

Sunday Service

March 31, 2024 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM

EASTER Sunday



COMFORT COMFORT

John 13-17

Jesus' Words Before the Cross

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. www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

Kids at Grace

By the entrance into the sanctuary, busy bags are available for children to use. During the 10:15 service, before the sermon, Ms. Coli will take children (3 and older) to the other building for an engaging lesson about our hope in Jesus. Children are returned to their families right after the prayers. There is also a quiet room outside the sanctuary with toys and the live stream, if families need a place for younger children throughout the service.

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.

Comfort Comfort: Jesus' Words Before the Cross

Before Jesus is arrested and crucified, before all the pain and agony, before the disciples feel lost and alone, before our own confusion and heartache, Jesus speaks words of comfort as we go through the dark valley.

Easter Peace

Even with the glorious news of Christ's resurrection, the disciples remained hidden, burdened by their actions. Yet, Christ arrives, a beacon of hope and unreserved comfort, offering peace in the midst of their doubt.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today” (LW 127)

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!*

--- Opening

Pastor: Christ is Risen! People: He is Risen, indeed, Alleluia!

--- 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.

Almighty God, you have overcome sin and death through the death of your Son, and have brought forgiveness and eternal life through His resurrection. Help us confidently to believe this and always praise you with our whole heart. 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

Isaiah 25:6-9

On a blessed mountaintop, the Lord Almighty lays a feast of endless bounty, a joyous celebration where tears vanish and hearts overflow.

On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare

a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—

the best of meats and the finest of wines.

On this mountain he will destroy

the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears

from all faces;

he will remove his people's disgrace

from all the earth.

The Lord has spoken.

In that day they will say,
"Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.

This is the Lord, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his
salvation."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO G

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

This is the cornerstone of faith: the sacrifice, burial, and glorious resurrection of Christ, a truth that holds the power to save us.

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to

Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:1-10, 19-23

In the predawn darkness, the discovery of an empty tomb sends Mary Magdalene racing to the disciples, igniting a mix of fear and hope.

(1-10) 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.

(19-23) On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were

together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- PROFESSION

THE APOSTLES CREED

--THE OFFERTORY

"In Christ Alone" (CCLI 3350395) Songwriters: Keith Getty / Stuart Townend

**1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless Babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

3. *There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

4. *No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

--- THE SERMON

Comfort Comfort: Easter Peace

--- HYMN OF DAY

"I Danced In The Morning" (Lord Of The Dance) (CCLI Song # 78529)

1. *I danced in the morning
When the world was begun
And I danced on the moon
And the stars and the sun
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth
At Bethlehem I had My birth (Chorus)*

Chorus

*Dance then wherever you may be
I am the Lord of the Dance said He
And I'll lead you all
Wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all
In the Dance said He*

2. *I danced for the scribe
And the Pharisee
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow Me
I danced for the fishermen
For James and John
They came with Me
And the dance went on (Chorus)*

4. *I danced on a Friday
When the sky turned black
It's hard to dance
With the devil on your back
They buried My body
And they thought I'd gone
But I am the dance
And I still go on (Chorus)*

3. *I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame
The holy people said it was a shame
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung Me on high
And they left Me there
On a Cross to die (Chorus)*

5. *They cut Me down
And I leapt up high
I am the life That'll never never die
I'll live in you
If you'll live in Me
I am the Lord
Of the Dance said He (Chorus X2)*

--- 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

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" (LSB 465 Vs. 1-4)

- 1. *Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Allelulia, Allelulia, Allelulia!***
- 2. *Eternal is the gift He brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife. "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Allelulia, Allelulia, Allelulia!***
- 3. *Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph; grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Allelulia, Allelulia, Allelulia!***
- 4. *Adoring praises now we bring and with the hea'vnly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!
Allelulia, Allelulia, Allelulia!***

----- 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 ”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Were You There”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

"This Joyful Eastertide"

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---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

<u>Today</u>	<u>March 31, 2024</u>
Services	6:45, 8:30 & 10:15 AM
Easter Breakfast	7:45 AM - 10:00 AM
Children's Egg Hunt	9:50 AM
Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
<u>Rest of the Week</u>	<u>April 1 - 6</u>
LWML Meeting	Monday, 1:00 PM
12 Step AA Meeting	Monday, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Olivet School	Tuesday, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Korean Bible Study	Thursday, 10:30 AM
Grace Bible Study	Thursday, 11:00 AM
AA Meeting	Thursday, 7:15 PM - 9:30 PM
Olivet Testing	Friday, 9:15 AM
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6:00 AM
LWML Zone Rally, Boynton Beach	Saturday 9:30 AM
Memorial Service for Melville Mills	Saturday, 11:00 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: No birthdays for this week.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Dave & Judy Smith - 4/2/1966 (58 Years)

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by members and friends of Grace Lutheran and The Korean Church.

EGG HUNT REQUESTS: Thank you for all your support and help to provide the supplies! Some will even be saved for next year's hunt and for Summer Kids' Bible Club. Thanks, Coli

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 - Friday by Kevin Garbers. 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.

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. Thanks for your Support: GraceLutheranPSL.com/give

THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBER? So far this year Grace Lutheran has received \$784 from Thrivent Choice! Thank You! All “Choice Dollars” that are received go to paying down our mortgage on the new building. Thank you! Thank you Carol, Peter, Ed, Vance, Kevin, Leona, Shirley, Cheryl, Bertha, Victoria, Ed, Betsy and Bernard for directing your dollars to Grace.



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: THIS Thursday at 11:00 AM. Come here to the church or watch the Live Streamed for those at home as we study the book of Matthew.

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.



LADIES: LWML will have their monthly meeting Monday, **TOMORROW**, April 1, at 1:00 PM. All ladies are invited to attend for fellowship, fun, snacks and some Bible study. There is also a zone Rally in Boynton Beach next Saturday, April 6th. If interested please contact: Shirley M. at 719-482-6058 or Judy F. at 561-315-9555

FROM THE ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE CENTER! There is a wish list of needs to assist in the operation of this center to help provide care for our clients. If you could help, it would be greatly appreciated. **Wish list:** Bananas - 04/17, Oatmeal Cookies - 04/30

(Store Bought Items Only) (Dates listed indicate a special celebration on that day)

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

3/31 ***Worship assistants:*** 6:45 Dave V. / 8:30 Phil F. / 10:15 Ed B.
Easter ***Scripture Readers:*** 6:45 Hans V. / 8:30 Judy F. / 10:15 Heather P.

4/7 ***Worship assistants:*** 8:30 - Phil F. & 10:15 - Mike P.
Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Ruth R. & 10:15 - Nancy O.
Readings: Judges 2:10-16, Romans 11:1-6, Matthew 15:1-9 (NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *Comfort Comfort: Easter Peace*

1. Can you think of a time you hid from something difficult? What was it, and how did you eventually move forward?
2. Read John 20:1-23. The disciples were hiding after the resurrection. Why do you think they might be hiding, even though they know Jesus has risen?
3. Jesus shows up not hiding anything, leading with his wounds. How does the concept of Jesus' sacrifice and His wounds change the way you view forgiveness and comfort that comes from Jesus?
4. Jesus encourages us to forgive others. Filled with the Spirit of Christ, how can you bring that peace and forgiveness to others?

PRAYERS ON BEHALF OF...

Susan Becker (Port St. Lucie Rehabilitation and Healthcare)
Gerald (Jerry) Davis (Harbor Place, Senior Living Community)
Diane Fox (Port St. Lucie Rehabilitation and Healthcare)
Debra Lemke (A Touch of Class Adult Care)
Norm Neuberger (Palms of St. Lucie West)

Lucille Mills and Family at the passing of Melville last week

Al & Doris Vollmann
Richard & Marie Harms
Joe Gannon
Thomas & Marilyn Piotrowicz
Claren Kerstner

Jenny Brendlinger
Ron Phelps
Karen Albano
Marita Albano

Friends and Family

Betty Cisterino (friend of Jim & Piper Neagles and Bob & Vivian B.)
Evelyn Scott (Surgery, Pastor Scott's mother)
Sarah Dowell Garcia and Fred Reynolds (cancer, friends of Lois Danzo)
Valerie Race (very sick, Gloria's niece in NY)
William Lemke (nephew of Victoria Thomason Diagnosed with bladder and pancreatitis cancer)
Janet Kutschinski

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Meschac and the Habitat for Children's Ministries. May those who work with Habitat Ministries in Haiti remain safe and healthy while assisting those in need on this island nation.