

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
FEBRUARY 25, 2024-9:30 AM WORSHIP

*As we continue our Lenten journey, we are minded that life with Jesus leads to the cross.*

New to Grace? Please stop by our Welcome Center in the entryway.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion as we celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. As you prepare for worship, please fill out worship information sheets in the red folders in each pew. Parents and children are welcome to use our "Wiggle Room" behind the sanctuary. Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound desk.  
Congregation responses in **Bold**. \*Those who are able, please stand.

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S LOVE

PRELUDE

Have Thine Own Way Lord

Robert J. Powell

\*WELCOME/GREET ONE ANOTHER

\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Gracious God,

**we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and serve you in newness of life.**

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sins, strengthens us in all goodness and keeps us in eternal life. **Amen.**

\*GATHERING HYMN ELW 339

## Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,  
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:  
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;  
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.  
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.  
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



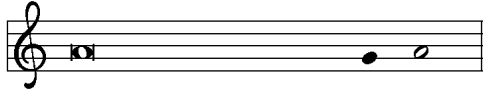
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

\*GREETING

The immeasurable grace of Christ Jesus, the rich mercy of God,  
and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



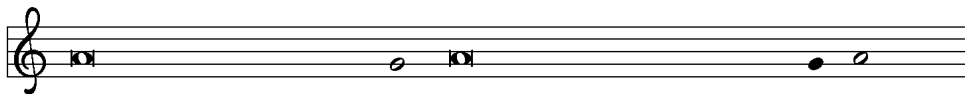
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



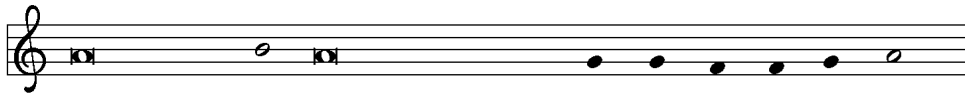
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



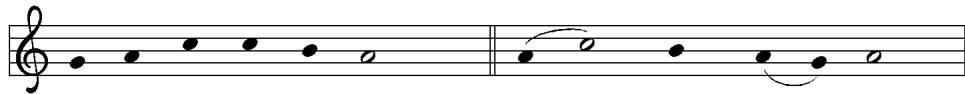
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, you always have mercy. Bring back all who have strayed from your ways; lead them to embrace the truth of your Word and hold it fast; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

WE HEAR THE WORDS OF SALVATION

READING

Romans 4:13-25

Listen to a reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be."<sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. (NRSV)

Word of God.

Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## As the Deer



As the deer pants for the wa-ter, so my soul longs af-ter you.

You a-lone are my heart's de-sire and I long to wor-ship you.

You a-lone are my strength, my shield, to you a-lone may my spir-it yield;

you a-lone are my heart's de-sire, and I long to wor-ship you.

\*GOOD NEWS

Mark 8:31-38

Good news from Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus began to teach the disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." (NRSV)

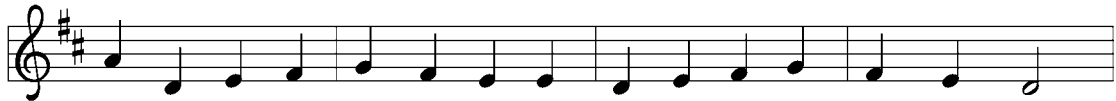
The good news of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Kahl

## Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy;  
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.  
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## WE SHARE GOD'S LOVE

### \*APOSTLES' 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 to the dead. 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

We cry to you for help, O God, praying for the church, the world, and all those who are in need.

*(A brief silence.)*

Let us pray for this planet we call home; for the oceans we have polluted with oil; for the land we have piled with garbage; and for the species we have endangered. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the multitude of nations, for others of different faiths than our own; and for those without a community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this assembly; for those who read the lessons and lead music; for greeters and ushers; for Sunday school teachers and students; for longtime members and first-time visitors. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for families that are separated; for children in foster care; for people with disabilities; and for all in need of healing (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for those who completed their earthly journeys, (*especially*). Encourage us to follow their example of following you. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Now is the acceptable time to offer our prayers to you, God of grace and truth. Receive them in your mercy, and grant us all that we need, in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

OFFERING

Hear, O Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

\*OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,

**you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Welcome to this celebration of Holy Communion.*

*All are welcome to share the body and blood given and shed for you.*

*Today distribution will be pouring chalice. Grape juice is pre-poured in the center of the trays  
Please come forward by the side aisles, commune and return to your seats by the center aisle.*

\*GREAT THANKSGIVING



HOLY, HOLY

Sara Thomsen

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ten - der, gen - tle  
 God. Heav - en and earth are full of you. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na in the  
 high - est and in the low ones.  
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in Your name.

CCLI#1382075

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\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

\*INVITATION

Come to Christ, broken and poured out for you.  
**We come filled with God's love.**

HYMN ELW 466

In the Singing

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,  
 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,  
 in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,  
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,  
*Refrain*  
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;  
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931  
 Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926  
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## What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886  
 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \*BLESSING

God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

POSTLUDE

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Robert J. Powell

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### THRIVENT REMINDER

Anyone who has insurance, annuities, investments, or other products through Thrivent may have Thrivent Choice Dollars available for donation to your favorite charity. All Choice dollars earned in 2023 must be donated before the end of March, 2024. Grace Lutheran is one of the non-profits that can benefit from your donation. In 2023, Grace Lutheran received over \$800 from Thrivent through the generosity of Thrivent clients.

Please consider logging on to your Thrivent account and donating your dollars to Grace Lutheran or the charity of your choice. If you have questions or need help logging onto your Thrivent account, please call Thrivent at 800-847-4836 and say Thrivent Choice.

Thank you, Crystal Michael, Thrivent Congregation Advocate

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE at GRACE**

Our Office Administrator, Linda Itzen, is retiring—her last day will be March 31. This is a part-time position of under 30 hours a week. Interested parties can pick up an application in the office—office hours are 8:30 to 3:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday, closed on Fridays. For more information, please call Helen Patterson, Personnel Director at 515-302-4078

**Planning Meeting for our  
Annual Rummage Sale  
March 4, 2024  
6:30 pm  
Upper level library**

All are welcome to attend the planning meeting. We will discuss all aspects of the rummage sale event. We plan to continue to have a bake sale, café, and silent auction as in the past. New ideas/suggestions and new volunteers are always welcome. Volunteer sign up sheets will be available in the near future. Look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Jim Blocker, Rummage Sale Chair.

**Lenten Worship Schedule**

**February 28**  
Altered on the Edge of Belonging  
(Acts 8:26-40)  
**March 6**  
Altered Alongside Our Enemies (Acts 9:1-12)  
**March 13**  
Altered by Disruption  
(Acts 10: 1-16, 34-35, 44-47)  
**March 20**  
Altered Through Stories We Don't Trust  
(Acts 12:6-17)

**Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services with meals start  
February 21 to March 20**

**Wednesday, February 28**

5:30 pm meal—Turkey Noodle Soup (Chuck & Leslie Reetz)  
6:30 pm Worship

**Wednesday, March 6**

5:30 pm meal—Maidrites & Pasta Salad (Fellowship Team)  
6:30 pm Worship

**Wednesday, March 13**

5:30 pm meal—Chicken Casserole & side (Education Team & Youth)  
6:30 pm Worship

**Wednesday, March 20**

5:30 pm meal—Potluck (Congregation)  
6:30 pm—Worship

**March 24 (Palm Sunday)**

Worship at 9:30 am

**March 28 (Maundy Thursday)**

Worship at 6:30 pm

**March 29 (Good Friday)**

Worship at 6:30 pm

**March 31 (Easter Sunday)**

Worship 9:30 am  
Easter Breakfast—8:00 am by  
ARiSE & Friends

**The Fort Dodge Choral Society**  
**Directed by Greta Nelson**  
**Performing "Around this Decade"**  
**Today Sunday, February 25 at 3:00 pm**  
**Grace Lutheran Church.**

The concert will celebrate the recent musical talent of Midwest composers, including Iowa's own Elaine Hagenberg. The brass quintet Jive for Five will collaborate the choir on two pieces, including the three-movement work "Magnificat" by Kevin Memley. Jive for Five will also be playing their own set.

Tickets at the door are \$12 for adults and free for students.  
 Admission is included with the purchase of a FDSC Membership

**Lutheran World Relief Quilt Kits**—If you like to sew but don't have time to quilt with the Willing Workers on Monday mornings, please consider assembling quilt tops at home. There is a basket in the Fireside Room filled with plastic bags. Each bag contains enough quilt blocks to make one twin-size quilt top, a spool of thread, and an instruction sheet. Place the completed quilt top back into the bag and return it to the basket in the Fireside Room where it will be collected by the Willing Workers, layered, tied, and sent off to keep people warm around the world. There is no time limit for completion. Sew at your own speed and enjoy sharing your time and talents.

Thank you, Willing Workers Quilting Group.

### Spring Flowers to Decorate the Sanctuary at Easter

Flowers may be ordered through the church office. Please return this form and payment (Payable to Grace Lutheran Church) for spring flowers no later than **Sunday, March 10**. The order will be placed on Monday, March 11. Prices are as follows:

Easter Lily, 1 stem, \$13.50 \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily, 2 stems, \$22.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Tulip \$19.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil \$19.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth \$19.00 \_\_\_\_\_

New this year, Hydrangea \$34.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Indicate Choice of Blue \_\_\_\_\_ or Purple \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ OR

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER MINISTRY**

**Surgery, sick, chronic conditions:** **Dick Michael, Dick Anderson; Ada Kelley**, great niece of Pat & Judy Reed; **Marlin Snyder**, father of Cindy Snyder; **Teresa Walters**, mother of Laura Walters; **Kris Stein**, daughter of Dee Fenchak; **Bonnie Cramer; Byron Itzen**, son of Linda Itzen; **Claudia Lyons**, Stepmother of Martha Kersbergen, **Delores Black; Rene' (Funk) Newman**, former member & friend of Leslie Reetz.; **Arlene Wold**, sister of Lola Dillon; **Brianna Clarahan; Donna Lachelt**, mother of Laurie Miller, **Marilyn Kiliper; Bill Albers**, cousin of Sue and cousin of Rose Clark; **Steve**, Son of Randy and Linda Birchall, **Cole Theander**, nephew of Mark Gustafson; **Nolan Bennett**, grandson of Marty Bennett; **Rich Weiss**, brother to Crystal Michael; **Jason Stanek**, family friend of Linda Itzen, Corinna & Kevin; **Ryder Schwieger**, son of Kathy Schweiger; **Brad**, son-in-law of Mark & Connie Gustafson; **Melinda Witzke**, friend of Laurie Wagner; **Christina Schoon**, friend of Dick & Crystal Michael; **Joan Miller**, Judy Duffield's sister.

**Bereaved:** The family of **Mary Ann Winninger**, sister of John (Darlene) Winninger; The family of **Don "Jumbo" Sells**; the family of **Kathy Korner**, sister-in-law of Mark and Connie Gustafson; family of **Dennis Passow**, brother of Swede Passow.

**Those in military service:** **Brandon LaForce**, son-in-law of Rick & Laurie Wagner, based in Fort Leavenworth, KS. **Zachary Napier**, Army Special Forces, son of Paul & Deb Napier of Salt Lake City, Utah and grandson of Betty Evans. Zachary is now serving in Germany.

**SERVICE HELPERS**

**Ushers:** Bob Holstein / Sheila Parks

**Lay Reader:** Corinna Clarahan

**Communion Assistants:**

**Organist:** Roberta Bochtler

**Power Point:** Laurie Wagner / Judy Stilwell

**Altar Care:** Martha Kersbergen / Laurie Miller

**Council on Duty:** Katie Waynar

**Coffee treats:** Helen Patterson

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

<b>Sunday, February 25</b>	9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Coffee 3 pm FDACS Concert, Grace Lutheran Church
<b>Monday, February 26</b>	8:30 am Willing Workers 9:00 am Money Counters 5:30 pm Bells 7:30 pm FDACS
<b>Tuesday, February 27</b>	9:00 am Money Counters 10:30 am Text Study 3-5 pm Head Start Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
<b>Wednesday, February 28</b>	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 5:30 pm First Communion Classes begin 5:30 pm Lenten meal, Turkey Noodle Soup (Chuck & Leslie Reetz) 6:30 pm Lenten Service 7:15 pm Choir practice
<b>Thursday, February 29</b>	6-9 pm Reflections 7 pm Al-Ateen 7:30 pm FDACS Practice
<b>Friday, March 1</b>	<b>Office Closed</b> 10-11:30 Caregivers 4-7 pm Girl Scouts
<b>Sunday, March 3</b>	9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Coffee 2:00 pm Hands of Hope Conference Meeting, Fireside Room

**Mission Statement**

In celebration of God's grace, given through Jesus Christ, we seek to grow through worship, teaching, fellowship and reaching out with our gifts to share the gospel and serve the needs of all people.

Phone: (515) 576-4106  
Church email: [gracefd@frontiernet.net](mailto:gracefd@frontiernet.net)  
Pastor's email: [pastordan.grace@frontier.com](mailto:pastordan.grace@frontier.com)  
Website: [www.graceELCA.com](http://www.graceELCA.com)  
Find us on Facebook  
**PASTOR DAN KAHL**  
**ROBERTA BOCHTLER**—Organist/Choir Director  
**LINDA ITZEN**— Office Administrator