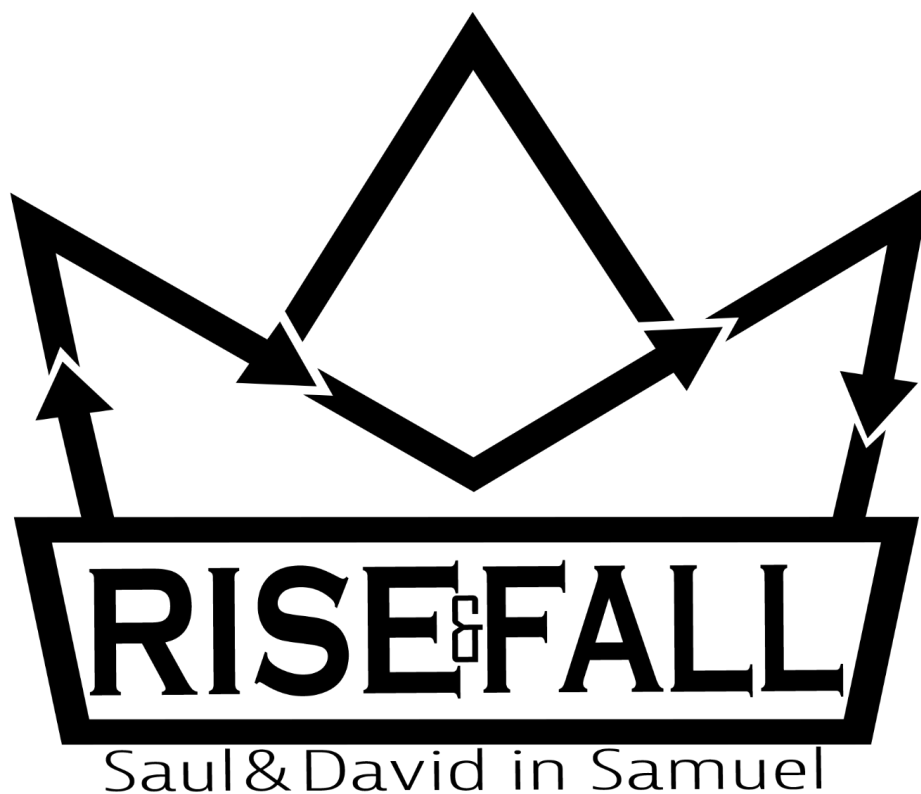


Sunday Service

June 25, 2023 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM



Grace Lutheran Church

555 SW Cashmere Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986-2034

Office: 772-871-6599
Gracelutheranpsl@gmail.com

www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

Pastor Cris Escher

Email: cris@gracelutheranpsl.com

Phone: (770) 328-5078

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 worshiping 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: David, A Christmas Story

The story of David follows those patterns of the kingdom of God. From Hannah's pattern of humbleness to Eli's pattern of pride leading to a fall. But David's fall at the end of Samuel cries out into the future giving us eyes to see the pattern again in the true and better David.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (LSB 686 Vs 1-3)

1. Come, thou fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; may I still Thy goodness prove.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; Hither by Thy help I’m come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wan-d’ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

--- Opening

*The Lord says: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,
knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.’ - Hos 6:6*

--- 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 taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit. Fill us with the same Spirit, so that we may love what is right and always rejoice in his comfort. 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

"The Risen Christ (O Breath of God)"

(by Keith Getty & Phil Madeira Thankyou Music (CCLI 4109978))

- 1. O Breath of God, come fill this place;
Revive our hearts to know Your grace
And from our slumber make us rise,
That we may know the Risen Christ.**
- 2. O word of God, so clear and true,
Renew our minds to trust in You;
And give to us the Bread of Life,
That we may know the Risen Christ.**
- 3. O Love of God, so unrestrained,
Refresh our souls in Jesus' name;
Let us reflect Your sacrifice
That we may know the Risen Christ.**
- 4. May God the Father, God the Son
And God the Spirit Make us one;
In holiness let us unite,
That we may know the Risen Christ.**

THE FIRST LESSON 2 Samuel 24:10-17

Without being confronted by a prophet, David feels conviction and confesses his sin to the Lord.

David was conscience-stricken after he had counted the fighting men, and he said to the Lord, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. Now, Lord, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing."

Before David got up the next morning, the word of the Lord had come to Gad the prophet, David's seer: "Go and tell David, 'This is what the Lord says: I am giving you three options. Choose one of them for me to carry out against you.'"

So Gad went to David and said to him, "Shall there come on you three years of famine in your land? Or three months of fleeing from your enemies while they pursue you? Or three days of plague in your land? Now then, think it over and decide how I should answer the one who sent me."

David said to Gad, "I am in deep distress. Let us fall into the hands of the Lord, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into human hands."

So the Lord sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the end of the time designated, and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the Lord relented concerning the disaster and said to the angel who was

afflicting the people, “Enough! Withdraw your hand.” The angel of the Lord was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the Lord, “I have sinned; I, the shepherd, have done

wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

The sacrifice of Jesus changes everything. His resurrection steals life from death and makes it possible for those who trust in Him to become a sacrifice and yet live.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly

than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-42

This passage serves as a warning to anyone trying to predict the end of the age. Jesus’ only advice was to live in the present moment.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in

marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- PROFESSION

THE APOSTLES CREED

--- HYMN OF DAY

“Blessed Assurance” (TCH 572 Vs 1-3)

1. *Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

(CHORUS)

*THIS IS MY STORY, THIS IS MY SONG,
PRAISING MY SAVIOR ALL THE DAY LONG;
THIS IS MY STORY, THIS IS MY SONG,
PRAISING MY SAVIOR ALL THE DAY LONG.*

2. *Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (CHORUS)*
3. *Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. (CHORUS)*

--- THE SERMON

Rise & Fall - David, A Christmas Story

--THE OFFERTORY

“We Give You But Your Own” (LW 405 vs 1,2,6)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <i>We give you but your own,
In any gifts we bring;
All that we have is yours alone,
A trust from you our King.</i> | 2. <i>May we your bounties thus
As stewards true receive,
And gladly, Lord as you bless us,
To you our first-fruits give.</i> |
| 6. <i>And we believe Your Word,
Though dim our faith, it's true;
What we do for your people, Lord,
We do it all for you.</i> | |

--- 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

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (LSB 686 Vs 4)

4. Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen how I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, take my ran-som'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry me to realms of endless day.

----- 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)

“Abide with Me”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Christ is Our Cornerstone”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

<u>Today</u>	<u>June 25, 2023</u>
Services	8:30 & 10:15 AM
Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
 <u>Rest of the Week</u>	 <u>June 26 - July 1, 2023</u>
Summer Kids Bible Club	Tuesday, 6:00 PM
Bible Study, also live streamed	Thursday 11:00 AM
Evelyn Banie Memorial Service	Friday 11:00 AM
Luncheon at Banie House	Friday, After Service
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6:00 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Carol Coffman and Elizabeth Ablott on June 26th.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Ed & Midge Watts - 6/26/1965 (58 Years)
Duane & Cheryl Lingis - 6/26/1971 (52 Yrs) and Glen & Suzette Hudson - 6/27/1964 (59 Yrs)

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by
Paul & Sarah from the Korean Congregation.

MEMORIAL SERVICE For Evelyn Banie will be held this Friday 11:00 AM here at Grace. A Luncheon will be held at the Banie house after the service.

SUMMER KIDS CLUB: Grace is holding a "Summer Kids' Bible Club" called "God's Living Water - Covered in Jesus' Grace! See you every **Tuesday evening** from 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM during the Summer (except July 4th). Contact Coli Escher for more details.

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: THIS Thursday at 11:00 AM, we will be studying 1 & 2 Kings. Come here to the church or watch the Live Streamed for those at home.

COMMUNION: If you, or someone you know, would like to celebrate Holy Communion but prefer a small group or are unable to attend Sunday service, Pastor Cris is happy to celebrate the meal in a small group with you. **Please call the church at (772) 871-6599**, and Pastor Cris would be happy to set aside a time for you to come in and receive communion and partake of this wonderful meal.

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. **Wish list:** Bomb Pops (Popsicles) by 06/29, Regular or sugar free Chocolate by 7/07, Blueberry muffins by 07/11, Cotton candy and Popcorn by 07/21, Ice cream sandwich by 08/02, Chocolate chip cookies by 08/04, Creamsicles by 08/14, Peach pie by 08/24. (Dates listed above indicate a special celebration on that day)

These items are needed regularly, Seasonal Crafts/Decorations, Wild Bird Feed, Gift cards to Walmart for crafts, Assorted Bingo Prizes, Assorted Sugar Free Chocolate and Decaf Coffee.

Thank you for your support!

OFFICE HOURS: The "Church Office" is open in the ACC Complex from **9:00 AM through 12:00** (Noon) daily, Monday - Friday. The office is overseen on Monday by Diane Heinz, Tuesday - Thursday, Kevin Garbers and on Fridays, Pam White.

Please feel free to stop by or call anytime during those hours. Office phone is 772 - 871 - 6599
After hours you can contact Kevin at 772-971-9200 or Pastor Cris at 770 - 328 - 5078.

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 half of this year Grace has received \$1,746 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.



REMEMBER THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST In an effort to keep our prayer list up to date and be sure everyone is listed, please make your requests in writing or email.



- **place the** pink completed prayer form into the offering plate or on the office desk.

- **or by email** to: www.GraceLutheranPSL.com/pray

Your loved one/ones will remain on the list for three weeks. If you wish someone to remain longer, you will need to make another request. By doing this, we will also ensure that Pastor Cris is aware of updates to the status of everyone's needs.

***PINK PRAYER REQUEST FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE COUNTER IN THE NARTHEX.**

06/25 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Kevin G. / 10:15 - Ed B.*

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Bob F. & 10:15 - Coli E..

07/02 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - Dave V.*

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Judy F. / 10:15 - Cheryl N.

Readings: Genesis 12:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, Matthew 4:12-22(NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *David a Christmas Story*

1. Describe a time when you experienced God meeting you in failure.
2. Read 2 Samuel 24. What mistake does David make? Why do you think the census is such a big deal?
3. Read Luke 1 and 2. Compare this popular Christmas narrative with 1st and 2nd Samuel. How is Jesus a “better” king than David? How does Jesus fulfill the failures of David?
4. How might you use a story found in 1st and 2nd Samuel and encourage a friend going through a rough time?