kadlecek, Kathy Kasper, Mary Lou Oliver, Melissa Brown, June Parker, Barb Johannessen and the Sunday School Superintendent is Donna Zimmerhanel. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time if you have questions.

May God Bless all of you.

Respectfully,

Barb Johannessen

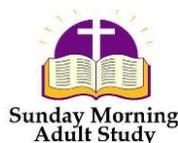
Board of Education

Family Sunday School



Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 10:00AM 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!

Adult Bible Study



Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM has resumed! We are studying God's Word in the Psalms that He invites us to speak back to Him in prayer. Each week has included a fantastic study and conversation so far; please join us!



Youth Confirmation

Youth confirmation classes continue each Wednesday evening this fall in the parish hall from 5:30-6:30 PM. Please keep our 7th and 8th graders and their families in your prayers as they grow in the knowledge and grace of God's Holy Word.

Youth Group

All middle school and high school students and their parents are invited to join us at Youth Group! We're getting started again by meeting every first Sunday of the month from 6:30-8:00 PM. Each month, we'll have time for Bible study and games, as well as plenty of snacks. Please join us this month on Sunday, March 6, and invite your friends!



Lent Midweek Worship 2022

Lent is the forty-day season of repentance leading up to Holy Week that prepares our hearts to receive in faith the gift of what Jesus has done in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Traditionally, Lenten devotion includes a focus on prayer, fasting, and giving, as well as extra opportunities to gather and hear God's Word as a congregation. Each Wednesday during Lent, we will gather at 7 PM to hear God's Word and give thanks for what Jesus has done in His death and resurrection. These begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2, in a Divine Service that includes both the Imposition of Ashes and the Sacrament of the Altar. For the next five Wednesdays (March 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6), we'll use the order of Compline as an opportunity to meditate upon a portion of the Passion account from St. Luke. Please make these services a part of your Lenten devotion this year.

Lent Soup Suppers 2022

Prior to the Lent midweek services on March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6, we will have congregational soup suppers beginning at 6 PM. 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!

The NEW Epiphany Lutheran Church of Bastrop:



Epiphany – Bastrop is excited to announce that they will be holding their first worship service on Sunday, February 6th. The Seventh Day Adventist Church in Bastrop has agreed to allow Epiphany to lease their facilities on Sunday mornings.

We are grateful to the congregations who have agreed to share with us their pastors. Serving Epiphany are: Rev. Timothy Appel, Grace – Smithville; Rev. Dustin Beck, Holy Cross – Warda; Rev. Nate Hill, St. Michael's – Winchester; Rev. Jason Kaspar, Mt. Calvary – LaGrange. Please pray for this new mission congregation as it brings the light of Christ to Bastrop and the surrounding area. If you would like to support the mission work of Epiphany, you may do so by mailing notes of encouragement or financial support to:

Epiphany Lutheran Church
489 Agnes
Suite 112, Box 117
Bastrop, TX 78602

Organists & Pastors Seminar



Please mark your calendar for Saturday, April 30th, 2022, for a church music seminar at Mt. Calvary in LaGrange. More details will come later, but our goal is to get as many of our organists and pastors as possible together to do some continuing education. We want to work together ever more effectively in each of our congregations. There'll have different presenters, topics, etc., and the plan is to end the day with a hymn sing. Please do set 04/30/22 aside and ask your music staff to do the same. Questions can be directed to Pastor Bernie Schey of Trinity, Dime Box (254-368-0261). Happy Thanksgiving and a most blessed Advent to us all!



FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Faith Lutheran High School of Central Texas seeks to engage young adults in a Christ-centered environment where faith and knowledge grow as one.

HOME OF THE FALCONS!

Spring Raffle

FLHS raffle tickets are now available!! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 7-11, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include:

- Flounder Giggling Trip for 4 on Texas Coast
- 3 Nights at Port Aransas Beach Condo for 8 people
- Picnic Table, Ice Chest, Ribeye, Spices and \$100 HEB gift card
- Ruger LPC II.380
- One Week Summer Camp Session at Camp Lone Star and \$250 Visa Card
- Custom Cedar Carousel and \$100 Visa Card
- Handmade Quilt (Queen) and \$100 Visa Card
- 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!! You don't want to miss out!!

Athletics at FLHS

- The men's basketball team wrapped up their first successful season this week. Improvement was made each time they stepped onto the court. Thank you to our two seniors, Ben and Will, for their leadership and encouragement to their teammates. It's exciting to see the program develop and grow!

- Congratulations to all our archery athletes as they competed well for the state qualifier. 7 FLHS archers have qualified for the state competition. Congratulations to Will, Thomas, Erik, Ben, Dylan, Nichole, and Layna. The state competition will be March 22 in Belton, TX.

Follow Us On Facebook!

Stay up to date with all the exciting things happening at FLHS on a daily basis! By "liking" our Facebook page and "sharing" our posts, you will be in the loop on all the great things happening and sharing Faith with your friends as well.

National Lutheran Schools Week

Students are preparing for National Lutheran Schools Week - celebrated March 8th to 12th - and will include dress up days, games and activities.

New Student Registration

Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to March 11, 2022 will have registration fees waived for the 2022-2023 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.flhstx.org.

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 at (979) 242-2889 today to set up a shadow day for your child.

Scholarship Program

Have you ever had this thought? "Faith Lutheran High School sounds great, but my family can't afford it." We firmly believe that EVERY family desiring a Christ-centered education for their children should have the opportunity to attend FLHS. We have a Tuition Scholarship Program with funds available, and EVERY family who applies (through TADS) will receive some assistance. We'll do everything in our power to make sure that money isn't the reason you don't choose FLHS.

Amazon Smile

Did you know Faith Lutheran High School is on Amazon Smile? After you select FLHS as the charity of your choice, everytime you purchase something from Amazon Smile, FLHS will receive a donation.





LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

UPCOMING:

Mar. 3rd
6pm- Regular Meeting

Mar. 7th
4pm- Quilting

Mar. 21th
4pm Quilting

We welcome you to join us in "Serving the Lord with Gladness." Please contact any LWML member or June Parker at 512-581-1168 to learn more or go to www.lwml.org or www.lwmltxdist.org to read about the mission and great history of LWML.

New officers for 2022-23 for Grace:
President- June Parker, Vice President-Rose Pietsch, Secretary- Mary Lou Oliver, Treasurer-Margie Hicks

Mission project is for Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

March 3rd Meeting:
Grace will meet with Zone Officers to finalize rally plans.
Prayer partners will be revealed.
All ladies bring snacks.

LWML TEXAS DISTRICT GRANT BULLETIN BYTES:

Mites needed for goal is \$24,542.30

Texas District President Frances Molitor will be the speaker April 24th at Post Oak Zone Rally, Grace Smithville.

Donations to the large Mite Box in the Narthex are joyfully accepted.

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes:

Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia — \$100,000

Through the efforts of the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church and the pastoral training provided by the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Siberia, the Word and Sacraments are again making their way to the long-repressed Russian people. With this grant, Lutheran Women's Missionary League will partner in training pastors and deaconesses and in helping the seminary continue its efforts to restore the Lutheran Church in Russia. The Novosibirsk seminary's goal is to prepare workers to spread the true Word of God to the Russian people. This grant will fund some of the operational expenses of the seminary and allow it to continue providing a solid theological education to those seeking to serve as pastors and deaconesses within the Siberian Lutheran Church.



The Widow's Mite --- And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." Mark 12:42-44 ESV

Read Through the Bible in 2022

Grace Lutheran Church, Smithville, TX

“God’s Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever!” Continue your daily Bible reading during 2022. God’s blessings for you in His Word abound! (Note: On days listed as “OFF,” consider re-reading something from earlier in the week or making up a day that you might have missed.)

Readings for the Month of March

March 1	Galatians 1	Exodus 17-19
March 2	Galatians 2	Exodus 20-22
March 3	Proverbs 4:20-27	Psalms 32-33
March 4	OFF	
March 5	Galatians 3:1-4:7	Exodus 23-24
March 6	Galatians 4:8-31	Exodus 25-26
March 7	Galatians 5-6	Exodus 27-28
March 8	Ephesians 1	Exodus 29-31
March 9	Ephesians 2-3	Exodus 32-33
March 10	Proverbs 5	Psalms 34-36
March 11	OFF	
March 12	Ephesians 4:1-16	Exodus 34-36
March 13	Ephesians 4:17-5:33	Exodus 37-38
March 14	Ephesians 6	Exodus 39-40
March 15	1 John 1-3	Leviticus 1-3
March 16	1 John 4-5	Leviticus 4-6
March 17	Proverbs 6:1-8	Psalms 37-38
March 18	OFF	
March 19	1 Peter 1:1-2:3	Leviticus 7-8
March 20	1 Peter 2:4-25	Leviticus 9-11
March 21	1 Peter 3-4	Leviticus 12-13
March 22	1 Peter 5	Leviticus 14-15
March 23	Luke 1:1-25	Leviticus 16-18
March 24	Proverbs 6:9-19	Psalms 39-40
March 25	OFF	
March 26	Luke 1:26-56	Leviticus 19-20
March 27	Luke 1:57-80	Leviticus 21-23
March 28	Luke 2	Leviticus 24-25
March 29	Luke 3:1-20	Leviticus 26-27
March 30	Luke 3:21-38	Numbers 1
March 31	Proverbs 6:20-35	Psalms 41-44