

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD (LCMS)



Third Sunday in Lent - Oculi

March 12, 2023

Jesus Overcomes the Strong Man – Jeremiah was charged with speaking evil when he spoke the Word of the Lord (Jer 26:1–15). So also, Jesus is accused of doing evil when in fact He is doing good. He casts out a demon from a mute man so that he is able to speak (Lk 11:14–28). But some said Jesus did this by the power of Beelzebub, Satan. Like Pharaoh of old, their hearts were hard (Ex 8:16–24). They did not recognize the finger of God, the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through Jesus. Jesus is the Stronger Man who overcomes the strong man. He takes the devil's armor of sin and death and destroys it from the inside out by the holy cross. He exorcizes and frees us by water and the Word. We were once darkness, but now we are light in Christ the Lord (Eph 5:1–9). As children of light, our tongues are loosed to give thanks to Him who saved us.

Ministering to the People of

Ball State University Community
East Central Indiana
The World

541 “Away from Us!” the Demon Cried

- 1 “Away from us!” the demon cried
When Christ, the Lord, drew near.
“Our dark, disordered world is lost
When You, the Light, appear!”

- 2 But Jesus spoke with God’s own pow’r;
“Come forth!” was His command;
For evil cannot bear the Light
Nor sin the Truth withstand.

- 3 O risen Christ, God’s living Word,
To us, we pray, draw near.
Come, speak the truth that cleanses sin
With love that conquers fear.

- 4 Drive out the doubt that cripples faith;
Expel our pride and greed
That we, from pow’rs that threaten us,
May, by Your grace, be freed.

- 5 Then help us, Lord, to greet each day
With hearts and wills made new
And, when You call us forth to serve,
To rise and follow You.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: vv. 15-16



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.**

To you, | O LORD,*
I lift | up my soul.

**O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.**

The troubles of my heart | are enlarged,*
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.

**Consider my affliction and my | trouble,*
and forgive | all my sins.**

Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!*

Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.**

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

During Advent and Lent, the Hymn of Praise is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

- P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Collect for Ash Wednesday

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness may we receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.’” And they did so. Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt. The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and present yourself to Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen.”’” And the LORD did so. There came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and into his servants’ houses. Throughout all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by the swarms of flies.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 9:19, 3



Arise, O LORD! Let not | man prevail;*

let the nations be judged be- | fore you!

When my enemies | turn back,*

they stumble and perish before your | presence.

Epistle *1 Thessalonians 4:1–7*

Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to live and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

During Lent, the Alleluia is omitted

Lenten Verse 205

C **These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**☐ 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.**

Sit

659 Lord of Our Life

- 1 Lord of our life and God of our salvation,
Star of our night and hope of ev'ry nation:
Hear and receive Your Church's supplication,
Lord God Almighty.

- 2 See round Your ark the hungry billows curling;
See how Your foes their banners are unfurling
And with great spite their fiery darts are hurling,
O Lord, preserve us.

- 3 Lord, be our light when worldly darkness veils us;
Lord, be our shield when earthly armor fails us;
And in the day when hell itself assails us,
Grant us Your peace, Lord:

- 4 Peace in our hearts, where sinful thoughts are raging,
Peace in Your Church, our troubled souls assuaging,
Peace when the world its endless war is waging,
Peace in Your heaven.

Text: Matthäus Apelles von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

For the Light of the Gospel, that the darkness of deceit, disbelief, and despair be scattered by the preaching of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For mothers and fathers, that they would be imitators of God to lead their children in the way of light, living repentant lives in this world with hope in the life of the world to come, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders of our land, that they would humble themselves under the hand of God and serve their people sacrificially in every danger or need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those afflicted by any adversity, whether of body or soul, especially Jan Ahlersmeyer, Cathy Branscome, Paul Buchmeier, Rylynn Byurn, Susan Cook, Lisa Grasso, Debbie Haddock, Dave and Reta Heinkel, Terri Mackey, Juanita Mays, Barb McConnell, Bruce Nathan, Harold O'Bryant, Jason Partin, Carri Sue, and Bill and Janet Walker, that God would lead them by His Spirit to renewed strength and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those celebrating birthdays and wedding anniversaries, for Laura Shaeffer and Carrie Hill, that they rejoice in God's gracious care and protection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who commune, that the Lord, who joins His Word to the bread and wine and invites us to eat and drink, would grant us to hear and keep His Word in faith, and so worthily receive the true body and blood of our Savior to our eternal blessing, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Sit

Offering

Please sign in using the attendance register located at the end of each pew.

Service of the Sacrament

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church encourages confirmed members of Grace and of our sister congregations in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to commune. Christians of other denominations or church bodies are respectfully asked to honor our practice and not to commune. Please see our statement card on “The Lord’s Supper, Our Belief and Practice” provided in the pews. **Guests** desiring to commune with us today are asked to speak to the pastor before service.*

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;**
Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini *LSB 209*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

614 “As Surely as I Live,” God Said

- 1 “As surely as I live,” God said,
“I would not see the sinner dead.
I want him turned from error’s
ways,
Repentant, living endless days.”
- 2 And so our Lord gave this
command:
“Go forth and preach in ev’ry
land;
Bestow on all My pard’ning grace
Who will repent and mend their
ways.
- 3 “All those whose sins you thus
remit
I truly pardon and acquit,
And those whose sins you will
retain
Condemned and guilty shall
remain.
- 4 “What you will bind, that bound
shall be;
What you will loose, that shall be
free;
To My dear Church the keys are
giv’n
To open, close the gates of
heav’n.”
- 5 The words which absolution give
Are His who died that we might
live;
The minister whom Christ has
sent
Is but His humble instrument.
- 6 When ministers lay on their
hands,
Absolved by Christ the sinner
stands;
He who by grace the Word
believes
The purchase of His blood
receives.
- 7 All praise to You, O Christ, shall
be
For absolution full and free,
In which You show Your richest
grace;
From false indulgence guard our
race.
- △8 Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
World without end, eternally!

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; tr. Matthias
Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Text: Public domain

533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure

- 1 Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
Godhead, humanity, union supernal,
O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!
Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!

- 2 Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!

- 3 Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!

- 4 Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
Welcome Him now in this fast-fleeting hour!
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!

Text: Johann Ludwig Conrad Allendorf, 1693–1773; tr. Oliver C. Rupprecht, 1903–2000, alt.

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594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize
me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus'
blood?

3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come
unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!

4 Death, you cannot end my
gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.

5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its
raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001699

716 I Walk in Danger All the Way

- 1 I walk in danger all the way.
The thought shall never leave me
That Satan, who has marked his prey,
Is plotting to deceive me.
- 2 I pass through trials all the way,
With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day
The cross of God's own sending.
When in adversity
I know not where to flee,
When storms of woe my soul
dismay,
I pass through trials all the way.
- 3 And death pursues me all the way,
Nowhere I rest securely;
He comes by night, he comes by day,
He takes his prey most surely.
A failing breath, and I
In death's strong grasp may lie
To face eternity today
As death pursues me all the way.
- 4 I walk with angels all the way,
They shield me and befriend me;
All Satan's pow'r is held at bay
When heav'nly hosts attend me;
They are my sure defense,

- This foe with hidden snares
May seize me unawares
If I should fail to watch and pray.
I walk in danger all the way.
All fear and sorrow, hence!
Unharm'd by foes, do what they
may,
I walk with angels all the way.
- 5 I walk with Jesus all the way,
His guidance never fails me;
Within His wounds I find a stay
When Satan's pow'r assails me;
And by His footsteps led,
My path I safely tread.
No evil leads my soul astray;
I walk with Jesus all the way.
 - 6 My walk is heav'nward all the way;
Await, my soul, the morrow,
When God's good healing shall allay
All suff'ring, sin, and sorrow.
Then, worldly pomp, begone!
To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay;
My walk is heav'nward all the way.

Text: Hans Adolf Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Ditlef G.
Ristad, 1863–1938, alt.
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

714 Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode

1 Who trusts in God
A strong abode
In heav'n and earth possesses;
Who looks in love
To Christ above,
No fear that heart oppresses.
In You alone,
Dear Lord, we own
Sweet hope and consolation,
Our shield from foes,
Our balm for woes,
Our great and sure salvation.

2 Though Satan's wrath
Beset our path
And worldly scorn assail us,
While You are near,
We shall not fear;
Your strength will never fail us.
Your rod and staff
Will keep us safe
And guide our steps forever;
Nor shades of death
Nor hell beneath
Our lives from You will sever.

3 In all the strife
Of mortal life
Our feet will stand securely;
Temptation's hour
Will lose its pow'r,
For You will guard us surely.
O God, renew
With heav'nly dew
Our body, soul, and spirit
Until we stand
At Your right hand
Through Jesus' saving merit.

Text: tr. Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1804–99, alt.; (st. 1): Joachim Magdeburg, c. 1525–after 1587; (sts. 2–3): Harmonia cantionum, 1597, Leipzig
Text: Public domain

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Serving Today at Grace 3/12

Celebrant and Preacher – Rev. Danny Mackey

Organist and Choir Director – Dick Grill

Handbell Director – Judi Pape

Assisting Elder 10:30 a.m. – Matthew Bowdell

Ushers 8:00 a.m. – Devon Hill; 10:30 a.m. – Linda Cook

Videographer 10:30 a.m. – Eric McCoy

Altar Guild – Linda Cook, Reta Heinkel, Taitlyn Preus

Serving Next Week at Grace 3/19

Celebrant and Preacher – Rev. Danny Mackey

Liturgist – Vicar Peter Preus

Organist and Choir Director – Dick Grill

Handbell Director – Judi Pape

Assisting Elder 10:30 a.m. – Matthew Bowdell

Ushers 8:00 a.m. – Devon Hill; 10:30 a.m. – Linda Cook

Videographer 10:30 a.m. – Eric McCoy

Altar Guild – Linda Cook, Reta Heinkel, Taitlyn Preus

Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God and to enhance the beauty of His house by Carol Koss in loving memory of her husband, Larry Koss.

Lent and Holy Week 2023

Artifacts of Christ's Passion

This Lent our devotion will use Artifacts from Christ's Passion to focus our attention and to draw out a particular theological significance for us and our lives today. They will help deepen our understanding and grow our faith in the Christ who suffered, died, and was buried.

Ultimately, they will give us even greater cause to rejoice in His overcoming death on Easter morning.

Please also plan to join us at 6:00 p.m. before each midweek service for a free-will courtesy meal provided by various groups of the congregation.

February 22, Ash Wednesday

March 1, Midweek 1

Alabaster Flask of Very Expensive Ointment

March 8, Midweek 2

30 Pieces of Silver

March 15, Midweek 3

Pilate's Washing Bowl

March 22, Midweek 4

Crown of Thorns

March 29, Midweek 5

Temple Curtain

Holy Week

April 6, Holy Thursday

April 7, Good Friday

April 8, Easter Vigil

April 9, Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of Our Lord

All services (excepting Easter Sunday) will be at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday services will be at 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

This Week (Mar 12 - 19) at Grace

Matins: Mon. - Wed. 8:30 a.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:20 a.m. Christian Education Hour

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Confirmation Class (1st-year)

Monday: 9:30 a.m. Monday Morning Bible Study

1:30 p.m. Grace Crafters

6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (2nd-Year)

6:15 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:10 p.m. Vocal Choir

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. College Bible Study

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal hosted by the Board of Missions

7:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek 3 Divine Service

Thursday: *Pastor and Vicar out of the office for Confessions Study*

7:00 p.m. College Bible Study

Saturday: *Fellowship Hall Reserved – Mary Painter*

Next Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:20 a.m. Christian Education Hour

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Confirmation Class (1st-year)

In Our Prayers

Health – Jan Ahlersmeyer, Cathy Branscome, Paul Buchmeier, Rylynn Byurn, Susan Cook, Lisa Grasso, Debbie Haddock, Dave and Reta Heinkel, Becky Levihn, Terri Mackey, Juanita Mays, Barb McConnell, Bruce Nathan, Harold O’Bryant, Jason Partin, Carri Sue, and Bill and Janet Walker

Shut-ins – Marilynne Gornet, Becky Levihn, Pat Mark, Jim McCoy, Debby Taylor

Armed Forces – Jonathan Atsinger, Dean Bartel, Matthew Bowdell, Emily Kingsley, Gary Parks, Jr., Hayden Parsons, Cory Robertson, and Dan Selke

Birthdays – Laura Shaeffer (3/12), Carrie Hill (3/14)

Wedding Anniversaries –

Thanksgivings and Praise – for Devon Hill and his recovery; for the celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

To activate the Grace Prayer Chain at any time, contact Diana James (765) 748-1377 or log on to our website and click “Prayer Request”—your email goes directly to Diana.

Announcements

Altar Guild – We are in need of more volunteers to help on the Altar Guild. If you are interested in learning about the Altar Guild please contact Lori Foist or Emily Nickels.

Altar Flower Chart – The Altar Flower Chart is all set and ready for you to reserve the Altar flowers for Sunday in 2023. Please include your name and what we are celebrating or honoring on the lines provided with each date. There is also a box beside the date, if you would like to donate the flowers to a shut-in, please check the box. The altar flowers are \$30 (they can be split if we have a Sunday that two people are requesting) Checks made payable to Grace Ladies Aid. Thank you all for helping beautify our Altar with the flowers year-round.

Kantorei of CTSFW – Lenten Evening Prayer led by the Kantorei of CTSFW on Sunday, March 19 at 4:00 p.m. in Kramer Chapel (6600 N. Clinton St. Fort Wayne, IN ctsfw.edu/Events)

Vacation Bible School – This year’s theme is *God’s Living Water*. Save the date for Sunday June 4 through Thursday June 8. We are still in need for volunteers to help make this spectacular for the children of Grace. If you would like to help please reach out to Carrie Hill (765) 744-6836 and she can let you know what areas we need assistance with. We will open registration in the next few months. All children are welcome from ages 3-12, members of Grace as well as family, friends, and non members.

Parish Services Needs Your Help – As you can see from the picture below our pantry shelves are quite empty! We went for awhile where we didn't have a lot of demand for our services. But... Thankfully, we have been awarded a Thrivent Action Card to help us with providing breakfast during coffee hour after early service on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Join us for breakfast, Christian fellowship, and education! Help us to help the community not only here at Grace but in our surrounding areas! Watch the bulletin for our pantry needs weekly. Thank you to all those who donate and for all that you do for our community!

Grace Pantry, photo taken March 2023





GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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Friday, office closed

Pastor Danny Mackey

(660) 492-3958 + mackeydp@hotmail.com