

Sunday Service

Transfiguration Sunday

Valentines Day

February 14, 2021 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live Broadcast at 10:15 AM

Faith & Family
dysfunction
Working our Way Through Biblical Dysfunction.

today: **Breaking Dysfunction**

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.

To our many members and friends worshipping at home, whether near or far:

We are so happy that you are sharing our worship with us from your homes today.

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

Seating with social distancing at the church is now available at the Bible Study on Thursday at 11:00 AM and on Sundays at 8:30 AM and 10:15 AM. Please remember, you will need to wear a face mask at Grace.

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: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we have moved Holy Communion to the end of our worship service and will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the closing hymn pastor will pronounce the sending and then those who wish to share in the celebration of communion shall remain.

The distribution of the bread and wine in individual cups will be by an elder. Please take one of each and wait for Pastor to proceed with the taking of the elements for your group. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored on the tray.*** 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 church.

Faith & Family Dysfunction - Working our way through biblical dysfunction.

Anxiety, pitting our family and friends against each other, group think, and bitterness. These all take life away from us and can cause us to live in despair. But when we look through the main story of scripture we see a family who is extremely dysfunctional, and yet God never leaves them and we know them as the patriarchs

TODAY: Breaking Dysfunction

There is always forgiveness. But what happens when someone does something so bad that it's impossible to forget. How do you break that hurt that distrust. Joseph's brothers try to kill him and he was taken from his family for the rest of his life. How do they break the dysfunction?

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“Oh, Worship the King”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

1. Oh, worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

2. O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

3. This earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r has founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

-- Opening

God said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', and made his light shine in our hearts

--- 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, heavenly Father, you glorified your Son from the heavens. Give us faith to perceive his glory and willingly follow him. Bring us, through his suffering and death, to the glory of the resurrection. 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

"In Moments Like These" *(sing twice)*

In moments like these, I sing out a song; I sing out a love song to Jesus.

In moments like these, I lift up my hands, I lift up my hands to the Lord,

Singing, "I love You, Lord". Singing, "I love You, Lord."

Singing, "I love You, Lord. I love You."


THE FIRST LESSON Genesis 50:15-26

A similar sentiment is expressed in Paul's letter to the Romans. God can take even the meanest intention and make it work for good for His devoted followers.

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it

for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's house. Joseph lived 110 years. And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were counted as Joseph's own. And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt

Reader:  *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE:  **THANKS BE TO GOD**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:25-30

Paul is referring to a kind of wordless prayer from the heart and to a God who searches for such deep groans.

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit

intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:38-48

The reality that God's grace falls on the righteous and the unrighteous must have left Jesus' audience wondering if He was seriously advocating love of Gentiles, sinners and even Romans. No other voice from the first century quite parallels the radical vision of love outlined in these few verses

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse

the one who would borrow from you.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

--- THE SERMON -

Faith and Family Dysfunction "Breaking Dysfunction"

--THE OFFERTORY

***Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.***

--- 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

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

- 1. On what has now been sown Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone to make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou, in grace the harvest raise, and Thou alone shalt have the praise!**

The Apostles Creed
I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ,
His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified,
died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day
He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the
right hand of God,
the Father, Almighty.
From thence
He will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father who art in heav'n
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heav'n
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those
Who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom
And the power and the glory
Forever and ever.
Amen

2. To Thee our wants are known, from Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own, and pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive, and to Thy word a blessing give.
3. Oh, grant that each of us, now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus when Thou and Thine appear,
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, amen! Lord Jesus, come!

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

----- SENDING

Pastor: Have peace knowing we are all with you.

Serve others knowing God walks before you.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION: Due to social distancing and everyone's health we will celebrate by family/sitting groups. After the "Sending" those who wish to share in the celebration of Holy Communion shall remain for the "Order of Holy Communion."

Pastor will signal groups up to the altar alternating between left and right sides. An elder will distribute the bread and wine for your side. Then Pastor Cris will direct your partaking of the elements, pronounce the blessing for your side, then you may place your cup in the basket on the side and depart in peace.

--- 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

--- ADDITIONAL HYMNS

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away our fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole and calms the heart's unrest;
“Tis manna to the hungry soul and to the weary, rest.
3. Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place;
My never failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace.
4. O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.
5. How weak the effort of my heart, How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.
6. Till then I would Thy love proclaim with ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name refresh my soul in death!

“GOD, WHO MADE THE EARTH AND HEAVEN”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. God, who made the earth and heaven,
Darkness and light:
You the day for work have given,
For rest the night.
May your angel guards defend us,
Slumber sweet your mercy send us,
Holy dreams and hopes attend us,
All through the night.2. And when morn again shall call us
To run life's way,
May we still whate'er befall us,
Your will obey.
From the pow'r of evil hide us,
In the narrow pathway guide us,
Never be your smile denied us
All through the day. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
And, when we die,
May we in your mighty keeping
All peaceful lie.
When the last dread call shall wake us,
Then, O Lord, do not forsake us,
But to reign in glory take us
With you on high.4. Holy Father, throned in heaven,
All holy Son,
Holy Spirit freely given,
Blest Three in One:
Grant us grace we now implore you,
Till we lay our crowns before you
And in worthier strains adore you
While ages run. |
|--|---|

"God Himself is Present"

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

1. God himself is present; let us now adore Him and with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple; all within keep silence, humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone on His throne is our God and Savior; Praise His name for ever!
2. God himself is present; hear the harps resounding; see the hosts the throne surrounding!
"Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending, songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow your ear to us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises that Your Church now raises.
3. Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit, Trusting only in your merit.
Like the holy angels, Worshiping before you, May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will ever still rule Your Church terrestrial as the host celestial.

---- **THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today** **February 14, 2021**

Valentine's Day	All Day
Worship Service	8:30 AM
Blessing of the New Building	9:45 AM
Second Worship Service and video service www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Zoom into Fellowship	12:00 PM - Noon
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
AA	7:30 PM

Rest of the week

February 15 - 20, 2021

Olivet School	Tuesday, 8 AM - 1 PM
Ash Wednesday- With Communion	Wednesday, 11 AM and 7 PM
Bible Study also on Zoom	Thursday, 11 AM
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK Sebastian Sherwood & Jack Gebhardt - 2/14,
McKenna Lynch - 2/15, Midge Watts, Susan Schill & Lon Smith - 2/18,
Sherry Self - 2/19, Kevin Mattox - 2/20



THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given by Claude & Pat Hessee in celebration of Karen & Matthew's birthdays and Linda & Joe Gannon in memory of Linda's mom, Elsa Weingartner.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Thomas & Marilyn Piotrowicz - 2/17/1988 (33Years)

PLEASE CALL PEOPLE: The COVID quarantines began in March 2020 and many of our members have health conditions which have kept them isolated at home for 9 months. So that we all don't descend into madness, let's call and talk to each other regularly as well as sending cards or notes through the mail. Phone and address directories are available for your convenience on the counter by the office door.

WINN DIXIE SUPPORT For the month of February Winn Dixie on Bayshore and PSL Boulevard will donate \$1 for each reusable bag you purchase to Grace Lutheran for the Alzheimer's Community Care center. Grace received \$40 last year from this effort.

COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY: If you, or someone you know, would like to celebrate Holy Communion but prefer a small group or unable to attend Sunday service, Pastor Cris has set aside Wednesday's to celebrate the meal in small/family groups. Please come by on Wednesday at: 11:00, 11:20, 11:40 or 12:00 (noon) and partake of this wonderful meal.

BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL! Pastor Cris is conducting a Bible Study on Thursday's at 11 AM and you are welcome to attend in person! Seating is with social distancing along with wearing a mask. The Bible Study is also "live streamed" through ZOOM as well for you to participate from home. (www.GracelutheranPSL.com) Also, recorded for your future viewing if you would like.

SEE YOUR GRACE FAMILY ON ZOOM: Coli, along with Pastor, will be hosting Zoom to Coffee at NOON, TODAY, for those who would like to join in fellowship "virtually" to see and chat with Grace members and friends. All are welcome! www.GraceLutheranPSL.com

GIVING: 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. We have added Paypal for online donations. If you would like to give through Paypal, please go to: www.GraceLutheranPSL.com and click the "GIVE" button on the upper right side of the page.

Questions to Ponder This Week - Faith and Family Dysfunction - "Breaking Dysfunction"

1. Describe something or someone you have had to forgive?
2. Read Genesis 50:15-21. What causes Joseph's brothers to doubt his forgiveness?
3. When someone has forgiven you, what causes you to doubt that forgiveness?
4. Read Romans 8:26-30. How can you have confidence in the forgiveness Jesus has given to you?
5. What actions can you take to show others that you've truly forgiven them?