Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

March 22 & 23, 2025



Watch worship online - connect through www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME/PRELUDE

GATHERING

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love. *Silence is kept for reflection.*
- P: Compassionate One,
- C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.
- P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ our sins are forgiven. We have a place in God's house forever.
- C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

R445



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho ly wis dom! Un im ag ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv-ing bread. To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares, We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, one with Christ in liv-ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil-dren, heirs. By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re-cre - ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

KYRIE



men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8

- O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. (Ps. 63:1)
- ¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- ² Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.
- ³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.
- ⁴ So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.
- ⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- ⁶ when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.
- ⁷ For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- ⁸ My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and

he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

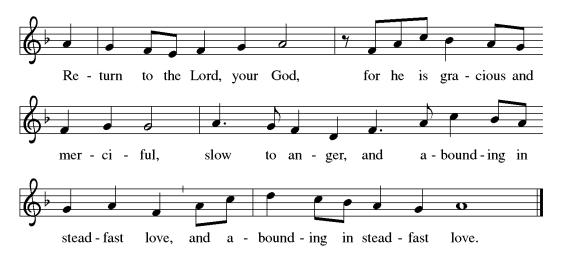
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel Acclamation and reading)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 13:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

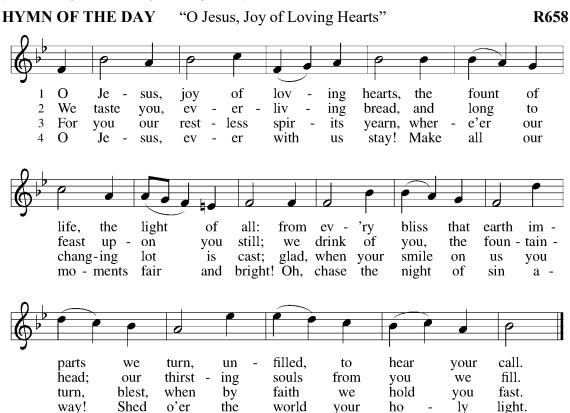
¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why

should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt. Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

This selection is in the public domain.

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 power of 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

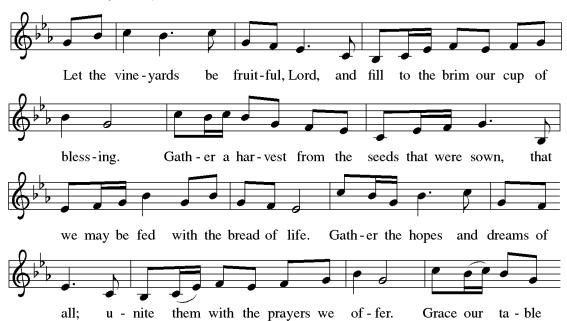
P: God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (the assembly stands as they are comfortable and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784. Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P: Let us pray...God of grace,

C: your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

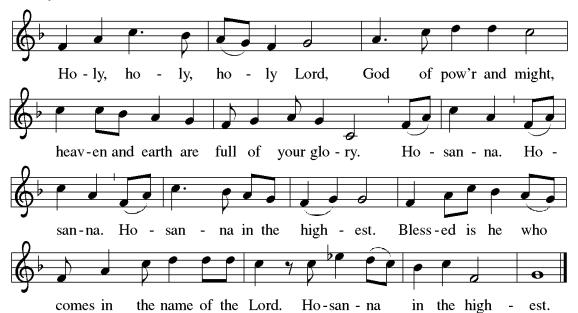
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...(concluding)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age...

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray.
- 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,

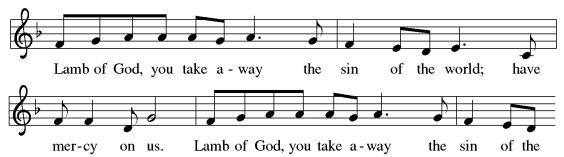
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

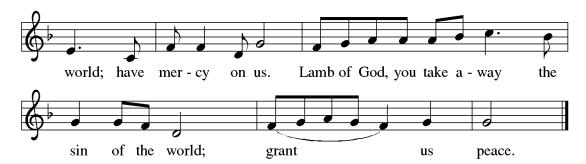
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

HOLY COMMUNION

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)





COMMUNION HYMN "As the Deer Runs to the River"

R331



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv er, parched and wea ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is rael crossed the des ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I sa iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des ert plac es, deep est thirst un sat is fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace. Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean. God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need." Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

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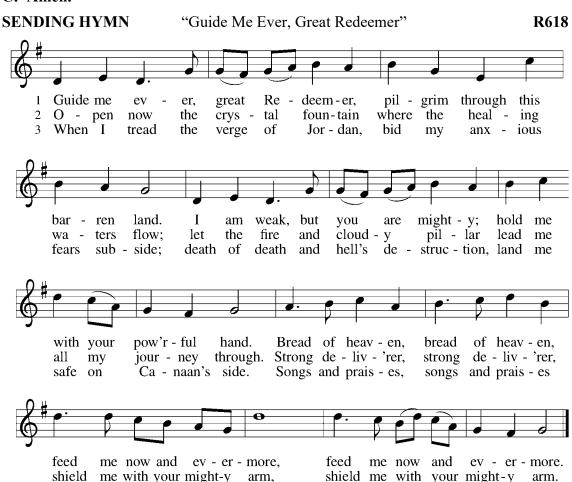
(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.

- P: Let us pray...Generous Host,
- C: you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

- **P:** God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless us now and forever.
- C: Amen.



Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt. Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932 This selection is in the public domain.

will raise for - ev - er - more,

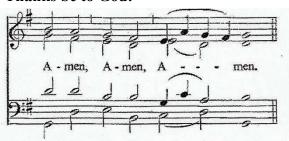
I

will raise for - ev - er - more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God!



POSTLUDE



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In Honor of Rosalia's 2nd Birthday Given by Janet & Gary Bettega

IN OUR PRAYERS

Pam Kirchoff, Kay Grove, Bill Whitscell, Adam Kamyszek, Kelly Pankey, Joanne Kindt, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry & Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Rose Rosenbreck, Michelle, Sandra Christopherson, Joan Vanover, Clayton Peters, Bonnie Urlaub, Paige Lancewicz, Randy Thiem, Mychele Allmacher, Danielle Lawrence, Bishop Emeritus Gary Hansen, Deborah Al-Duwaisan, Julie Stafford, Daphne Flack, Dixie Crevier, Brenda Donajkowski, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, and Joseph Hansen. We also remember the family of Fred Kindt, who passed away March 18th.

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the Children's Program at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partners for this week: St. Paul Lutheran Church/East Lansing, Rev. Carl Ballard and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

PRAYER LETTERS

Please sign the prayer letter(s) each week that we send out telling other churches and ministries they have been included in our prayers. Fill the page with our names. The letter(s) are on the podium by the table in the Office Lobby.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED – March 16 The Gospel of Luke

We are now at chapter 5. Still time to join us for the Adult CE class and learn more about the Gospel of Luke. We raise questions as we read through and talk about our responses to the verses. We meet at 11 in the Church Lounge. Hope to have you part of the discussion.

SOUPS/BREADS NEEDED FOR WEDNESAY EVENING LENTEN SUPPER & SERVICE - April 2

Grace's next turn to provide soups & breads for the evening service is Wednesday, April 2. We are looking for 4-5 people to bring a crock pot of soup and 3-4 people who would like to bring bread. Also, help is needed for clean up afterwards. There is a sign-up sheet available in the Office Lobby for those who can help or contact Donna Morgan at 989-590-3327.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS

March 23 - Spring Break

April 13 - Palm Sunday

April 20 - Easter Sunday

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Scholarship Applications are now available in the church office. Please email or call the office to request an application: officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org or 989-354-2640. Deadline to apply is April 15th.

QUILTERS RUMMAGE SALE

With spring cleaning right around the corner, please consider donating to the rummage sale we have for our fundraiser. It will be August 22 and 23. Please keep your items until close to the dates, so moving them from the basement to the Fellowship Hall is eliminated. More information will be posted as the dates draw near. Thanking you in advance. -- Grace Quilters

EASTER FLOWERS

This year we are asking for donations for Easter flowers for the church in lieu of individual plants. Donations may be made in honor or memory of someone. Several larger plants will be ordered with the money collected to beautify our sanctuary for our Easter service. Forms are available on the table in the Office Lobby. Deadline to have your information printed in the bulletin is April 13.

LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

Copies of the new Living Lutheran magazine have arrived and are located on the table in the Office Lobby.

2024 GIVING STATEMENTS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST

Statements are now available. Please call or email the office if you would like yours mailed or emailed to you.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.



Anniversaries of

March 3 Arnold Jahnke

Baptism

March 11 Hadleigh Suszek

March 17 Patricia Schultz Adam Urlaub Brody Yuchasz

March 19 Joel Suszek



March 23 Robert Greene

March 26 John Kuligowski

March 27 Eleanor Coddington

March 28 Allison Urlaub



Birthdays

March 1 March

March 2 Alisha Poirier

Gene Domrase

Anna Greene

March 3 Brandi Stone

March 6
Patrick McCourt
Tiffany Oliver

March 8 Dorene Schultz

March 9 Matthew Gillard

March 11 Norm Timm

March 12 Donice Ziberna

March 14 Barbara Mudge

March 15 Janet Bettega Kathy Piontkowski March 17 Patrick Daly

March 18 Kayla Bertrand Vicki Cripps

March 19 Bonnie Cross Tyler Suszek

March 21 Anna Lewis

March 22 Karen Klee

March 24 Tracie Granata

March 25 Larry Rettell Sheri Smith Emmett Suszek

March 29 Jeanette Chroninger

March 31 Emma Barber



Lenten Services 2025

This year's Ecumenical evening Lenten services will be different than past years.

For the weekly Wednesday services, each church is choosing their own format and hosting their own. Grace Lutheran is combining with Trinity Episcopal for a weekly series here at Grace. We will be viewing a video series over a simple soup supper starting at 6:30 PM and then having a Holden Evening Prayer service afterwards (from a Lutheran retreat center in Washington State), expecting to be done by 7:45 PM or so.

Maundy Thursday service will at Grace Lutheran with clergy from Trinity Episcopal participating with soups at 6 and the service at 7 PM.

Good Friday Tre Ore service will be at Trinity Episcopal with clergy from First Congregational UCC, First United Methodist, First Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, St. Paul Lutheran, and Trinity Episcopal.

Service	Host Church	Providing Soups
Wednesday Weekly March 26 6:30 PM	at Grace with Trinity	Trinity
Wednesday Weekly April 2 6:30 PM	at Grace with Trinity	Grace
Wednesday Weekly April 9 6:30 PM	at Grace with Trinity	Trinity
Maundy Thursday April 17 6 PM Soup/7PM Worship	at Grace with Trinity	Grace
Good Friday Tre Ore April 18 Noon – 3 PM	Trinity	No meal



HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday – 23rd	
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8:50 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship

11:00 am Adult Ed - Lounge

Monday - 24th

9am-noon Church Office Open 8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved

6:00 pm Alpena Figure Skating Club -

Fellowship Hall

Tuesday - 25th

8am-noon Church Office Open 9:00 am Quilting/Sewing

11:00 am Pastors Text Study - Lounge 6:15 pm Friends of Animal Control -

Fellowship Hall

Wednesday - 26th

8am-noon Church Office Open

5:30 pm Bell Choir

6:30 pm Mid-Week Lenten Soup

Supper & Prayer Service

at Grace

Thursday - 27th

8am-noon 8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved 1:30 pm ReBoot Committee

Friday - 28th

8am-noon Church Office Open

Saturday - 29th

9am-4:30pm Fellowship Hall Reserved

5:00 pm Worship

SERVING MARCH 22/23

Ministers	God's People
	Rev. Tom Orth
	Claire Witt
Recorded Accom	npanimentKat Tomaszewski
Comm. Asst	Wayne & Chris Christopherson,
	Diane Prevost (Saturday)
	Nancy Platt
Ushers	Dale Schultz, Bruno Hirzel,
Mike & Tracey	Urlaub; Diane Prevost (Saturday)
Greeters	Anna Lewis, Darlene Freel,
	Patti Tucker
Altar Guild	Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips
Livestream Team	nDawn Anderson, Jan Charter,
	Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
Counters	Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour	Dale & Pat Schultz, Darlene Freel

SERVING MARCH 29/30

DLIL	1113 1111111111111111111111111111111111	
Ministers	God's People	
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth	
Music Director	Claire Witt	
Recorded Accompaniment Kat Tomaszewski		
Comm. Asst	Wayne & Chris Christopherson,	
	Diane Prevost (Saturday)	
Lector	Janet Bettega	
Ushers	Dale Schultz, Bruno Hirzel,	
Mike & Tracey Urlaub; Diane Prevost (Saturday)		
	Dale & Pat Schultz	
Altar Guild	Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips	
Livestream TeamDawn Anderson, Jan Charter,		
	Don LaBarre, Alex Struble	
Counters	Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek	
Coffee Hour	Jeff & SandyWelch	

Large print worship folders & hearing assistance devices are available from ushers

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707 Phone: Office 989-354-2640

Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org Give online at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth

Pastor's Home 989-356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 989-916-8759

E-mail:

pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org View our services on YouTube





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