

Sunday Service

TRANSFIGURATION

February 19, 2023 - 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM

Livestream at 10:15 AM

The Way

Finding Meaning in the Gospel of John

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.

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.

The Way: Finding Meaning In The Gospel of John

There are certain indicators that we are on The Way with Jesus: justice, spirituality, relationships, beauty, freedom, truth, and power. But what if we do not live up to these ideals? Our societies and individual lives become unbalanced, creating anger and frustration that divide us from ourselves and from God. Come and see how The Way seems broken but how Easter vision can bring many along the way of hope.

Today: Justice

We see so much hurt and injustice in society, and we cry out for a better way. But even that search for something better often leaves behind a trail of hurt. Perhaps justice can find its place in the creation story and the recreation of the gardener.

---- THE OPENING HYMN

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (LW 435 Vs 1-3)

1. All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth-tell; come ye before Him and rejoice.
2. Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid He did us make,
We are His folk, He doth us feed, and for His sheep He doth us take.
3. Oh, enter then His gates with praise; approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, for it is seemly so to do.

--- Opening

Jesus said, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.” - John 8:4-5

--- 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 loving God, we thank you for revealing your Son Jesus in glory before he suffered and died. Give us faith to recognize him as your dear Son, and strengthen us to suffer with him, until we come to share his glory. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

--THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Praise the Almighty” (LW 445 Vs 1 & 5)

1 Praise the Al-might-y, my soul, a-dore Him!
Yes, I will laud Him until death;
With songs and anthems I come be-fore Him
As long as He al-lows me breath.
From Him my life and all things came;
Bless, O my soul, His ho-ly name.
Allelujah, allelujah!

5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy
Of Him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise Him solely,
With happy heart its amen sings.
Children of God, with angel host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Allelujah, allelujah!

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 52:13- 53:6

It is hard to understand why God would crush His innocent Servant. But it is in His suffering for sin that God deals decisively with sin and its harmful effects.

See, my servant will act wisely;
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.
Just as there were many who were appalled at him—
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being
and his form marred beyond human likeness—
so he will sprinkle many nations,
and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
For what they were not told, they will see,
and what they have not heard, they will understand.

Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
He grew up before him like a tender shoot,

and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,

nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.
We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Paul's eschatology here is both now and not yet realized. Christ has reconciled all humanity to God in the present, ushering in a new creation that is not yet complete.

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 19:12-16

Under Roman law, Pilate could make whatever decision concerning Jesus he thought best.

From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jewish leaders kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar."

When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). It was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about noon.

"Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.

But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!"

"Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked.

"We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST

--- PROFESSION

THE APOSTLES CREED

--- HYMN OF 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

The Way - Justice

--THE OFFERTORY

“We Give You But Thine Own” (LW 405 vs 1,2,6)

1. ***We give you but your own,
In any gifts we bring;
All that we have is yours alone,
A trust from you our King.***
2. ***May we your bounties thus
As stewards true receive,
And gladly, Lord as you bless us,
To you our first-fruits give.***

6. *And we believe Your Word,
Though dim our faith, it's true;
What we do for your people, Lord,
We do it all for you.*

--- 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

"All People That on Earth Do Dwell" (LW 435 Vs 4 & 5)

4. **For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood and shall from age to age endure.**
5. **To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host be praise and glory ever more.**

----- 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)

“It is Well with My Soul”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“The Old Rugged Cross”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

“Take My Life and Let it Be”

Copyright: Commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS

---- THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today

February 19, 2023

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

February 20 - 25

Olivet School

Tuesday, 8:45 AM - 3:00 PM

Community Group @ Liagre's
Grace BOD (Grace Hall)
Heatherwood HOA (Church Hall)
Ash Wednesday Services
Individual Communion
Brain Health
Korean Church Prayer Gathering

Tuesday, 2:00 PM
Tuesday, 5:30 PM
Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Wednesday, 11AM & 7 PM
Wednesday, after the 11 AM Service
Thursday, 6:30 PM
Saturday, 6:00 AM

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK: Sherry Self - 2/19, Kevin Mattox - 2/20, Duane Lingis - 2/22, Evelyn Banie & Ron Phelps - 2/23 and Claren Kerstner - 2/25

THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Jay Horton in memory of Frances Tienken Horton.

TWO UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

1. "Life: Defend it, Treasure it Protect it" with guest speaker Ryan Bomberger. Care Net Banquet on Thursday, March 9 or Friday, March 10. See Judy Fredrich or Pam Torell for more information.
2. "GIFTS OF LOVE," Returning God's Blessings: Presented by the LCMS Foundation, LWML, and Grace LWML, will be held in Grace Hall on March 11, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM.



Board of Directors : This Tuesday, February 21st, the Board of Directors will hold their monthly meeting in Grace Hall at 5:30 PM. All interested members of Grace are welcome to attend to listen or even participate in the discussions if you wish.

EGG HUNT: On Easter, we'll host an egg hunt at 9:55 AM. If you're available to provide prizes or candy, there will be a donation bin in the church hall.

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.

ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE: Grace Lutheran Church Alzheimer's Community Care has been selected to receive \$1 from every \$2.99 community bag sold during the month of January 2023 at the Winn-Dixie, 281 Southwest Port St. Lucie Boulevard.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Cris will be in Orlando at a District Meeting, so no class on 2/23.

ASH WEDNESDAY: This Wednesday, February 22nd, we begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. We will have services at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM. (Small group communion will follow the 11 AM service.)

WEEKLY POTLUCK MEALS: Starting on Wednesday, **March 1st**, we will be sharing a meal together at 5:30 PM and then a Lenten service at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited to the potluck meal, even if you don't have a dish to bring. We always have plenty of food! Come one and all for some friendly fellowship. Meat, vegetables, soups and salad dishes are welcomed, oh and dessert!



THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBER? If you have "Choice Dollars" available, please consider directing them to Grace Lutheran Church. All "Choice Dollars" that are received go to paying down our mortgage on the new building. In January and February we received \$449 from Thrivent Choice! Thank you Carol, Jacqueline, Leona, Kevin and Robert for your Grace designation of Choice Dollars.

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.

FROM THE ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY CARE CENTER!

There is a wish list of needs to assist in our operation of this center to help provide care for our clients. If you could help it would be greatly appreciated. **Wish list:** Walmart gift cards to purchase craft materials, Assorted Bingo prizes, Jumbo/Large coloring books, Paper towels, Assorted sugar free chocolate, Peppermint patties, Fresh strawberries, Frozen sugar-free yogurt as well as any volunteer entertainment. Thank You

"GIFTS OF LOVE," Returning God's Blessings: Presented by the LCMS Foundation, LWML, and Grace LWML, will be held in Grace Hall on March 11, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Unlimited seating and FREE resources. For more information contact: Judy Fredrich (772) 237-2626, (561) 315-9555 or retslvnlg@outlook.com

"LIFE: DEFEND IT, TREASURE IT, PROTECT IT" with guest speaker Ryan Bomberger. Care Net Banquet on Thursday, March 9 or Friday, March 10. See Judy Fredrich or Pam Torell for more information.

BULLETIN AND PRINTED PRAYER REQUESTS: All information for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted by 10:00 AM Thursday to be printed. Prayer requests received after 10:00 AM on Thursday will be updated on the website ASAP and printed in the following Sunday's bulletin.

FROM "TONS OF FUN" COMMITTEE: Thank You! for Attending Elvis on Tuesday.

02/19 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Phil F. & 10:15 - Ed B.*
Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Ed F. & 10:15 - Heather P.

02/26 *Worship assistants: 8:30 - Bob Fox & 10:15 - Dave V.*
Scripture Readers: 8:30 - Bob F. & 10:15 - Cheryl N.
Readings: Deuteronomy 7:6-11, 1 John 3:11-18, John 2:13-22 (NIV)

QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK: *The Way- Justice*

1. Describe a time when you thought you knew “the way” but ended up getting it wrong.
 2. Read John 8:1-11. How do they try and trap Jesus in injustice? How does Jesus bring justice to the situation?
 3. Read John 19:12-16. What injustice is put on Jesus? How does he respond?
 4. Read John 1:1-5. How can you see echoes of the resurrection in this beginning part of John?
 5. How can you join with Jesus in that creative redemption of God where justice is brought?
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2023 LENTEN SEASON

The Sedar - Remembering Bitterness to the Lamb

February 22 - Ash Wednesday: 11 AM & 7:00 PM (No Meal)
(11:00 AM will be livestreamed and broadcast)

Lenten Wednesdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

Fellowship / Potluck Meal: 5:30 PM till 6:30 PM
Service Time: 6:30 PM (will be livestreamed)

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE! APRIL 2 THROUGH APRIL 9, 2023

April 2 - Palm Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM (10:15 AM will be livestreamed)

April 6 - Maundy Thursday: 6:00 PM with Communion (Live Streamed)
(Fellowship Meal will follow afterwards, IHOP?)

April 7 - Good Friday: 12:00 (Noon) and 7:00 PM
(Noon service will be livestreamed and broadcast)

April 9 -Easter Sunday: 6:45 AM (*outside*), 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM
(10:15 AM will be livestreamed)

Easter Breakfast & Fellowship: starts after Sunrise Service (7:45ish) serving will end at 10:15 AM
Egg Hunt at 9:55 AM