Sunday Service

LWML Sunday Lutheran Women in Mission

The Party - Garden & Deserts November 8, 2020 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM Live Broadcast 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.

To our many members and friends worshiping 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.

The Party - Living in God's Abundance.

The Older Brother could hear it even from the fields. There was a party and the music was pumping and he could smell all the foods cooking over the fire. It all looked so great. But what was all this for. His good for nothing brother? No way would he be a part of that party. But the father comes out to see if he could get the older brother into the party. Will he go in and enjoy the party, or will he stay outside?

TODAY: "Garden & Deserts"

We find ourselves in deserts. They seem so lonely, and we long for the peace and coolness of the gardens. But God is always in the desert with us, and He will always lead us to gardens flowing with milk and honey.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King" (LW #169)

- Come, O Almighty King, help us Your name to sing; Help us to praise.
 Father all glorious, in all victorious, Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.
- Come, O Incarnate Word, gird on Your mighty sword; Our prayer attend.
 Come and Your people bless, and give Your word success.
 And let your righteousness on us descend.
- Come, Holy Comforter, Your sacred witness bear In this glad hour.
 Your sev'nfold gifts impart; rule now in every heart; Never from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.
- 4. To the, great One in Three, eternal praises be, Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, And to eternity love and adore.

-- Opening

Choose this day whom you will serve, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

--- 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.

Stir up, Lord, the wills of your faithful people. Help us richly bear the fruit of good works, and give us your rich reward. 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 **"Lord, Be Glorified"**

1. In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my life Lord, be glorified today.

- 2. In my song Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my song Lord, be glorified today.
- 3. In our home Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In our home Lord, be glorified today.
- 4. In your church Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In your church Lord, be glorified today.
- 5. In our lives Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In our lives Lord, be glorified today.

THE FIRST LESSON Deuteronomy 11:8-14

"Watered by foot" could be a reference to the method of opening and closing the irrigation ditches. It could also mean that water had to be carried by foot. The point, then, was that Canaan was nourished by rains from heaven, not by human efforts.

"You shall therefore keep the whole commandment that I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and take possession of the land that you are going over to possess, and that you may live long in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers to give to them and to their offspring, a land flowing with milk and honey. For the land that you are entering to take possession of it is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered by foot, like a garden of vegetables. But the land that you are going over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water by the rain from heaven, a land that the Lord your God cares for. The eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

"And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil.

Reader:This is the Word of the Lord.**PEOPLE:THANKS BE TO GOD**

THE SECOND LESSON Hebrews 6:13-20

Who was Melchizedek? Here Jesus is referred to as "a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." The tradition helps the early church understand Jesus' role as priest and king, even if He doesn't seem to fit the traditional categories.

For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 2:13-25

John places the Temple cleaning at the beginning of Jesus' story. This is intentional as Jesus is wiping the greedy and corrupt into shape, during the time of passover where all are celebrating freedom from all that holds us down.

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." disciples remembered that it was His

confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have refuge fled for might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD**

written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Pastor:The Gospel of the Lord.PEOPLE:PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- THE APOSTLES CREED

--- THE SERMON -"Garden & Deserts"

--THE OFFERTORY

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. Amen

--- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after each petition)

Pastor:. Lord, in your mercy, **PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

--- THE LORD'S PRAYER

--- LWML CREED

- Leader: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).
- PEOPLE: In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have;
- Leader: God has entrusted to His people the task of teaching all nations. We thank Him for the 78 years He has blessed the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

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

PEOPLE: And in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.

Leader: That the joyous truth of the Gospel may be known in every generation,

- PEOPLE: we consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life.
- Leader: We are mindful of the shortness of time and uncertainties of life. Preserve our faithfulness and strengthen us for service in our communities and throughout the world,

PEOPLE: to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen

----- 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

Lutheran Women One and All (Tune, LW 495, Come Ye Thankful People Come)

- Lutheran women, one and all, We have heard the Gospel call; We by faith have seen our Lord, Crucified and then restored; We have seen Him pay the price, For our sins a sacrifice. Him we Lord and Christ acclaim, And unite to praise His name.
- Lutheran women, young and old, Well we know His challenge bold; Help to take the Gospel light To a world in darkest night, By example in the home, By inviting those who roam, By our prayers for sinners lost, By our gifts for missions' cost.
- 3. Lutheran women, coast to coast, In the Lord, a mighty host. Let us all united be In the Holy Trinity. One in faith, in hope and love. Working for the Lord above Till, our earthly labors done, We in heaven, shall all be one

----- 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!

"Beautiful Savior" (Ver 2:56 min.)

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

- 1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.
- 3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
- 4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration now and forever more be thine!

"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!
- 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.



<u>THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today</u>	<u>November 8, 2020</u>
Worship Service	8:30 AM
Second Worship Service and	
video service www.gracelutheranpsl.com	10:15 AM
Zoom into Fellowship	12:00 PM
Korean Church Worship	1:00 PM
AA	7:30 PM
Rest of the week	<u> November 9 - 14, 2020</u>
LWML Meeting	Monday, 12:30 PM
Olivet School	Tuesday, 8 AM - 1 PM
Veterans Day	Wednesday
Individual/Family Communion	canceled this week (11/11)
ZOOM Bible Study	Thursday, 11:00 AM
www.gracelutheranpsl.com	
Korean Church Prayer Gathering	Saturday, 6 AM

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

COMING: Saturday, November 21st, Operation Christmas shoebox packing, 9 AM.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Kevin Garbers - 11/9 and Lois Danzo - 11/13

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Chuck & Joyce Strickler.

2021 ENJOYMENT COUPON BOOKS: are now available in the Narthex from Susan Becker. The coupon books sell for \$35.00 each of which \$10.00 is donated to Grace Lutheran's Youth Group needs.

<u>ALL LADIES!</u> You are invited to join us for our November LWML gathering here at Grace, tomorrow, (Monday 11/9) at 12:30 PM. This will be an inspiration, with a great time for all. Refreshments will be served. Contact Shirley Mullins for more information. (719) 482-6058

FAMILY MEALS... CONTINUES: Our collection of food and money for the "Family Meals" will continue through November 16th. All food and monetary gifts are greatly appreciated.

<u>PLEASE CALL PEOPLE</u> I realize I take for granted that people just come to the church on a regular basis. So that we all don't descend into madness, let's call and talk to each other regularly. Phone directories are available for your convenience.





MITES BOXES FOR ALL! LWML Sunday will be observed TODAY. In celebration of this, we have placed a display of the Mite boxes for each of you, men & women, to take, to fill (coin, check or cash) and to return. The Mite box is the container used to gather the funds that help support various local and international mission organizations which, in turn, share the Gospel and love of Jesus. Hopefully, by taking a Mite box will help remind us daily that all,

great or small, gifts can be used to bless many with the gift of the Gospel.

<u>"OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX PROJECT"</u>: Please keep your packed Shoeboxes at home until November 15-21, 2020 between 9:00 and Noon. *Thank you, Judy, 561-315-9555*



<u>COMMUNION ON WEDNESDAY</u>: (Canceled 11/11) 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 <u>Wednesday at: 11:00, 11:20, 11:40 or 12:00 (noon)</u> and partake of this wonderful meal.

<u>SEE YOUR GRACE FAMILY ON ZOOM!</u> Pastor and Coli will be hosting Zoom to Coffee at <u>NOON</u> every Sunday for those who would like to join in fellowship "virtually" to see and chat with Grace members and friends. All are welcome!

<u>BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL</u> Pastor Cris is conducting a "livestream" Bible study online (<u>www.GracelutheranPSL.com</u>) with ZOOM, for you to participate in on **Thursdays at 11:00 AM**. ** <u>You are also welcome to attend the Bible Study at church, in person!</u> ** Seating with social distancing along with wearing your mask is now happening, at the Bible Study on Thursday at 11 AM and at Worship on Sundays at 8:30 AM and 10:15 AM.

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

Questions to Ponder This Week - The Party - "Garden & Deserts"

- 1. Describe a time that you destroyed a gift that was given to you. How did you feel? How did the gift giver respond?
- 2. Deuteronomy 11:8-12. Who gives Israel the promised land, and who cares for it?
- 3. Describe a time when you forgot that God has given you everything, what motivates you to do this?
- 4. Read Exekiel 36:22-36. Who will ultimately restore us who squander away the gift? What does it look like for Him to do this for you?