

Sunday Service with Communion

Believe: The King

May 28, 2017



**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. We encourage you to register your name on the fellowship pad which you will find at the end of the row where you are sitting. 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 Hour is held after the Worship Service, and we invite you to stay for a few minutes so we can get acquainted.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our Worship Service today. This meal is for Christ Followers who recognize their sinfulness and their need for Christ's forgiveness and strength, and desire to live a new life in Christ. We receive this meal recognizing the presence of Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine. ***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.*** All those who commune are asked to indicate their participation by marking the appropriate column in the Red Attendance Books as they are passed at the beginning of the Worship Service.

IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT, the wine is made available in both the individual glasses and the common cup. Following the distribution of the bread, the individual cups will be offered. Then the common cup will be offered to those who do not have an individual cup in their hand. The acolyte will then gather the individual glasses. ***For those who have an intolerance to wine, grape juice is lighter colored in the individual communion glasses.*** Those who find it difficult to walk to the altar can be communed in the pew. Please inform the usher of your need.

ATTENDANCE BOOKS PLEASE BE SURE TO PASS ALONG THE RED ATTENDANCE BOOKS IN YOUR ROW AND ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO SIGN IT. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF OUR MINISTRY OF CARE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

Believe: Who He Is

Who is God? Have you ever thought about that question? If someone were to ask you, how would you answer. Perhaps you would say Jesus. Perhaps you would say creator. The list goes on endlessly. But how does God work? What is the relation of the Father to the Son and to the Holy Spirit? The Apostles' Creed, written almost 2000 years ago, answers these questions and is still amazing to this day.

Today: It's popular to say today that Jesus is Lord (King) of your heart. But is that the story in the Bible? Today we are seeing how God became King over all the creation.

(Asterisks (**)) indicate that the people stand)

**** THE OPENING HYMN “Jesus, Name Above All Names”**

*Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.*

*Jesus, loving Shepherd,
Vine of the branches, Son of God.
Prince of Peace, wonderful Counselor,
Lord of the universe, Light of the world.*

*Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of kings, Lord of lords,
The way the truth, and the Life,
Mighty creator, my Savior and friend.*

**** THE INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: *I will lift my praise above everything to You, my God and King!*

PEOPLE: WE WILL CONTINUALLY BLESS YOUR NAME FOREVER AND ALWAYS.

Pastor: *The Lord is gracious and merciful,*

PEOPLE: SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE

Pastor: *All creation will stand in awe of You, O Eternal King.*

PEOPLE: THEY WILL TALK OF THE GRANDEUR OF YOUR KINGDOM AND CELEBRATE THE WONDER OF YOUR POWER

Pastor: *Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom*

PEOPLE: AND YOUR REIGN ENDURES FOR ALL GENERATIONS.

Taken from Psalm 145

**** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

*(We greet one another with the handshake of peace and with the words
“The Peace of the Lord be with you.”)*

**** THE HYMN OF PRAISE** “This is the Feast of Victory of Our God”

CHORUS

**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. (CHORUS)***

***Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are his. (CHORUS)***

***Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation***

***Blessing, honor, glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (CHORUS)***

***For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun his reign. Alleluia!***

***This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Confirmation of Joseph Atkins

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

During Confession we take time to slow down and realize how we have lost God's Great Story of goodness. We have served ourselves and our interests above God.

(Take a moment of silent reflection upon our need for God's forgiveness)

Pastor: O Almighty God,

PEOPLE: WE CONFESS THAT WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS BUT DO NOT ALWAYS RECEIVE IT OR LIVE IT OUT. WE FAIL TO TRUST IN THE LIFE OF THE KINGDOM. FORGIVE US LORD. OPEN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS TO RECEIVE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST IN OUR DAILY LIVES, THAT WE MIGHT LIVE ETERNALLY. IN THE NAME OF OUR SAVIOR WE PRAY. AMEN.

Pastor: The Story of Jesus is Christ is risen!

There is new life everywhere. There is Good News everywhere. There is nothing lost that cannot be found, no dark place where light cannot shine, no awful past that cannot lead to a bright future. You are God's beloved;

*you are a child of the resurrection. Live in the hope and promise of Christ.
Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Spirit.*

PEOPLE: AMEN.

**** THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Pastor: Almighty and everliving God, it is Your will to restore all things in Your dear
Son. Bring together under His just and gentle rule all the peoples of the
world, now divided and torn apart by sin, for He lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

PEOPLE: AMEN

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

<i>When God's people haven't seen a hint of light or hope of day, God will do something new.</i>
--

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,

to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:5-9

Here is God's Son: Creator, Sustainer, Great High Priest. Jesus has to take on our feeble flesh and suffer a violent death. He suffers for what we need.

For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere,

"What is man, that you are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that you care for him?
You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor,
putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

**** THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 18:33-40

Caiaphas the Jewish High Priest, knows he needs friends in high places to put an end to Jesus, so he turns to Pilate, the Roman governor. He is an irritable man, unnecessarily cruel and intentionally provocative. Many Jews will die on his watch. For Pilate, Jesus is just one more.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would

have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

PEOPLE: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

**** THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

SERMON HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

*Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.*

*Let us also live with Jesus, He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, since You are our head,
We are Your own living members; where You live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me.*

THE SERMON

Pastor Cris Escher

Believe: The King

**** 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.*

**** THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

(After each petition)

Pastor: . . . Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE: HEAR OUR PRAYER.

**** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: *The Lord be with you.*

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Pastor: *Lift up your hearts.*

PEOPLE: WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.

Pastor: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

PEOPLE: IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE HIM 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 IN THE HIGHEST.**

**** THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Living Bread from Heaven"

*O Living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, with praises overflows*

*My Lord, you here have led me within your holiest place
And here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace;
For you have freely given what earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.*

***You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown,
And all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.***

***Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened, to serve with holy fear.
And when you call my spirit to leave this world below,
I enter, through your merit, where joys unmingled flow.***

“Be Thou My Vision”

***Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.***

***Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.***

***Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.***

***Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joy's, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever be-fall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.***

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

***My Jesus, I love Thee; I know Thou art mine.
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.***

***I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.***

*I'll love Thee in Life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.*

*In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.*

**** THE BLESSING**

Pastor: Christ is Risen!

PEOPLE: HE IS RISEN, INDEED. ALLELUIA!

Pastor: Jesus is King, and you are in His kingdom. May you live as one who is forgiven and clean, seeking to live in the kingdom here, just as it is in Heaven.

PEOPLE: AMEN.

**** THE CLOSING HYMN** "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"

*Thine the amen, thine the praise, alleluias angels raise,
thine the ever lasting head thine the breaking of the bread,
thine the glory, thine the story, thine the harvest then the cup,
thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.*

*Thine the glory in the night, no more dying only light,
thine the river, thine the tree, then the Lamb eternally,
then the holy holy holy celebration jubilee,
thine the splendor, thine the brightness only thee only thee.*

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Today

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

Worship-Confirmation Sunday

Fellowship

Korean Church Worship

May 28, 2017

8:45 pm

10:00 am

11:00 am

1:00 pm

This Week

AA
Via de Cristo @ Bocks home
Bible Study @Perkin's Restaurant
Mahjong
Korean Church Prayer Meeting

Sunday, 7:30 pm
Monday, 6:30 pm
Thursday, 7:00 am
Thursday, 12:00 noon
Saturday, 6:00 am

TODAY Confirmation Sunday. Joseph Atkins will confirm his baptism and faith as he shares his faith paper and receives a blessing.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASS will begin at 8:45 am. Students from grades 4 through 7 will be together in one class taught by Barbara Ruzicka. We will be using the children's room. Friends are welcome. And of course, all adults are invited to participate in the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS Soo Choung, 5/29; Gerald Lindstrom, 5/31; Barbara Bock, 6/1

ANNIVERSARIES Ken and Pam White, 5/28 (29}

If we have missed your anniversary or birthday, please drop us a note in the office or email us at Gracelutheranpsl@gmail.com.

THE FLOWERS adorning the altar this morning are given to the glory of God, by Claude and Patricia Hessee, and Soo Choung in honor of her birthday.

FLOWER CHART The flower chart continues to be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you would like to order flowers to adorn the altar for a specific Sunday, please write your name on the appropriate line. The cost per Sunday is \$27.00. We thank you for your help.



PRAYER LIST/CHAIN If you have family and/or friends you would like our members to include in our prayers, please submit their names in writing by completing one of the forms in the narthex or send an email to the church office at GraceLutheranPSL@gmail.com and title it Prayer List. Thank you.

www.GraceLutheranpsl.com

Remember to check out our website and follow us on Facebook. They're both "works-in-progress", but the calendar and information on our website is updated constantly.