

Sunday Service

APRIL 9, 2023 - 6:45 AM, 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM

Easter Sunday



The Way

Finding Meaning in the Gospel of John

Grace Lutheran Church

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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 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.

The Way: Finding Meaning in the Gospel of John

There are certain indicators that we are on The Way with Jesus: justice, spirituality, relationships, beauty, freedom, truth, and power. But what if we do not live up to these ideals? Our societies and individual lives become unbalanced, creating anger and frustration that divide us from ourselves and from God. Come and see how The Way seems broken but how Easter vision can bring many along the way of hope.

Today: Easter

It's still dark, but she goes to check on the tomb. Fear strikes her heart as she sees the stone is rolled away! Has this weekend possibly just gotten worse? As she lies weeping at a situation that is beyond repair, the gardener of the sun, moon, and stars, who cultivated everything in 7 days, whispers joy of new creation in the form of her name, "Mary."

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today” (LW 127)

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1. *Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*
2. *Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*
3. *But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*
4. *Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

He is
Risen

--- Opening

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. - John 20:1

--- 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.

Everliving God, we thank you that you have overcome the old powers of sin and death through the resurrection of your Son, and have made all things new in him. Make us dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ. For he 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 Isaiah 65:17-25

God will make everything new again. In that day, the painful past will recede and vanish. Unbridled joy and celebration will eclipse grief and sorrow.

"See, I will create
new heavens and a new earth.
The former things will not be remembered,
nor will they come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I will create,

for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight
and its people a joy.
I will rejoice over Jerusalem
and take delight in my people;
the sound of weeping and of crying
will be heard in it no more.

"Never again will there be in it an infant
who lives but a few days, or an old man
who does not live out his years;
the one who dies at a hundred
will be thought a mere child;
the one who fails to reach a hundred
will be considered accursed.

They will build houses and dwell in them;
they will plant vineyards and eat their
fruit.
No longer will they build houses and others
live in them,
or plant and others eat.
For as the days of a tree,
so will be the days of my people;
my chosen ones will long enjoy
the work of their hands.
They will not labor in vain,
nor will they bear children doomed to
misfortune;

for they will be a people blessed by the
Lord,
they and their descendants with them.
Before they call I will answer;
while they are still speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb will feed together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox,
and dust will be the serpent's food.
They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,"
says the Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Resurrection is central to the gospel. God brings life from death, peace from war, prosperity from adversity, and bounty from famine. The resurrection of Jesus marks a new era of God's dealing with the world, and it is good news.

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen

asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

The resurrection is taking shape. Confusion gives way to joy as Jesus appears alive in the world.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other

disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb.

He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIS

--- PROFESSION

THE APOSTLES CREED

--- HYMN OF DAY

"Welcome, Happy Morning" (LW 135 vs 1-4)

1. **"Welcome, happy morning!"
Age to age shall say;
"Hell today is vanquished,
Heav'n is won today!"
Christ, once dead, is living,
God forevermore!
Him, their true creator,
All his works adore.**

**Refrain:
"Welcome, happy morning!"
Age to age shall say,
"Hell today is vanquished,
Heav'n is won today!"**

2. **Maker and Redeemer,
Life and health of all,
God from heav'n beholding
Human nature's fall,
You, the true and only
Son of God above,
Died as mortal man to
Save us by your love. [Refrain]**

3. **Source of all things living,
You came down to die,
Plumbed the depths of hell to
Raise us up on high.
Come then, true and faithful;
Come, fulfill your word;
This is your third morning:
Rise, O buried Lord! [Refrain]**

4. **Free the souls long prisoned,
Bound with Satan's chain;
All that once had fallen
Raise to life again;
Show your face in brightness,
Shine in ev'ry land
As in Eden's garden
When the world began. [Refrain]**

--- THE SERMON

The Way - Easter

--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

“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done” - (LW 143 Vs. 1-5)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. *The strife is o’er, the battle done.
Now is the victor’s triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.
Alleluia!*
2. *The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!*
3. *The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen head!
Alleluia!*
4. *He broke the age bound chains of hell;
The bars from heaven’s high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluia!*
5. *Lord, by the stripes which wounded you
From death’s sting free your servants too
That we may live and sing to you.
Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia*

----- 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)

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives ”

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“Were You There”

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“This Joyful Eastertide”

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He is Risen

---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today

April 9, 2023

Easter Services

Sunday, 6:45, 8:30 & 10:15 AM

Easter Breakfast

Sunday 7:45 ish - 10:15 AM

Egg Hunt

Sunday, 9:55 AM

Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com

10:15 AM

Korean Church Worship

1:00 PM

Rest of the Week

April 10 - 15, 2023

Adopt-a-Street

Tuesday, 8:30 AM

Olivet School

Tuesday, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Pastor Conference

Tuesday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Communion Service

Wednesday, 11:00 AM

Bible Study, also live streamed

Thursday 11:00 AM

Foster Grandparents

Friday, 8:45 AM

Brothers Keeper Packing

Friday, 9:30 AM

Korean Church Prayer Gathering

Saturday, 6:00 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Bob Zanzig - 4/10, Pam Harstad - 4/15

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Jay & Dayre Horton - 4/11/1970 (53 Years)

THE LILLIES AND PALMS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by members and friends of Grace Lutheran Church.

EGG HUNT: Today, an egg hunt will be held at 9:55 AM.

BROTHERS KEEPER: This Friday, at 9:30 AM, we will be packing the bags for the homeless in our area. If you would like to assist, see Leigh Liagra, Sherry Self or Carol Coffman.



ADOPT-A-STREET will be THIS Tuesday, **April 11th at 8:30 AM!** The meeting place will be on the corner of Torino and Conus. For more information contact: Judy Fredrich (561) 315-9555 or retslvnlg@outlook.com

THANK YOU: Many thanks from Grace LWML for your contributions for our bake sale. All the money we raise goes back to our monthly mission giving.

COMING SOON: A “Mother’s” Day Tea Party, Saturday, April 29th; sign-up sheet in the Narthex

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 Samuel. Come here to the church or watch the Live Streamed for those at home.



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. In January and February we received \$449, This week we received \$290 from Thrivent Choice!

Thank you Shirley, Robert Z., Carol, Jacqueline, Leona, Kevin and Robert B. for your Grace designation of Choice Dollars.

COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY: 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 has set aside Wednesdays to celebrate the meal in small groups. Please come by on Wednesday at 11:00 AM and partake of this wonderful meal, or 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.

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:** Gardening Flower Kits needed by 04/14, Animal Crackers needed by 04/18, Seasonal Crafts/Decorations, Non-Toxic Washable Paint, Gift cards to Walmart for crafts, Assorted Bingo Prizes, Assorted Sugar Free Chocolate as well as any volunteer entertainment. Thank You

The Soroptimist of St. Lucie non-profit will hold its Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Noon at the Pelican Yacht Club, 1120 Seaway Drive in Fort Pierce. Fashions will be by Cato's Fashions, with a silent auction and raffles, plus scholarship awards for women. Tickets are \$50, See Cheryl Nolte for details

04/09 *Worship assistants: 6:45 - David V. / 8:30 - Kevin G. / 10:15 - Ed B.*
Scripture Readers: 6:45 - Hans V. / 8:30 - Judy F. / 10:15 - Coli E.

04/16 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - Dave V.*
Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Vance A. & 10:15 - Harry D.
Readings: 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Romans 9:1-5, Mark 13:1-8 (NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *The Way- Easter*

1. Describe a time in the midst of sadness and confusion, when you knew everything was going to be ok.
2. Read John 20:1-18. What confusion is described? When does Mary know all things are being made right?
3. How does the resurrection of Jesus give you peace to know all things will be made right today?

