

**Worship the Lord
your God and
him only
shall you
serve.**

Matt. 4:10, ESV

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 26, 2023 | 8:00 and 10:30am

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Thornville, Ohio

VISITORS

We welcome you in the name of Christ and hope his word of forgiveness and freedom finds you while you are with us this morning. If you are visiting or are new to our church, we ask that you complete a yellow Connection Card and pass it to the center isle for collection during the Entrance Hymn. We would like to be in touch with you and to let you know more about Grace Lutheran. We are glad you are with us.

OUR WORSHIP

Lutherans believe that the Gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saved sinners by his death and resurrection, but also the power by which God creates and strengthens faith in Jesus. Lutheran worship places the Gospel as the central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In preaching and Holy Communion, in specially selected Bible readings and songs, prayers and confessions, the liturgy points us to Jesus as our gracious Savior.

PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. If you have to leave worship with your children, feel free to do so, but even more so, feel free to come back in!

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen

ORDER FOR WORSHIP - LBW SETTING 1

Watchword: The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. - 1 John 3:8 ESV

PRELUDE | WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER

Confession and Absolution

INVOCATION

The people please stand.

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

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.

The people kneel for silent reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

The pastor stands and addresses the assembly.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given us his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name, he gives power to become children of God and bestows on them his Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

The people stand.

Gathering

ENTRANCE HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

LBW 229

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

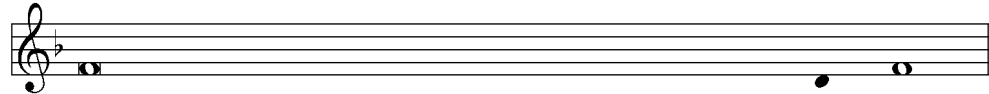
C: And also with you.

THE KYRIE

A=Leader; C=all voices



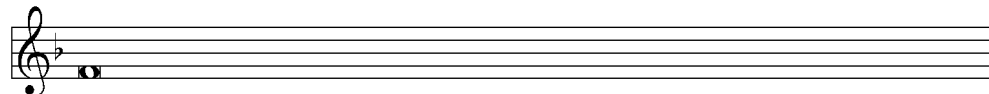
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



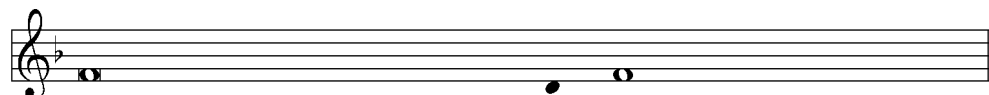
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



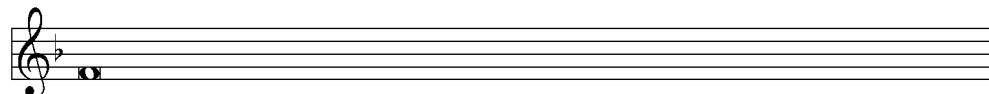
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



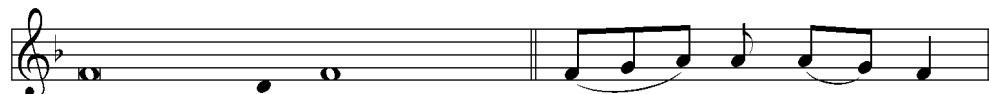
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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

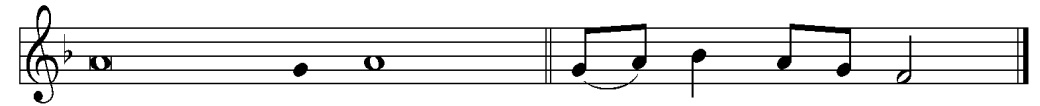


let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY



C The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The people may be seated.



The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

L: A reading from Genesis.

This is the story of human weakness, temptation, and sin in the beginning. This is our story even now.

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall

not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

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

PSALMODY

Psalm 32

The verses are chanted alternately by the cantor and the congregation.



¹Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,* and whose sin
is | put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the Lord im- | putes no guilt,* and in whose
spirit there | is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,* because of my
groaning | all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;* my moisture was
dried up as in the | heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my | sin to you,* and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

⁶**I said, “I will confess my transgressions | to the Lord.”* Then you forgave
me the guilt | of my sin.**

⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;*
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

⁸**You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;* you surround
me with shouts | of deliverance.**

⁹“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;* I will guide
you | with my eye.

¹⁰**Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;* who must
be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”**

¹¹Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;* but mercy embraces those who
trust | in the Lord.

¹²**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;* shout for joy, all who
are | true of heart.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:12-19

L: A reading from Romans.

Paul writes of how our sin is overcome: through the life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

THE VERSE

The people please stand.



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these

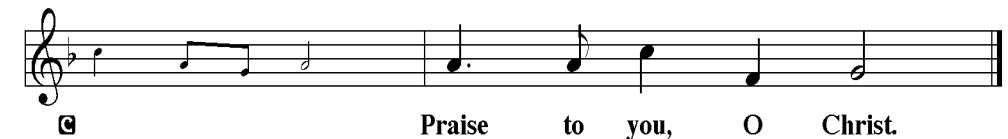
stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Tom Jacobson

HYMN OF THE DAY

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

LBW 343

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The people stand.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

A: As we travel our Lenten Journey, C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



The Liturgy of Holy Communion

THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.

OFFERING

Quiet music will play to provide a time for prayer and reflection. Online giving through the church's website is also encouraged.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

The people stand.



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me? I will



of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all his peo-ple,



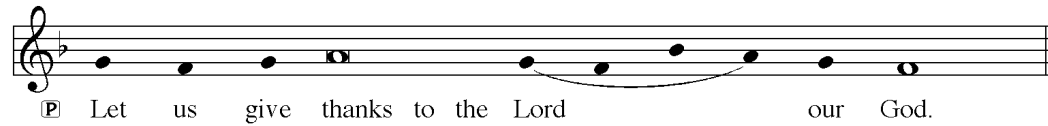
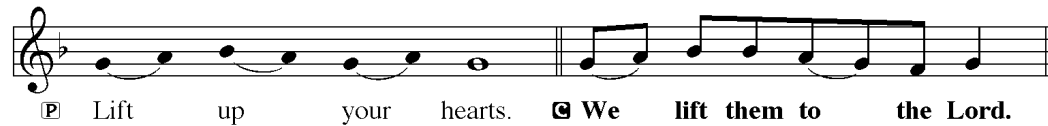
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

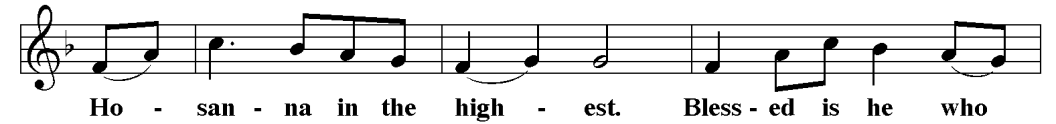
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule in all.

We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.


THE FRACTION

P: Our Lord Jesus says, "Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

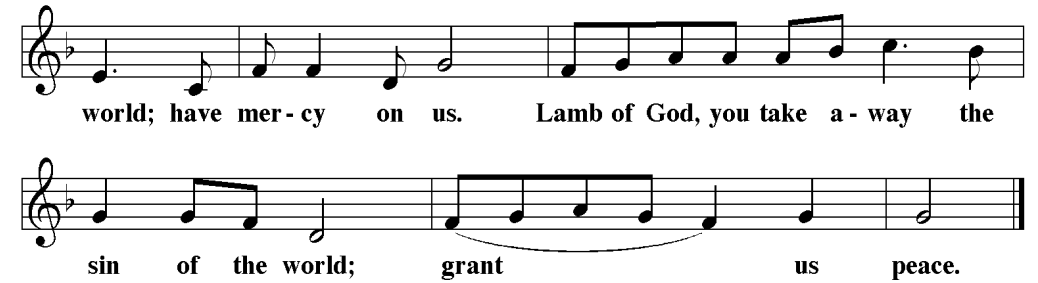
C: Lord, give us this bread always.

The people may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

Lutherans teach that Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) was instituted by Jesus Christ himself for us to eat and drink. As his words declare, with bread and wine, he imparts to us his body and blood, and with it the grace of God. This sacrament is God's way of giving us the good news of Jesus in a concrete, physical way as we continue our pilgrimage on earth. We are rightly prepared to receive this great gift when we come before God with humility and faith. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

Ushers will dismiss rows to form two lines down the center aisle. Receive bread from the pastor and proceed to the wine station nearest you. After you have received the bread, an usher will provide each person with an individual cup that will then be filled with wine by the assisting minister. Only individual cups with grape juice will be filled before hand. Coming forward to receive only the bread is perfectly acceptable. Those choosing not to receive communion can come forward for a blessing signaled by having your arms crossed over your chest. When you have communed, you may return to your seat by way of the side aisle.

Hymns during distribution: LBW 346, 99, 385

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The people please stand.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful-filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



Sending

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL



P Almighty God, Father, † Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **C** A - men

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING HYMN

Jesus, Still Lead On

LBW 341

THE POSTLUDE

We are sent into the world to proclaim God's grace in word and deed.

PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruit of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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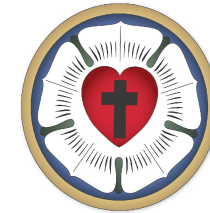
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The Rev. Dr. Thomas Jacobson, Pastor



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

COMMEMORATIONS:

As Christians in the twenty-first century, we are called to remember that God's people of the past form a great "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). In that spirit, we commemorate memorable Christians of the past, usually on the day of their death. Though imperfect, their witness inspires us today as we run the race of faith. This week, the Church commemorates:

March 1 George Herbert, priest, 1633

March 2 John Wesley, 1791; Charles Wesley, 1788; renewers of the Church

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR 2 LENT (MARCH 5)

Genesis 12:1-4a

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Psalm 121

John 3:1-17