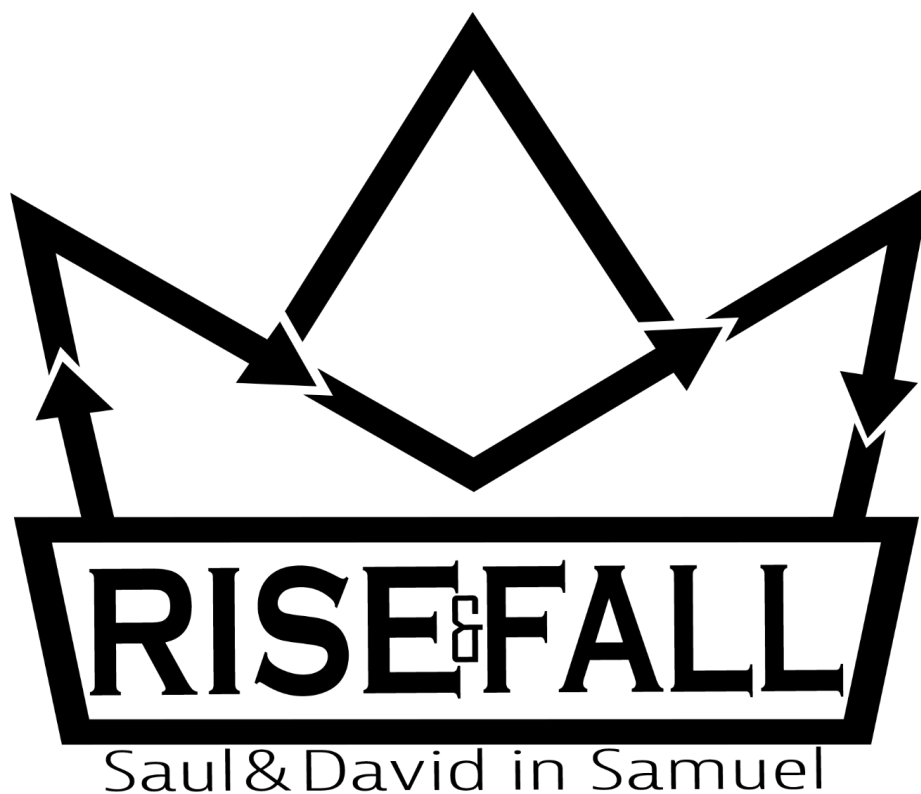


Sunday Service

MAY 7, 2023 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM



Grace Lutheran Church

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Port St. Lucie, FL 34986-2034

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Welcome...

We are so happy that you are here with us today. Our desire is to be like another home for you. If you are new to Grace or to the area and are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider joining our family here at Grace. A Fellowship Time is held after each Worship Service, and we invite you to stay for a few minutes so we can get acquainted.

To our many members and friends worshipping at home, whether near or far, we are so happy that you are sharing this worship with us from your homes.

To Everyone: Please check Grace Lutheran's website daily! www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

HOLY COMMUNION

This meal is weird and wonderful: weird because we actually believe that the bread and wine are the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ; wonderful because Jesus is with us. We take this meal very seriously here at Grace. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out and allow us to answer your questions. **Children** who have not been instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament may come to the Lord's Table with their parents for a blessing but are asked to fold their arms across their chests to indicate they are to receive a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: After the closing hymn, Pastor Cris will pronounce the sending and then for those who wish to share in the celebration of communion shall remain. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored on the tray, center.*** Those who find it difficult to walk to the altar can be communed at your seat. Please inform the usher of your need. After Pastor Cris has given your group the blessing at the altar, you may place your cup in the basket and depart from the Sanctuary down the center aisle, and enjoy fellowship in the hall.

Rise & Fall: Saul and David in Samuel

In a world where chaos has reigned, the people cry for the rule of a king, a king who will raise them into a bigger and brighter existence. However, as pride and the desire for power rise, so, too, come the falls.

Today: Fickle King

Saul is king, but his temperament and leadership move him around like a plastic bag on a windy day. He is at the whims of people's emotions rather than trusting in the God who took them out of Egypt. This king is just fickle, even if he is of a kingdom that is not.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (LW 264 Vs. 1-8)

1. *I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever living head!*
2. *He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above;
He lives to rule His church in love.*
3. *He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.*
4. *He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.*
5. *He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to free;
He lives to help in time of need.*

--- Opening

*For the Lord's name sake He will not reject his people, God was pleased to make you his own.
- 1 Samuel 12:22*

--- THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God's forgiveness)

Pastor: *O Almighty God,*

PEOPLE: GOD, OUR LOVING FATHER,

WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE OFTEN IMPATIENT AND RUSH TO CRITICIZE.

WE TAKE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR GRANTED.

WE ARE OFTEN UNGRATEFUL AND NOT GRACIOUS.

WE OFTEN EXPECT CHURCH TO MIRROR OUR OWN BIASES.

WE FORGET TO ASK FOR OUR CHURCH TO MIRROR YOU.

WE OFTEN USE YOUR SCRIPTURES TO SUPPORT OUR OPINIONS.

WE FORGET THAT THEY ARE A LAMP TO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH.

OUR HOPE IS CENTERED ON OURSELVES AND NOT ON YOU.

RENEW US, LORD, THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL

AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS, TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.

Pastor: The story of Jesus is about life and forgiveness.... You are God's beloved; you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope of new life. God loves you, and God is the restorer of hope. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN

--THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord God, you make the minds of the faithful to be of one will. Lead us to love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, among the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

--THE HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast" (LW pg 161)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and Honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, And join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, al-le-lu-ia.

THE FIRST LESSON 1 Samuel 13:8-15

Saul would not be followed by his sons; there would be no dynasty bearing his name. There is a striking parallel between this and the word of the Lord to Eli.

He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

"What have you done?" asked Samuel.

Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikdash, I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering."

"You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom

will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."

Then Samuel left Gilgal and went up to

Gibeah in Benjamin, and Saul counted the men who were with him. They numbered about six hundred.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 9:24-29

God's plan all along is to make those who are not His people into His people. All those who never experienced God's love are now experiencing it as they enter into the life of the Spirit through faith.

...even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? As he says in Hosea:

"I will call them 'my people' who are not my people;

and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one,"

and, "In the very place where it was said to them,

'You are not my people,'
there they will be called 'children of the living God.'"

Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:

"Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea,

only the remnant will be saved.

For the Lord will carry out

his sentence on earth with speed and finality."

It is just as Isaiah said previously:

"Unless the Lord Almighty

had left us descendants,

we would have become like Sodom,

we would have been like Gomorrah."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 23:13-17

Jesus, with the Pharisees listening, uses them as an example of the pious but truly unrighteous.

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over

land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.

"Woe to you, blind guides! You say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but anyone who swears by the gold of the temple is bound by that oath.' You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred?

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- PROFESSION

THE 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, the 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.

--- HYMN OF DAY

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” (LW 129)

- 1. Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- 2. The Lord of life is ris’n this day; Bring flow’rs of song to strew his way;
Let all the world rejoice this day: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- 3. Praise we in songs of victory ... that love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- 4. Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

--- THE SERMON

Rise & Fall - Fickle King

--THE OFFERTORY

"Create in me a clean heart" (LW pg 143)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with-in me.

Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

--- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after each petition)

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

--- THE LORD'S PRAYER

----- THE BLESSING

Pastor: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord look upon you with grace and redemption.

May the Lord always walk before you and give you peace

PEOPLE: AMEN

----THE CLOSING HYMN

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (LW 264 Vs. 6-8)

6. *He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;*

He lives and loves me to the end;

He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;

He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King!

7. *He lives and grants me daily breath;*

He lives, and I shall conquer death;

He lives my mansion to prepare;

He lives to bring me safely there.

8. *He lives, all glory to His name!*

He lives, my Savior, still the same;

What joy this blest assurance gives:

I know that my Redeemer lives!

----- SENDING

Pastor: Have peace knowing we are all with you.

Serve others knowing God walks before you.

Those who wish to share in the celebration of Holy Communion may be seated.

--- THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: May the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.



Pastor: The tree of life in the midst of the garden was the tree of our defeat. Christ was lifted up on the tree of victory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored. And so we praise you ..

PEOPLE: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA, HOSANNA, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST

---- THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

After the pastor has consecrated the elements you are invited to come to the altar and receive communion. Please use the right or left aisle as you come forward to the altar. After the pastor has pronounced the blessing for your side, you may place your cup in the basket and depart the sanctuary down the center aisle. Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

(Please remember that as you are leaving the sanctuary, others are still communing, please refrain from talking to others until you are in the Fellowship Hall, Thank You.)

--- ADDITIONAL HYMNS (On Projection Screens)

“What is the World to Me”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“This Joyful Eastertide”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”

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---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today

May 7, 2023

Services

Sunday, 8:30 & 10:15 AM

Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com

10:15 AM

Korean Church Worship

1:00 PM

Rest of the Week

May 8 - 13, 2023

Olivet School

Tuesday, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Communion Service

Canceled

ACC Meeting

Wednesday, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Bible Study

Canceled

Korean Church Prayer Gathering

Saturday, 6:00 AM

Second Sunday School (Next Sunday)

Mother's Day Reception in ACC Hall

For complete calendar information, go to www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Steven Choung - 5/08, Phyllis Schimkat - 5/9,
Hans VanDerlip & Norm Neuberger - 5/11, Vivian Hines 5/13

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by John & Melinda Linderman in celebration of their children's birthdays.

COMING SOON: Memorial Day Weekend! It's PICNIC TIME!! And being a great weekend for racing, we will be featuring our own "NASC^{CRAB} Race." Brats, burgers, and drinks will be provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share, if you would like. Time: 4 PM till 8ish..... Date: Sunday, May 28.

GIVING: We are here to provide "Grace and Peace in a Confusing and Trying Time" to those in our church and community. Thank you for your past and continual prayers and financial support to Grace and your community.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Canceled this week..



THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBER? If you have "Choice Dollars" available, please consider directing them to Grace Lutheran Church. All "Choice Dollars" that are received go to paying down our mortgage on the new building. For the first four months this year we have received \$1,723 from Thrivent Choice! Thank you: Vance, Bernard, Shirley, Bertha, Sandra, Robert Z., Carol, Jacqueline, Leona, Kevin and Robert B. for your Grace designation of Choice Dollars.

SECOND SUNDAY SCHOOL: Next Sunday at 11:40 AM with a special Mother's Day Reception in ACC Hall.

COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY: Canceled this week with Pastor out of town.

FROM THE ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE CENTER! There is a wish list of needs to assist in our operation of this center to help provide care for our clients. If you could help it would be greatly appreciated. **MAY Wish list:** Coca Cola drinks by the 8th, Reese's candy by the 18th, decaf coffee, seasonal crafts / decorations, wild bird feed/ bird feeder, nail polish/nail polish remover, gift cards for Walmart for crafts, assorted Bingo prizes, and assorted sugar free chocolate.

05/07 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Kevin G. / 10:15 - Ed B.*

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Piper N. / 10:15 - Harry D.

05/14 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - Dave V.*

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Jennine V. & 10:15 - Nancy O.

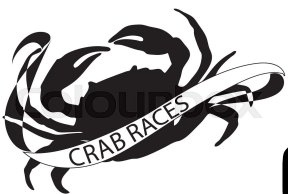
Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Romans 9:30 - 10:4, Matthew 18:1-5 (NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *Fickle King*

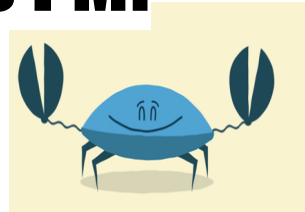
For this week, read 1 Samuel chapters 12-15.

1. Describe a time you've seen someone use God's name for selfish gain. When have you been tempted in the same way?
 2. Read 1 Samuel 15:1-23. What excuse does Saul come up with for not following the command of the Lord? How are we tempted to make similar excuses? What is the result?
 3. Read 1 Samuel 12: 19-25. What promise does God have for you? How does Jesus fulfill this promise?
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COMING!!!! SUNDAY - MAY 28 from 4 - 8 PM!



**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND.....
GRACE CRAB RACE and PICNIC!**



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