

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 17-18, 2024

1st Lent Sunday

Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace

Pastor Scott Hackler

OUR MISSION

Proclaiming God's Love, God's Promises,
and the Abundant Life

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Jesus, Tapestry and Reflections" written by Penny Rodriguez

INVOCATION

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

LENT CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Isaiah 43:19-21)*

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the wilderness of this world.

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We praise God for grace that has saved us.

OPENNING HYMN The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation / is Jesus Christ, her Lord; / she is his new creation / by water and the word. / From heav'n he came and sought her / to be his holy bride; / with his own blood he bought her, / and for her life he died.

Through toil and tribulation / and tumult of her war, / she waits the consummation / of peace forevermore; / till with the vision glorious / her longing eyes are blest, / and the great church victorious / shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union / with God, the Three in One, / and mystic sweet communion / with those whose rest is won. / Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! / Lord, save us by your grace, / that we, like saints before us, / may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900. Public Domain.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made. / We will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made. / We will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ANTHEM

"Jesus Shall Reign"

Grace Chimes

PEACE PASSING

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

READING Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

THE GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "Wilderness and Wild Beasts" Pastor Scott Hackler

HYMN OF THE DAY "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word "

Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; / curb those who by deceit or sword / would wrest the kingdom from your Son / and bring to naught all he has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, / for you are Lord of lords alone; / defend your holy church, that we / may sing your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth, / send peace and unity on earth; / support us in our final strife / and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

responses: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

INVITATION **“Come to the Table of Mercy”**

Come to the table of mercy, / prepared with the wine and the bread. / All who are hungry and thirsty, / come, and your souls will be fed. / Come at the Lord's invitation; / receive from his nail-scarred hand. / Eat of the bread of salvation; / drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942. Text © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc.; Juniper Landing Music (admin. Word Music); and Word Music (ASCAP). Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

Holy, almighty and merciful God. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 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.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, / a sword and shield victorious; / he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod / and wins salvation glorious. / The old satanic foe / has sworn to work us woe! / With craft and dreadful might / he arms himself to fight. / On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might! / We would be lost, rejected. / But now a champion comes to fight, / whom God himself elected. / You ask who this may be? / The Lord of hosts is he! / Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, / God's only Son, adored. / He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land / all threat'ning to devour us, / we tremble not, unmoved we stand; / they cannot overpower us. / Let this world's tyrant rage; / in battle we'll engage! / His might is doomed to fail; / God's judgment must prevail! / One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, / no thanks to foes, who fear it; / for God himself fights by our side / with weapons of the Spirit. / Were they to take our house, / goods, honor, child, or spouse, / though life be wrenched away, / they cannot win the day. / The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978(c) 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-706001.

Pianist
Choir Director
Choir Accompanist
Online Scripture Reader
Video Production

Sue Hunter
Ken Carnes
Sandy Hobbs
Marrienne White
Jerry Huston, Richard Johnson

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Visitors, Guests and Friends! Let us know that you are here by using this QR code. We are so happy that you have joined us in worship.



WELCOME SESSIONS are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn about our church and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our vision, mission and values, our plans

and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is Monday, March 4th from 10am - noon. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY The next gathering will be at 10am on February 21st. Based on her book, Resistant Hope: Fighting Back Against Suffering, Pastor Elaine Siemsen will be leading us for the next three weeks. Where is God in the times of our suffering? The discussion will be about God, our suffering and where can we find Hope.

WOMEN'S RETREAT, MONDAY, MARCH 4, 8:30am-7:30pm.

Register for the Women's retreat this weekend and next. The focus will be the Sermon on the Mount and particularly the Beatitudes. How can we apply Jesus' words into our daily lives? Chaplain Cyndy Warnier will be your leader.

TICKETS FOR LIBERTY QUARTET CONCERT

This weekend FREE tickets to the Liberty Quartet Concert, "HIS STRENGTH" are available before and after services. Please take only the number you will use and return any to the fellowship team so others may have them. Tickets are also available in church office on TUESDAYS ONLY. You may also reserve through the fellowship phone number, 480-438-1115. The event is MARCH 10 @ 6 PM.

We have also have two **baseball tickets** available for the game and fellowship event March 7. Please contact Dorothy Carnes @ 563-349-9274

THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL: TRAVEL TO GREECE AND TURKEY

Join Pastor Scott and visit the footsteps of the Apostle Paul in Greece and Turkey. The 10-day trip will include four-day cruise exploring Greek islands and a visit to Ephesus, Turkey. Go to the link on our website.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS February 25 Reminder: Bring your donations to the Valley View Community Food Bank next Sunday. *Whoever is kind to the needy honors God.* Proverbs 14:31

MEN'S BREAKFAST Next on February 27 at 8am. We're offering biscuits and gravy and hash browns. There will of course be the usual juice, fruit cup, pastries and coffee. Bruce Belanger will lead the men in discussing selected scripture lessons. Please sign up to attend on clipboard in the Narthex.

GRIEFSHARE

Thursdays until April 18th from 10:00am - 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. To register Call: Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church (623)977-6000 or online at griefshare.org. Deborah Frusciano: 602-909-8369.

BLOOD PRESURE CHECKS High blood pressure is no laughing matter. So before heading out to your favorite restaurant for breakfast, get your blood pressure checked. It only takes a few minutes! Blood pressures will be checked Sunday, February 18, in the conference room at 9:00 am and 11:00am.

FLOWERS are given in celebration of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Chuck & Hella Kinney and also Doris Coville's 86th Birthday.

SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR
February 17 – February 24

Saturday, February 17

5:00 pm Service

Sunday, February 18

8:00 am Service

9:00 am Blood Pressure Check

10:00 am Service

11:00 am Blood Pressure check

Monday, February 19

Office Closed for the Holiday

Tuesday, February 20

9:00 am Staff meeting

9:00 am Comfort Quilters

12:00 pm Counseling Ministry

*By appointment only
with Dr. Joe Dramise

3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal

4:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 21

9:00 am Counseling Ministry*

*By appointment only
with Dr Joe Dramise

10:00 am Bible Study

Thursday, February 22

9:00 am Online Worship
video recording

10:00 am GriefShare

1:00 pm Council meeting

Friday, February 23

9:30 am Bulletin Assembl

Saturday, February 24

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, February 25

8:00 am Worship

10:00 am Worship

