Grace Lutheran Worship Folder

March 18 & 19, 2023

FOURTH WEEKEND IN



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

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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.

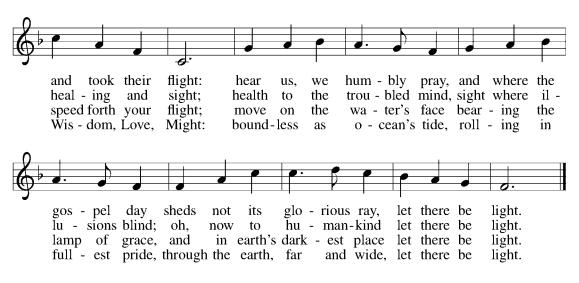
Silence is kept for reflection.

- 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 "God, Whose Almighty Word"



R673



Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796 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

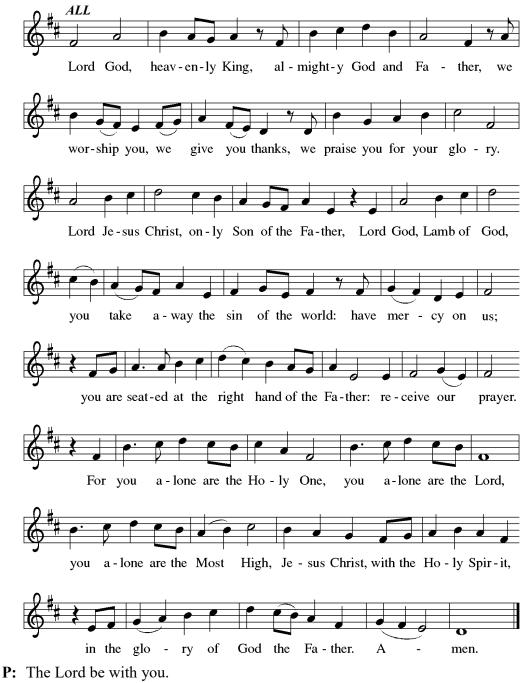


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE





C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

<u>WORD</u>

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

You anoint my head with oil. (Ps. 23:5)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

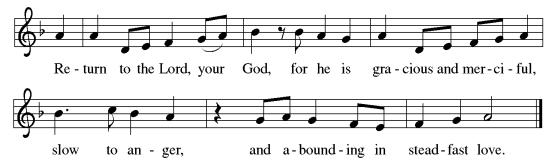
Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on 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 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until

they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

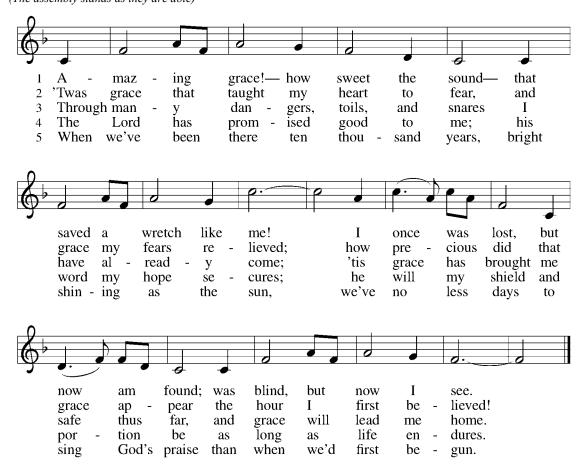
²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

HOMILY

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" HYMN OF THE DAY (The assembly stands as they are able)



R779

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835 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)

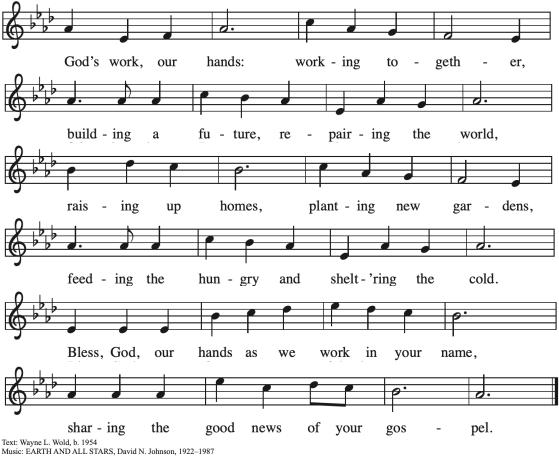
P: Lord in your mercy...

C: hear our prayer.

MEAL 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 ADD ALL STATES, David to Security, 12 11 11 12 1

P: Let us pray... God of good gifts,

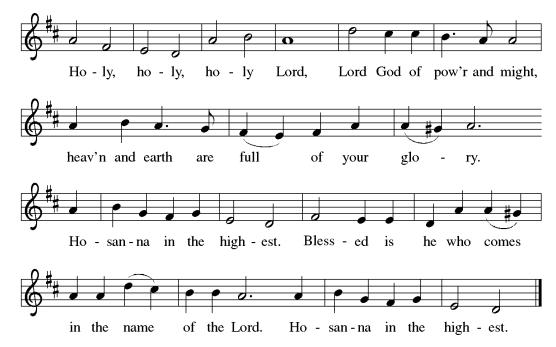
C: receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

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:



- 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;

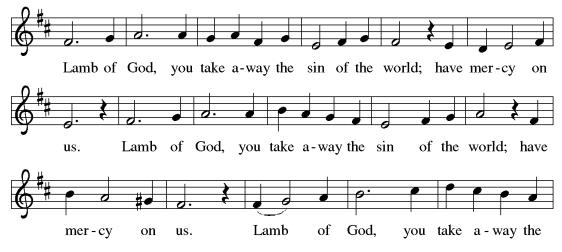
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

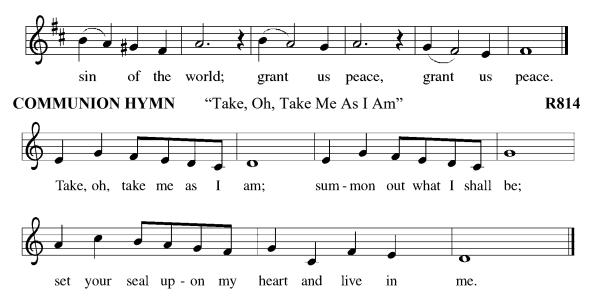
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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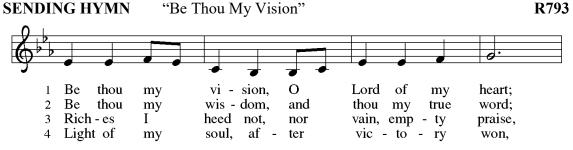
(the assembly stands as they are able)

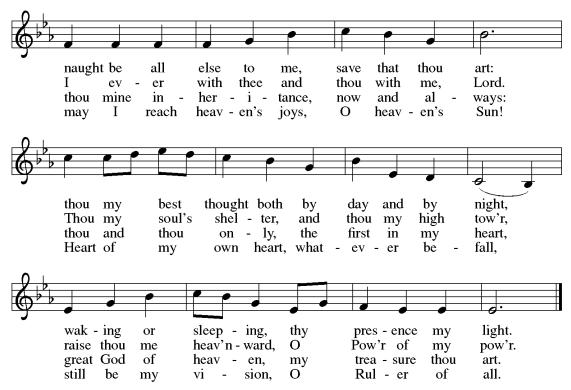
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray... Embodied God,

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: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional This selection is in the public domain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- P: Go in peace. Serve in love.
- 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.

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 the Children's Program at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: St. Peter Lutheran Church/Battle Creek, Rev. Edward Ruble, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED - MARCH 19 What is the Pool of Siloam in Your Life?

Join us in Adult CE at 11 in the Lounge as we discuss what the Pool of Siloam could mean in your life. From the Gospel reading for weekend service and the sermon, what is the metaphor of a healing place or a place that will lead you to see more in your life?

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.

SUNDAY SWEETS AND TREATS

Wouldn't it be fun to share our favorite sweets and treats during Sunday's fellowship hour? Let's do it! The goal is to have a few people to bring their goodies each Sunday. Use the sign-up sheet on the table in the Office Lobby so we know which Sunday you will share. The goal is to have a few people each week. *Join your Grace family on Sundays after the service to enjoy one another's company and to share and enjoy yummy sweets and treats*! See you there. Brought to you by your REBOOT team.

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.

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.

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.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

Pick one up on the cabinet in the Office Lobby.

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.**

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).

2023 FLOWER CHART

The 2023 Flower Chart is now available in the Office Lobby. To place flowers on the altar, please sign the flower chart and complete an Altar Flowers Form, located on the table by the flower chart, indicating what you would like listed in the bulletin.

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 mountains...My help comes from the Lord." Psalms 121:1-2

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 22	First Congregational United Church of Christ	Rev. John Shipman	Mount Moriah - The Temple of Jerusalem
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		

GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR FEBRUARY 2023

Average needed in February (4 weeks) to meet budget\$ 1Monthly Giving - February1

\$ 18,344.00 19,416.70

(Includes \$3,900/several pension RMD distributions)

We received:

116 envelopes, 55 Simply Giving recurring payments, 5 Give+ payments made from our website and 4 Thrivent Choice contributions

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday –19th

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

Monday - 20th

8am-noon

Church Office Open

Tuesday - 21st

8am-noon 9:00 am 11:00 am Church Office Open Sewing/Quilting Pastors Text Study -Lounge

Wednesday - 22nd

8am-noon	Church Office Open
2:30 pm	Reboot Meeting
5:00 pm	Soup Supper &
6:00 pm	Ecumenical Worship at
_	First Congregational
6:00 pm	Bell Choir

Thursday - 23rd

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

Friday - 24th

8am-noon Church Office Open

Saturday - 25th 5:00 pm

Worship

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

SERVING MARCH 18/19

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director	Claire Schreiber
Organist/Pianist	Amy Truth
Lector	Bill & Nancy Platt
Communion	-
Assistants	loe Gentry, Wayne Lewis
Ushers	Clarence & Bonnie Cross,
	Wayne Lewis (Sat.)
Greeters Mary I	Rowader, Cindy Domrase
Altar Guild Ma	ry Rowader, Elsa Phillips
Livestream Team	Dawn Anderson, Jan
Charter, D	on Barnard, Don LaBarre
Counters	Clarence & Bonnie Cross
Coffee Hour	Jeff & Sandy Welch

SERVING MARCH 25/26

	God's People
Pastor	Rev. Tom Orth
	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 N	Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan	
Charter	, Don Barnard, Don LaBarre
Counters	Clarence & Bonnie Cross
Coffee Hour	Rick & Sharon Engstrom

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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