

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.

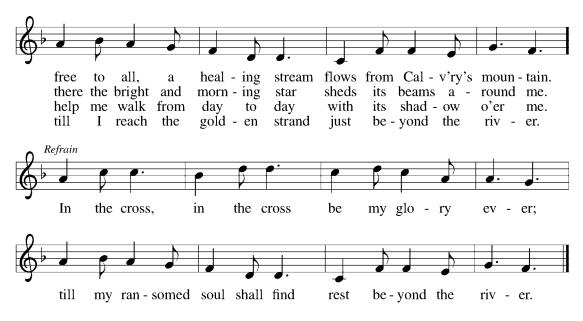
- P: Holy God,
- C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew 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.

R335

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"





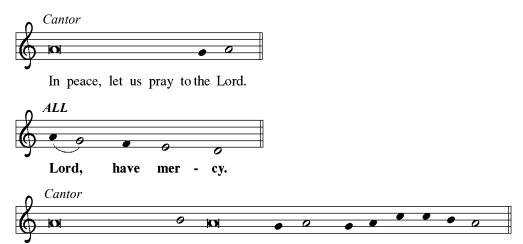
Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915 This selection is in the public domain.

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

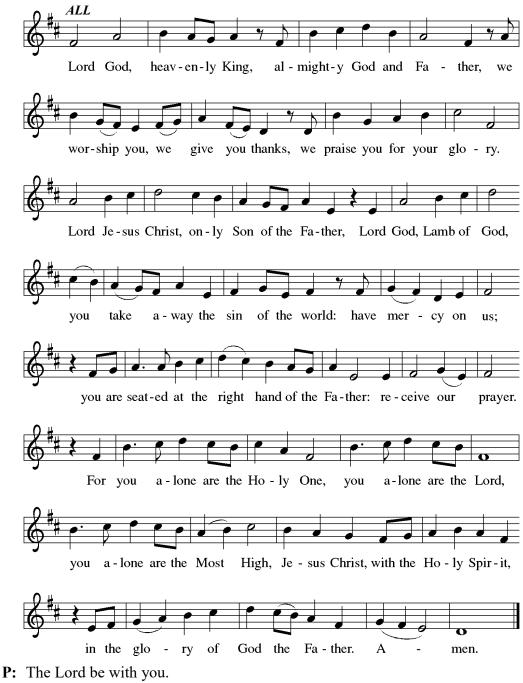


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE





C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Amazing Grace" Bell Choir

Arr. Douglas Wagner © 1994 Hope Publishing Company. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-708784.

<u>WORD</u>

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

Psalm 95

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (Ps. 95:1)

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.

³For you, LORD, are a great God,

and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸"Harden not your hearts,

as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.

⁹There your ancestors tested me,

they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,

'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger,

'They shall never come to my rest.'"

Romans 5:1-11

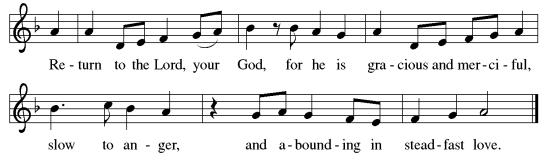
Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But

more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

- 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 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

[']A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water,"

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

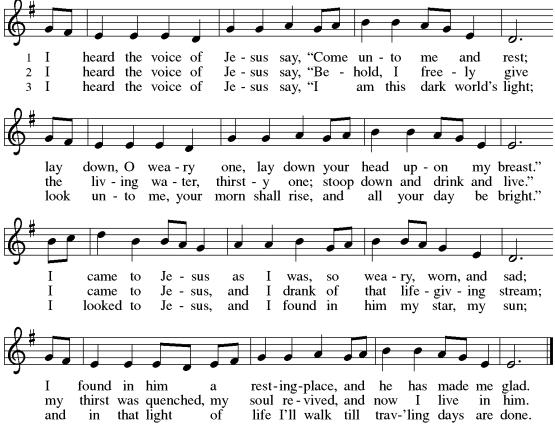
P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

(The assembly stands as they are able)



R611

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune 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,

I DELEVE III JESUS CHI ISI, GOU S OHIY SUII, OUT LOFU,

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,

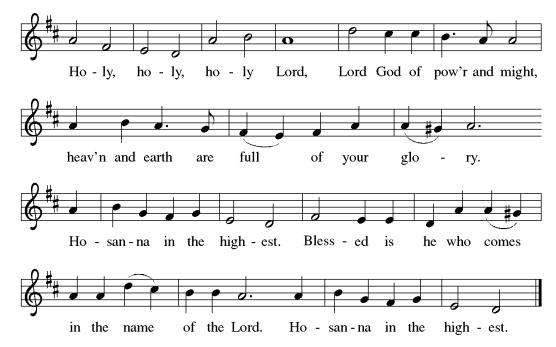
C: receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

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;

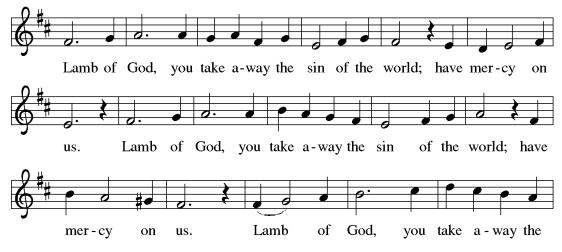
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

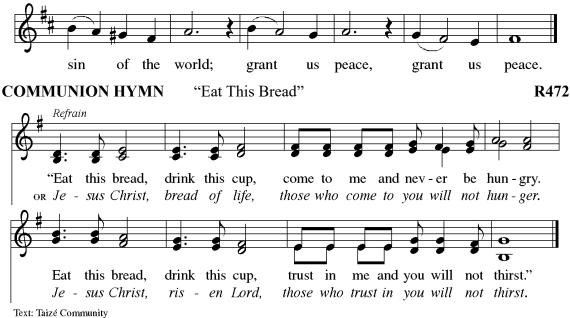
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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*)





Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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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.



Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; 1 Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help raise mv I've come": 2 Here Ι grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to 3 Oh. to be:



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise. and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love, Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt. Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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. We also remember the family of Chuck Charter (Jerry Charter's brother) who passed away on March 5th.

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 Catholic Women of Alpena at All Saints Catholic Parish. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Trinity Lutheran Church/Barton City, Rev. Chrisy Bright, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

CARDS TO SIGN FOR LOVING CARE MEMBERS

Please stop in the Office Lobby this weekend to sign the St. Patrick's Day cards to be sent to our Loving Care Members.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED - MARCH 12

Stranger at the Gate film

The class will view this documentary about a man so consumed with anger and hate toward Muslims in his hometown of Muncie Indiana that he plans to bomb their community center. The story revolves around his going to the center and what he discovers there and how it changes him. Join us to view the documentary and then discuss it. We meet at 11 in the Lounge.

RUTH CIRCLE MEETS MARCH 15

The Ruth Circle will meet at 1:00 pm on March 15 in the Lounge. All women are welcome to attend.

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.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

Pick one up on the cabinet in the Office Lobby.

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).

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB SPECIAL COLLECTION

THANK YOU to church members who have contributed to the Boys and Girls Club gift. We are sending \$735 to them in support of their match for a \$50,000 grant. Thank you for sharing God's Love in the community.

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 15	First Presbyterian	Rev. Gene Bacon	Faith to move mountains Faith Matthew 17:20
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\$ 18,344.00Monthly Giving - February19,416.70

(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 -12th

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

Monday - 13th 8am-noon

Church Office Open

Tuesday - 14th

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

Wednesday - 15th

Church Office Open
Ruth Circle - Lounge
Soup Supper &
Ecumenical Worship at
First Presbyterian
Bell Choir

Thursday - 16th

8am-noon 4:00 pm

n Church Office Open Lounge Reserved

<u>Friday - 17th</u>

8am-noon Church Office Open

Saturday - 18th

5:00 pm Worship

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

SERVING MARCH 11/12

	God's People Rev. Tom Orth	
Music Director	Claire Schreiber	
Organist/Pianist	Amy Truth	
Lector	Anne Gentry	
Communion		
Assistants	. Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis	
Ushers	.Clarence & Bonnie Cross,	
	Wayne Lewis (Sat.)	
Greeters	Dale & Pat Schultz	
Altar Guild M	lary Rowader, Elsa Phillips	
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan		
Charter,	Don Barnard, Don LaBarre	
Counters	Clarence & Bonnie Cross	
Coffee Hour	Roger & Jeanne Pankey	

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	Joe Gentry, Wayne Lewis	
Ushers	Clarence & Bonnie Cross,	
	Wayne Lewis (Sat.)	
Greeters Mary	Rowader, Cindy Domrase	
Altar Guild M	ary Rowader, Elsa Phillips	
Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan		
Charter, 1	Don Barnard, Don LaBarre	
Counters	.Clarence & Bonnie Cross	
Coffee Hour	Jeff & Sandy Welch	

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

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