

Sunday Service

May 1, 2022 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live Broadcast at 10:15 AM



Why We Stopped Talking *THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER*

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 worshipping 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.

Spiritual Conversation - Spreading the Word

When it comes to evangelism, we have real fear of giving offense or being rejected. This fear creates barriers for many Christians when it comes to talking about their faith. Many people have said when spiritual conversations happened previously, it only created tensions and arguments. What I have seen is when we meld our faith with grace and good news, it will become a joy to have spiritual conversations, because it is indeed good news.

Today: Why We Stopped Talking?

Over the years, we have sold the faith in a way which has left us damaged, fearful, and mute. Perhaps, the Good Shepherd can gather us all in fields of abundance, heal our wounds, and give us voices of hope.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” (LW 128 Vs 1-4)

1. *Awake, my heart, with gladness, See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness, Comes forth the glorious sun.
My savior there was laid Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light Our spirit wings its flight.*
2. *The foe triumph shouted When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed, His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free; In glorious victory
He who is strong to save Has triumphed over the grave.*
3. *This is a sight that gladdens What peace it does impart!
Now nothing ever saddens The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake, No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son In love for me has won.*
4. *Now hell, its prince, the devil, Of all their power are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil, And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all its might Cannot my soul affright;
It is a powerless form, However it rave and storm.*

--- Opening

*When talking with others, let grace flow from your mouth; season your conversations with salt.
Colossians 4:6*

--- 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 and merciful God, you made the disciples glad by the sight of the risen Lord. Remind us that he is always with us, and that we now share in his resurrection. 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, alle-lu-ia.

THE FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 34:11-17

God promises to send another shepherd-ruler, in the spirit of King David, who will love and care for the flock as God Himself does.

"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where

they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,

and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 4:2-6

The traditional Greek meaning of “grace” included pleasant and graceful speech. Greeks often portrayed pleasant speech as “honeyed.” Salt, here, was a preserving and flavoring agent.

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the

mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 22:54-62

Judeans thought that Galileans did not correctly distinguish their gutturals. Judeans held prejudice against Galileans as comparatively backward.

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” And a little

later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not.” And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.” But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- PROFESSION

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

--- HYMN OF DAY

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be” (LW 285 Vs 1-5)

- 1. Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.**
- 2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love, higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, lasting as eter-nit-y!
Love that found me - wondrous thought – found me when I sought him not.**
- 3. Only Jesus can impart balm to heal the wounded heart;
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod.**

4. Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to him are known, all my sorrows are his own.
He sustains the hidden life, safe with him from earthly strife.
5. O my Savior, help afford by your Spirit and your word!
When my wayward heart would stray, keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply while I live and when I die.

--- THE SERMON

Spiritual Conversations - Why We Stopped Talking

--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

"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" (LW 128 Vs 5 & 6)

5. *Now I will cling forever To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never, Whatever he passes through.
He rends death's iron chain; He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's grim thrall' I follow him through all.*
6. *He brings me to the portal That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal Is found is script of gold:
"Who there my cross has shard Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with me has died Shall here be glorified."*

----- 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 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)

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” (HP)

“Just As I Am”

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“What Wondrous Love is This”

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---- **THIS WEEK AT GRACE - Today**

May 1, 2022

Worship Services

8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Live-streamed on www.gracelutheranpsl.com

10:15 AM

Korean Church Worship

1:00 PM

Rest of the Week

May 2 - 7, 2022

LWML Meeting

Monday 1:00 PM

Olivet School

Tuesday, 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Individual Communion

Wednesday, 11:00 AM

TCFGC (ACC/Grace Hall)

Wednesday, 6:30 PM

Korean Bible Study (Church Hall)

Thursday, 9:30 AM

Bible Study (ACC/Grace Hall)

Thursday 11:00 AM

Korean Church Prayer Gathering

Saturday, 6:00 AM

LWML Spring Rally in Ft. Pierce

Saturday 8:30 - 1:00 PM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Ed Watts - 5/1, George Tsikoudis, Patricia McGinnis & Jay Horton - 5/2, Blanca Cuellar & Kent Bowen 5/3. Paxton Becker-Sauber - 5/4, Richard Harms - 5/5, Linda Gannon - 5/6

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: None listed for this week.

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Claren Kerstner in memory of Jim.

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.



LADIES: LWML will have their final meeting until September, **TOMORROW**, May 2nd, at 1:00 PM. All ladies are invited to attend for fellowship, fun, snacks, and some Bible study. We will also elect our officers for next year. The Spring Rally will be this Saturday, May 7th, in Fort Pierce, starting at 8:30 AM.

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.

INTERESTED IN GETTING TOGETHER? Grace is looking for a few people to form a "Social/Fun" committee to develop ideas to enable our members to get together and socialize. Wouldn't it be nice to get to know some of those faces you see at the services? If you are interested, please contact Chuck Strickler at cjstricklers@AOL.com or Leigh Liagre at Le711Lo@outlook.com

PLEASE SEND CARDS TO PEOPLE 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!

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

REMEMBER THOSE ON THE PRAYER LIST 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.



Prayer Requests

- **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.**

5/01 ***Worship assistants:*** 8:30 - Kevin G. & 10:15 - Ed B.

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Hans V. & 10:15 - Jan L.

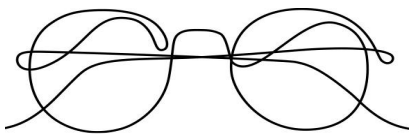
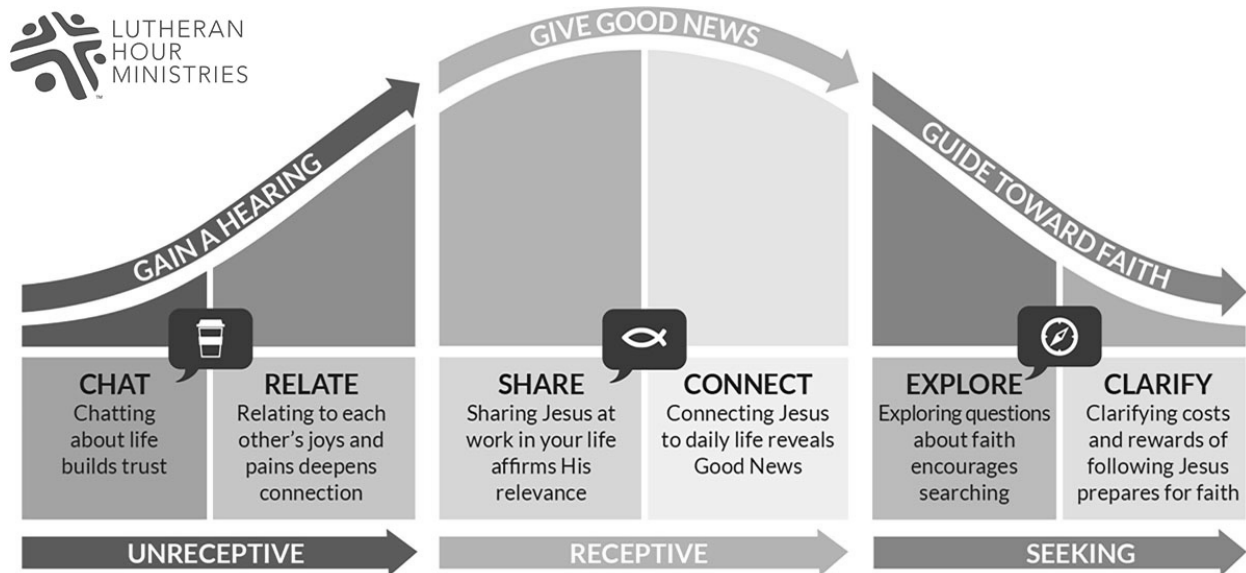
5/08 ***Worship assistants:*** 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - Dave V.

Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Piper N. & 10:15 - Cheryl N

Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10, 1 John 3:1-3, John 16:16-24 (ESV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *Spiritual Conversations - Why We Stopped Talking*

1. Have you ever had a bad experience talking about your faith? Why do you think it's so difficult to talk about your faith?
2. Read Colossians 4:2-6. How does Paul encourage us to witness our faith?
3. Look at the Lutheran Hour Ministries Conversations Curve. How can recognizing if a person is unreceptive, receptive, or seeking allow your conversation to be "gracious and seasoned with salt so you may know how you ought to answer each person?"



Eye Glasses Needed For Short Term Mission Trip!

- Lois Danzo is going on a short term mission trip to South Africa with MOST Ministries.
- The goal of the trip is to provide vision screenings and eye glasses for those in need.
- A receptacle is provided for your glasses in Church Hall.

Drop off your gently used adult-sized, child-sized, over the counter reading or prescription glasses or your gently used prescription sunglasses.

Lois is a member of a team from St. Luke Lutheran Church, Haslet, MI, who has partnered with MOST Ministries (**M**ission **O**pportunities **S**hort-**T**erm, a Michigan based non-profit mission sending agency) to take these eyeglasses to Middleburg, South Africa in July 2022.

This year 4 million pairs of eyeglasses will be thrown away in the United States while 158 million people worldwide suffer from uncorrected vision. The cost of a pair of glasses in many developing nations can exceed a month's salary.