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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

(the assembly stands as they are able) (All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

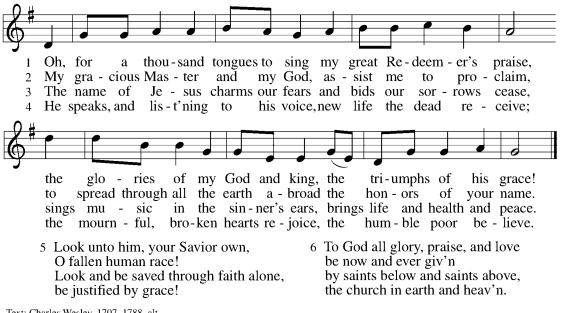
C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Holy God,
- C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.
- P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for us! God embraces us with divine mercy, + forgives us in Christ's name, and revives us in the spirit's power.
- C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"



R886

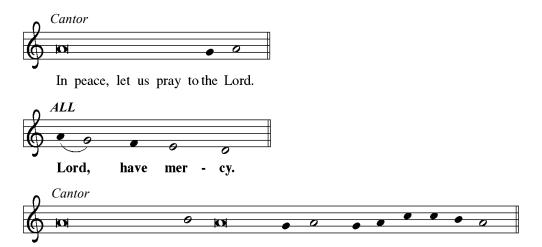
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 This selection is in the public domain.

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

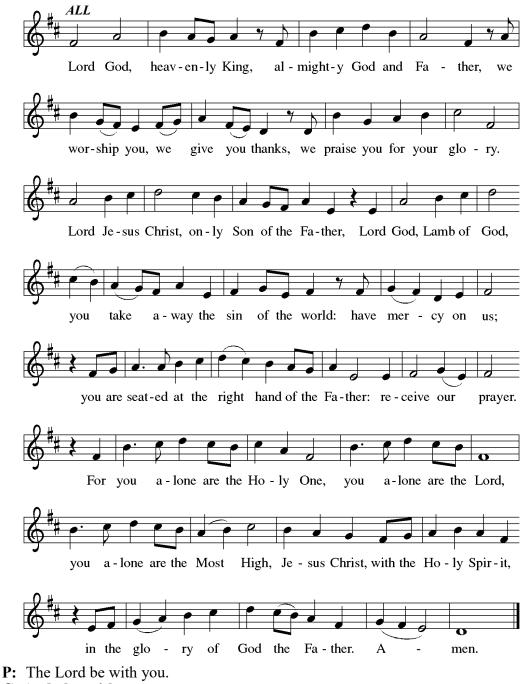


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE





C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

<u>WORD</u>

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GoD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

²O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

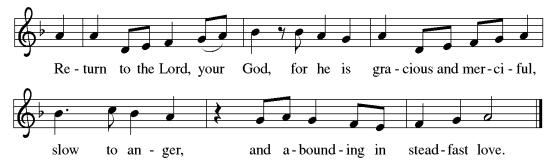
Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*The assembly stands as they are able for the Gospel*)



- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.
- C: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus. "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.²²But even now I

know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if vou believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY "What Wondrous Love Is This"

(The assembly stands as they are able)



R666

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784. Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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: Lord in your mercy...
- C: hear our prayer.

<u>MEAL</u> God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

OFFERING

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



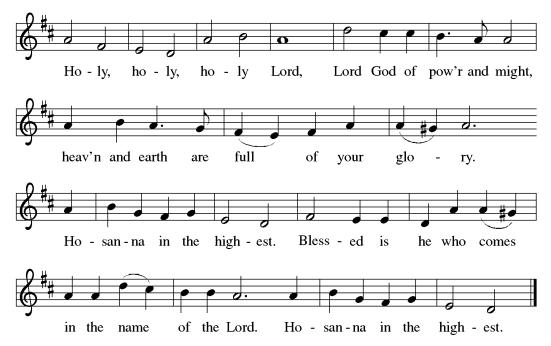
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, Barte to Source, 122 Fort Text © 2019 Strangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin, Augsburg Fortress Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

- P: Let us pray... God of good gifts,
- C: receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. 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, ...(*concluding*)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: ... Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread... 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.



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.

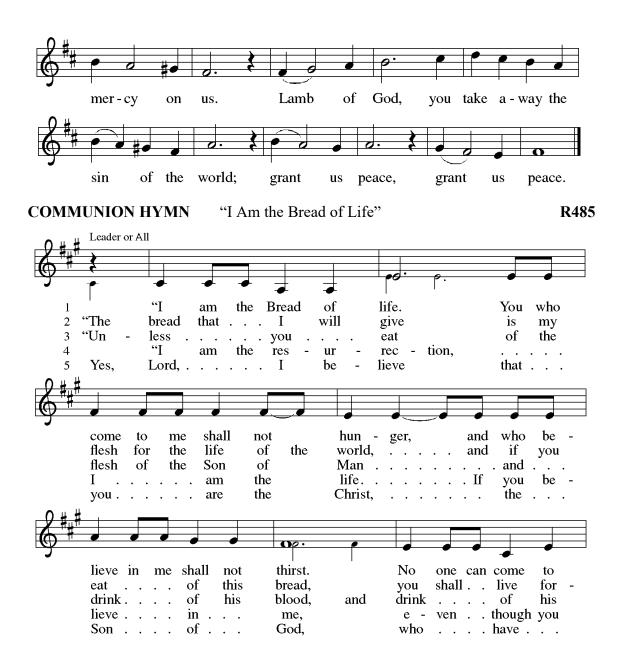
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

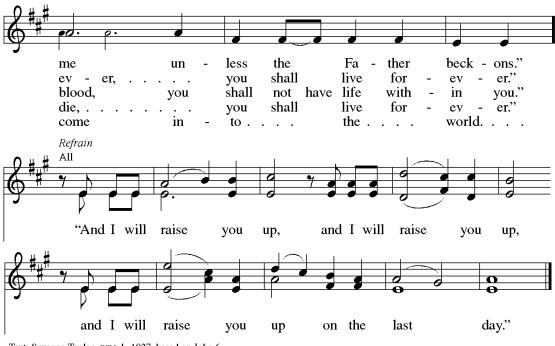
HOLY COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

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







Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

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(the assembly stands as they are able)

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray... Embodied God,

at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless us in this Lenten journey. Amen.



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784. Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.C: Thanks be to God.



POSTLUDE



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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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Marge Weber, Jeanne Pankey, Verna Furze, Patti Tucker, Budd Jobson, Harry Kautz, Lisa Wooll, Kristin Berles, Don Barnard, Rich McTaggart, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Joanne Nicholls, Deb Nitchman's Family, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Kathy Rettell -- Kaye Harry, Stretch (Steve) Lee, Sandra Beck, Daniel Spaulding, Kevin Carlson, Nina, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Jan & Walt Soltysiak, Ted Durany (Karen Gould's father), Jack Thompson, Matthew & Rebecca, Margaret Cousineau (Jobson's daughter), Pastor Mike Schaedig, Al Smolinski, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Gary Rich, Carl Ball, Joanne Coughlin, Sylvia Rouech, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Laura Bleau, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, and Joseph Hansen.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).

PRAYERS - PEOPLE TO ADD

Forms for adding people to our prayer list are located at each entrance to the sanctuary. Give completed forms to the ushers for inclusion in the prayers during the service. Please be sure that you have the person(s)' permission to have their name read during public worship. And also remember that our worship and bulletin are available online so that it will be widely disseminated. Thank you. Names are on the list for the calendar month.

PRAYER PARTNERS

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for Foster Children/Foster Families through Grace Lutheran Church. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Trinity Lutheran Church/Battle Creek, Rev. Kjersten Sullivan, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED - MARCH 19

What holds us in unity with other Christians and what causes us to divide?

A number of denominations have experienced splits in the past, or are undergoing them now. We want to talk about what holds us together. And how we can deal with our differences. You are invited to consider the things you hold central to faith, and the things others hold central. How do they align? And what do we do about the differences? Church differences are a microcosm of society's differences. What can we give to society to help our lives today. Join us at 11 in the Lounge.

COMMUNION FOR HOME ON MAUNDY THURSDAY

Communion will be available on Maundy Thursday, April 6 for anyone who will not be able to participate in the Maundy Thursday service. The times for pick-up will be from 11:30 AM through 1:30 PM. Please let the office know how many communion packets you need and the approximate time you wish to pick up.

IT'S COMING - HOLY HUMOR RETURNS ON APRIL 22 & 23

Be Prepared. Start thinking of your jokes to share. And get them to Pastor Tom so they can be put in the right spot at the services.

VALET PARKING COMES TO GRACE

With maybe the winter really here and the difficulty of getting the parking spaces at the street clear of ice, we are offering to park your car for you. Drive up to our Office entrance, come right into the building on the clear heated driveway. One of our volunteers will park your car for you. And then have your car brought back to the entrance when you are ready to leave. If you would like to take advantage of this please arrive a few minutes earlier than usual so the volunteers can be in church too at the start of worship.

EASTER BREAKFAST POTLUCK

We are planning an Easter Breakfast Potluck following our 9:30 am Easter Worship Service on April 9. Sign-up sheets for the potluck (#attending, dish you are bringing, help with clean up) are located in the Office Entrance. <u>*Please sign up by April 2 if you*</u> *plan to attend and if you are able to help*. Thanks!

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 located on the table in the Office Narthex*. Deadline is March 31st.

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 19th.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Do you have Thrivent Choice Dollars to designate as a Thrivent member? Please consider directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran Church. Go to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice and select "Direct Choice Dollars." **Deadline is March 31.**

QUILTERS NEWS - SAVE THE DATES! We have 2 upcoming events:

• August 25 & 26 - Rummage Sale

<u>Please do not drop off any items at this time</u>. If you are planning to do Spring cleaning and have items you can no longer use, please keep us in mind. Your generosity in helping our mission is deeply appreciated. We ask that you hold items until the sale when we will receive them directly into the Fellowship Hall two weeks before, rather than having to carry items up and down the stairs to the basement.

• October 26 - Game Night

As we have had in the past. More details as we get closer to the event.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE IN!!!!!

The church directories have arrived. If you had your photo taken, part of the company's program was a directory for you. Grace purchased additional copies for anyone who could not make the photography times. Pick up your copy at worship times or from the Church Office during the week.

2022 ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

Annual statements may be picked up in the Office Lobby at your convenience. If you would like your statement mailed (or emailed) to you, please call the office (989-354-2640).

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.

Lenten Series 2023 Series Theme "I lift up my eyes to the mountainsMy help comes from the Lord." <i>Psalms 121:1-2</i> Soup Supper begins at 5pm, serving until 6pm. Worship services at 6pm. This year's offering goes to Hope Shores Alliance and The Friendship Room.				
Date	Host	Preacher	Theme	
March 29	St. Paul Lutheran	Rev. Rob Nystrom	Mount of Olives End Time Questions Mark 13:3-4	
Maundy Thursday April 6	Trinity Episcopal	Rev. John Shipman	Mt. Zion The Last Supper	
Tre Ore (Noon-3 pm) Good Friday April 7	Grace Lutheran		Hymns of Lent	

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday -26th

8:50 am	Choir Practice
9:00 am	Sunday School
9:30 am	Worship
11:00 am	Adult CE - Lounge

Monday - 27th

8am-noon 8am-3pm Church Office Open Kitchen Reserved

<u>Tuesday - 28th</u>

8am-noon C 9:00 am S 11:00 am P

Church Office Open Sewing/Quilting Pastors Text Study -Lounge

Wednesday - 29th

8am-noon	Church Office Open
5:00 pm	Soup Supper &
6:00 pm	Ecumenical Worship at
-	St. Paul Lutheran
6:00 pm	Bell Choir

Thursday - 30th

8am-noon	Church Office Open
8am-3pm	Kitchen Reserved
4:00 pm	Lounge Reserved

Friday - 31st

8am-noon Church Office Open

<u>Saturday - 1st</u> 5:00 pm

Worship

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

SERVING MARCH 25/26

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director	Claire Schreiber
Organist/Pianist	Amy Truth
Lector	Dawn Anderson
Communion	
Assistants	Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis
Ushers	Clarence & Bonnie Cross,
	Wayne Lewis (Sat.)
Greeters	Joe & Dawn Gentry
Altar Guild M	ary Rowader, Elsa Phillips
Livestream Team .	Dawn Anderson, Jan
Charter,	Don Barnard, Don LaBarre
Counters	Clarence & Bonnie Cross
Coffee Hour	Rick & Sharon Engstrom

SERVING APRIL 1/2

	God's People Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director	Claire Schreiber
Organist/Pianis	stAmy Truth
Lector	Donna Czarnecki
Communion	
Assistants	Clarence & Bonnie Cross
Ushers	.Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske,
	Steve & Janie Hansen (Sat.)
	Rick & Sharon Engstrom
	Nancy Platt, Vicki Cripps
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan	
	ter, Don Barnard, Don LaBarre
	Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour	Joe & Dawn Gentry

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 <u>E-mail</u>: pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org

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