## Sunday Service

February 20, 2022 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM Live Broadcast at 10:15 AM



7th Sunday after the Epiphany

## Mark Chapter 8-9 | Knowing Christ

## 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.

### Revealing True Power - The Gospel of Mark

Mark begins his Gospel showing his full intent, "This is the beginning of good news of Jesus, the Son of God." This declaration of Jesus as the Son of God still deconstructs our own wants and dreams for power, from our feckless notions of political power, to the notions of us who want to gain power from religious dogma, to our own personal wants for notoriety and importance. Mark's Gospel reveals true power as we follow Jesus to the cross, revealing the good news of a life reborn of freedom.

## Today: Mark Chapter 8-9 | Knowing Christ

Why can't the disciples cast out that demon? They have seen Jesus heal people. They have seen the lame walk and the blind see. They have even heard the voice of God blessing his son Jesus. They know who Jesus is. He is the Christ, and yet we struggle.

#### ---- THE OPENING HYMN

## "This Is the Day the Lord Has Made" (LW 200 Vs 1-3)

- This is the day the Lord has made;
   He calls the hours his own.
   Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad,
   Let praise surround the throne.
- Today Christ rose and left the dead, And Satan's empire fell.
   Today the saints his triumph spread, They all his wonders tell.
- 3. Hosanna to the King of Kings, To David's holy son! He helps us, He descends and brings Salvation from the throne.

## -- Opening

Some say you are "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets."

But he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said, "You are the Christ."

Mark 8:28

#### --- 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.

Loving heavenly Father, thank you that your Son loved us even when we were enemies, and that he prayed for those who killed him. Teach us to be merciful like you, and do good to all people, even to those who do us harm. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN** 

## --THE HYMN OF PRAISE Father, I Adore You (MM 26)

Father, I adore You, lay my life before You, how I love You. Jesus, I adore You, lay my life before You, how I love You. Spirit, I adore You, lay my life before You, how I love you.



## THE FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 2:1-12

Elijah and Enoch (Genesis 5:24) are the only two men in the Bible to leave earth while they are still alive. Although they are separated by centuries of time, both men are inseparable from God, and both leave quite a legacy.

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet."

Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

## THE SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Jesus' death is the means to new life for others. Similarly, when believers suffer for others as Jesus did, their suffering is an avenue for God's life to transform situations.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

## THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 9:14-29

The father has enough faith to bring his son to Jesus for healing, but he asks hesitantly whether there is anything Jesus can do. In his desperation, the father recognizes the limits of his faith.

And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the

ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "'If you can'! All things are possible for one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

#### --- PROFESSION

#### THE APOSTLES CREED

#### --- HYMN OF THE DAY



## "How Great Thou Art" (LW 519 Vs. 1-4)

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

#### **REFRAIN**

THEN SINGS MY SOUL, MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE, HOW GREAT THOU ART! HOW GREAT THOU ART! THEN SINGS MY SOUL, MY SAVIOR GOD, TO THEE, HOW GREAT THOU ART! HOW GREAT THOU ART!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; (REFRAIN)





- 3. But when I think that God, His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin; (REFRAIN)
- 4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
  And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
  Then I shall bow in humble adoration
  And there proclaim; "My God, how great Thou art!" (REFRAIN)



#### --- THE SERMON

Revealing True Power: Mark 8-9 | Knowing Christ

#### --THE OFFERTORY

"Take My Life, O Lord, Renew" (LW 404 Vs. 1 & 2)

- 1. Take my life, O Lord, renew, consecrate my heart to You; Take my moments and my days; let them sing Your ceaseless praise
- 2. Take my hands and let them do works that show my love for You; Take my feet and lead their way, never let them go astray.

## --- 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

## "This Is the Day the Lord Has Made" (LW 200 Vs 4-5)

- Blest be the Lord, who comes to us
   With messages of grace;
   Who comes in God his Father's name
   To save our sinful race.
- Hosanna in the highest strains
   The church on earth can raise.
   The highest heavens, where he reigns,
   Will give him nobler praise.

#### ---- 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

May the Lord be with you! Pastor: **PEOPLE:** AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD. PEOPLE:

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 Pastor Cris 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 Pastor Cris 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.

### --- ADDITIONAL HYMNS (On Projection Screens)

"Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice" Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

"God Loved the World so that He Gave"

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today

**February 20, 2022** 

Worship Services 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com 10:15 AM

Korean Church Worship 1:00 PM



CCLI 1276473

7th Sunday after the Epiphany - February 20, 2022

Rest of the week

President's Day

Olivet School

**Individual Communion** 

TCFGC (ACC Hall)

Korean Bible Study (Church Hall)

Bible Study (ACC Hall)

ACC Supervisor Meeting (ACC Hall)

Korean Church Prayer Gathering

**February 21 - 27** 

Monday

Tuesday, 8:30 AM-2:00 PM

Wednesday, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, 6:30 PM

Thursday, 9:30 AM Thursday 11:00 AM

Friday, 9:00 AM- 12:30 PM

Saturday, 6:00 AM



For complete calendar information, go to <a href="https://www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar">www.gracelutheranpsl.com/calendar</a>

<u>BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:</u> Kevin Mattox - 2/20, Duane Lingis - 2/22 & Claren Kerstner - 2/25



<u>THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR</u> are given to the glory of God by Jay Horton in loving memory of Frances T. Horton.

<u>PLEASE SEND CARDS TO PEOPLE</u> We have several members who are immunocompromised and unable to participate with groups of other people. If you have not seen them in a service lately, please consider calling them or sending a card or letter. Isolation is a lonely situation!

<u>PARKING SPOTS:</u> Please remember the two parking spaces closest to the ACC center are for their use during the week. Their clients need close access for those with walkers and handicapped.

**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.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** Come and join us for a study on Job either here at the church or on Zoom at 11 AM on Thursday.

<u>GIVING</u>: We are here to provide "Grace and Peace in this Chaotic and Lonely Time" to those in our church and community. Thank you for your past and continual prayers and financial support to Grace and your community.

**MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE:** At Tuesday's B.O.D. meeting it was discussed and decided that we should create a committee to look into developing a permanent memorial garden. If you would like to be a member of this committee please see or call Ed Bock (772) 879-7057.

#### **QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING:** Will be held Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 9:30 AM.



Prayer Requests

**<u>REMEMBER THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST</u>** 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.

**2/20 Worship assistants:** 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - David V.

**Readers:** 8:30 - Bob F. & 10:15 - Shirley M.

**2/27 Worship assistants:** 8:30 - Phil F. & 10:15 - Ed B **Scripture Readers:** 8:30 - Ed F. & 10:15 - Jan L.

**Readings:** Jeremiah 11:18-20, James 3:13-4:3, Mark 9:30-37, 42 (ESV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: Revealing True Power: Mark 8-9 | Knowing Christ

- 1. Describe a time when you've said all the right things, but been completely wrong?
- 2. Read Mark 9:14-29. What are the disciples unable to do?
- 3. What does Jesus do? What does He say about why the disciples couldn't do it?
- 4. How have you been mistaken about Jesus in your life? How can Jesus reorient your thinking about him through humbleness and prayer?

# "Seeing is Not Believing"

March 2 - Ash Wednesday: 11 AM & 7:00 PM (No Meal) (11:00 AM will be livestreamed and broadcast)

Lenten Wednesdays: March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6

Fellowship / Potluck Meal: 5:30 PM till 6:15 PM

Service Time: 6:30 PM (will be livestreamed)