

*Grace Lutheran  
Worship Folder*

*March 2 & 3, 2024*

THIRD WEEKEND IN

LENT



**Watch worship online - connect through [www.gracelutheran-alpena.org](http://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**

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

*(The assembly stands as you are comfortable)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**  
**GREETING**

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

**R324**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

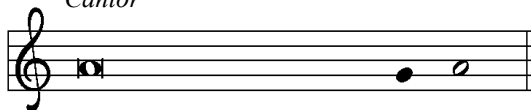
Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867 This selection is in the public domain.

**P:** The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

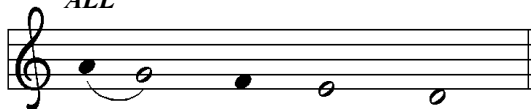
**KYRIE**

*Cantor*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*ALL*



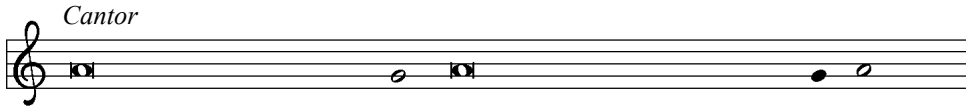
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



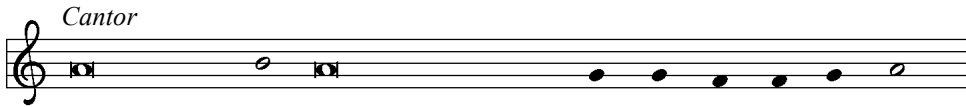
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al- might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(the assembly may be seated)*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Exodus 20:1-17

*After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.*

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

<sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 19

*The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)*

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

*The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.*

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**



## **John 2:13-22**

*Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.*

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**P:** The Gospel of Our Lord.

**C:** Praise to You, O Christ.

**HOMILY**

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)

HYMN OF THE DAY "How Great Thou Art"

R856



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er  
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to  
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y  
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989

Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine

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## 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: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

## OFFERING

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



We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, the food of life, the  
Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them hum - bly  
bread and wine, as sym - bols of our dai - ly  
from your hand. These gifts of yours for high - er  
work, ac - cord - ing to your grand de - sign.  
use, we of - fer up as you com - mand.

*Words: M F C Wilson. Text copyright 1988, Lorenz Publishing, All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-708789*

P: Let us pray...Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

C: **Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.  
Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We  
pray this in your name. 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 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

## 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:

C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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.

C: Amen.

### 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

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

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



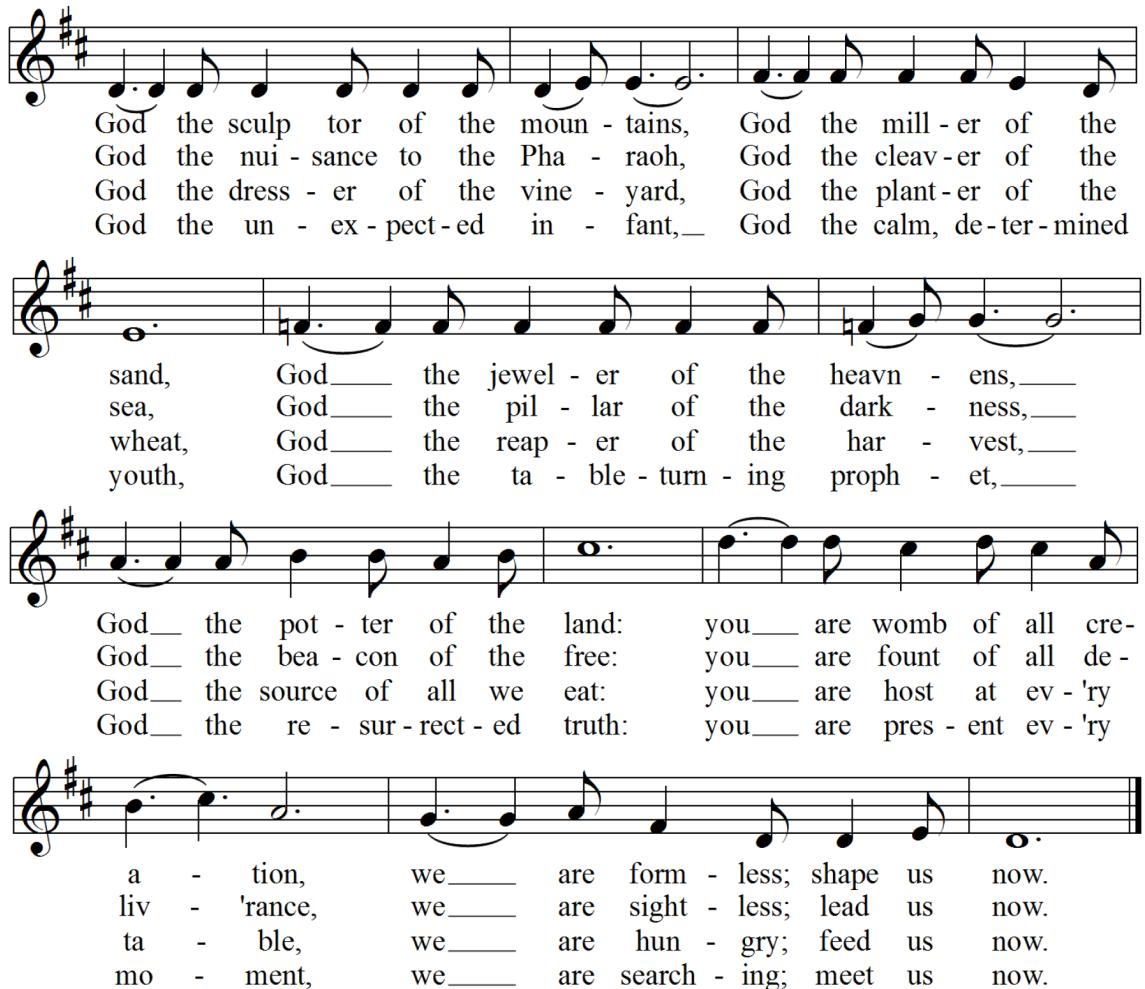
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN “God the Sculptor of the Mountains”

R736



God the sculptor of the moun - tains, God the mill - er of the  
 God the nui - sance to the Pha - raoh, God the cleav - er of the  
 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the plant - er of the  
 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the calm, de - ter - mined  
 sand, God the jewel - er of the heavn - ens,  
 sea, God the pil - lar of the dark - ness,  
 wheat, God the reap - er of the har - vest,  
 youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing proph - et,  
 God the pot - ter of the land: you are womb of all cre -  
 God the bea - con of the free: you are fount of all de -  
 God the source of all we eat: you are host at ev - 'ry  
 God the re - sur - rect - ed truth: you are pres - ent ev - 'ry  
 a - tion, we are form - less; shape us now.  
 liv - 'rance, we are sight - less; lead us now.  
 ta - ble, we are hun - gry; feed us now.  
 mo - ment, we are search - ing; meet us now.

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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 God,

C: **at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

## BLESSING

**P:** Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless us and keep us, shower us with mercy, fill us with courage, and + give us peace.

**C:** Amen.

## SENDING HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

**R803**



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 This selection is in the public domain.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**P:** Go in peace. Share your bread.

**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**

Ali Lewis, Tammy Furze, Mary Barney-Bock, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Lisa Wooll, Kristin Berles, Don Barnard, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry & Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski, Katherine Rettell -- Jerry Austin, Annie Olsen, Brenda Donajkowski, Rev. Laraine Sundin, Rev. Sarah Samuelson, Duane Morin, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Joanne Coughlin, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Emily Cross, and Joseph Hansen.

### **PRAYER PARTNERS**

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for all who do tasks for the church at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: All Saints Lutheran Church/Mason, Rev. Gerald Ferguson, and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

### **COMMUNION AT THE RAIL**

This weekend we are receiving communion at the rail. You may knee if you wish. After all in a group at the rail have received, they will be given a blessing and dismissed.

### **ADULT CE FOR MARCH 3**

#### **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

The Disciples have distinctly American origins are considered part of the mainline churches. Come and learn some of their traditions, theology and heritage and compare it to the ELCA Lutheran Church. Join us at 11 in the Lounge.

### **CATECHISM CLASSES STARTING UP**

Want to help our youth continue to grow their faith? Join the Catechism Team as classes begin. See Pastor Tom for more info.



## **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS! GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER**

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**

**Make your reservation as seats are limited for our 150th celebration dinner on April 28.** Cost is \$20 a person for dinner catered by JJ's. We will have our dinner after our Sunday morning service on April 28. Festivities acknowledging our church's history will also be celebrated. *For your convenience, Janet Bettega and Elsa Phillips will be available after church services to make your reservation and collect your fee.* ON THE MENU: strawberry spinach salad with pecans and feta cheese, chicken piccata, meatballs with beef sauce, pan style twice baked potatoes, wild rice, glazed carrots, steamed asparagus, soft rolls .

## **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - GIFTS OF LOVE - ON THE FARM**

During the Lenten Season, Grace will be participating in the LWR Gifts of Love On the Farm program. We will be collecting funds to donate various farm animals and farming seeds through Lutheran World Relief. You can use the pew envelopes, designate or include an amount in your regular church contribution, or drop a donation at the office. Please indicate the amount as LWR-FARM.

As funds are collected, we would like to donate one or more of each of the following gifts: \$45 - piglet; \$80 - hen and chicks; \$100 - goat; \$100 - sheep; \$220 - one goat, three hens and 18 chicks; \$240 - two goats, 1 hen, and 6 chicks; \$265 - a goat, a sheep, a piglet, a hen and three chicks; \$265 - a goat, a piglet, a hen, and 6 chicks; \$300 - high - quality, drought-tolerant seeds for a farming community; \$530 - two goats, two sheep, two piglets, one hen and six chicks.

## **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 submit forms with information to be included in the Easter bulletin is March 17.**

## **THE CHURCH OFFICE COULD USE YOUR HELP**

Looking for volunteers to fold weekly bulletins (on Thursday or Friday mornings, your choice.) If you are able to help, please contact Peggy in the Church 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.

## PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

### Grace Lutheran Rummage Sale - August 23 & 24

Please remember our rummage sale as you are Spring cleaning.

### Quilters Game Night at Grace - October 17

More details coming as these events get closer!

## YOU ARE INVITED TO SING WITH THE COMMUNITY CHOIR

You are invited to sing with the Community Choir for the ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service on March 29th. Rehearsals will be held at 6:30 p.m. on March 7 and March 14 at First Congregational UCC, and 6:30 p.m. on March 21 and 11:15 a.m. on March 29 at First United Methodist Church on Ripley for a final run-through. Any questions call Kat Tomaszewski at 989.255.8750 or Sandy Jarmuzewski at 989.255.7894. **Please note change in rehearsal times previously posted.**

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUP SALE!

For the second year, Miss Maggie's Nearly Famous Vegetable Soup will be available at Trinity Episcopal Church. You can reserve a quart (or as many as you would like) of soup for \$10, by phoning Cheryl Bates at (989) 657-2939 or Sonya Titus at (989) 354-6031 and then **picking up your order on March 15 from 1 to 3 or March 16 from 11 to 1 in Trinity Episcopal Church Parish House, 124 East Washington Ave., Alpena.** Other pick up times can be arranged. In addition, on a first come first serve basis for as long as they last, small loaves of homemade bread will be available for \$3. Monies go to support our outreach programming.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2023

Listed below are the final numbers for last year:

|               | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Actual</u> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Contributions | \$238,495     | \$248,890     |
| Spending      | \$238,495     | \$230,727     |

As shown, our contributions were above budget and our spending was under budget! These results helped us increase our bank accounts by \$20,986.

After starting 2023 with lower than expected contributions, we finished the year with increased giving thanks to many members responding to our need. Our Giving goal for 2024 is to meet our budget of \$246,288 so that we can continue to grow Grace's programs and activities for our members and community.

## GRACE LUTHERAN COUNCIL BRIEFS FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Attendance - Bill Platt, Dennis Werblow, Steve Hansen, Elsa Phillips, Rick and Sharon Engstrom, Pastor Tom Orth, and Tom and Mary Lappan.

Secretary's minutes accepted as printed.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Orth gave his report.

Treasurer's/Finance Report for December 2023 and January 2024 submitted by Dennis Werblow was accepted.

### Work Groups -

Discipleship - report given by Steve Hansen.

Little Food Pantry - report given by Mary Lappan.

Education - report given by Elsa Phillips.

Finance and Stewardship - motion to accept the resignation of Treasurer Don Barnard with much regret.

Property - report given by Bill Platt.

Worship - report given by Sharon Engstrom.

### Old Business -

- Due to 150th Anniversary Dinner with Bishop Satterlee at Sunday service, motion was made and accepted to cancel Saturday night service on April 27, 2024.
- Discussed need for volunteers to assist in preparation for Anniversary Celebration.
- Accepted proposal for a joint fundraiser for the Little Food Pantry and Friends Together gathering on October 4, 2024.

### New Business -

- Motion made and accepted to initiate a committee to revise the church constitution.
- Quilters are requesting a Fundraiser Game Night on October 17, 2024. Motion passed.
- AED training through Alpena Fire Department to take place in the Spring. Motion made and passed to do this at the cost of \$60.
- Alpena Peace Community is requesting to apply for grants with Grace's 501c(3) status. Motion passed with development of policy that all grant applications require prior authorization of church.

| <b>Lenten Series 2024</b>   |                        |                       |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Series Theme: Peace - Shalom - Wholeness - Wellness                               |                        |                       |
| <b>Soup Supper at 6pm. Worship services at 7pm.</b>                               |                        |                       |
| <b>This year's offering goes to Hope Shores Alliance and The Friendship Room.</b> |                        |                       |
| <i>(Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church)</i>                      |                        |                       |
| <b>Date</b>   | <b>Host</b>            | <b>Preacher</b>       |
| March 6   | First United Methodist | Rev. Richard Hotchkin |

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

### Sunday – 3rd

9:00 am Choir Practice  
9:00 am Sunday School  
9:30 am **Worship**  
11:00 am Adult Ed - Lounge

### Monday - 4th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved  
6:00 pm ROC - Lounge

### Tuesday - 5th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
9:00 am Sewing/Quilting  
11:00 am Pastor's Text Study

### Wednesday - 6th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice  
6:00 pm Soup Supper &  
7:00 pm Mid-Week Lenten  
Worship at First  
United Methodist

### Thursday - 7th

8am-noon Church Office Open  
8am-2pm Kitchen Reserved  
6:30 pm Community Choir  
Rehearsal at UCC

### Friday - 8th

8am-noon Church Office Open

### Saturday - 9th

5:00 pm **Worship**

**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](http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org)

Give online at [www.gracelutheran-alpena.org](http://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](mailto:pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org)

[officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org](mailto:officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org)



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gracelutheranalpena](http://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranalpena)

## SERVING MARCH 2/3

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
**Pastor** ..... Rev. Tom Orth  
**Music Director** ..... Claire Witt  
**Recorded Accompaniment**..Kat Tomaszewski  
**Lector** ..... Janet Bettega  
**Comm. Asst.**..... Joe Gentry/Wayne Lewis  
**Ushers**..... Dale Schultz (Sun.)  
..... Diane Prevost (Sat.)  
**Greeters** ..... Joe & Dawn Gentry  
**Altar Guild**..... Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips  
**Livestream Team** ..... Dawn Anderson, Jan  
Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble  
**Counters**.....Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek  
**Coffee Hour** ..... Anne Gentry, Vicki Cripps

## SERVING MARCH 9/10

**Ministers** ..... God's People  
**Pastor** ..... Rev. Tom Orth  
**Music Director** ..... Claire Witt  
**Recorded Accompaniment**..Kat Tomaszewski  
**Lector** ..... Donna Czarnecki  
**Comm. Asst.**..... Joe Gentry/Wayne Lewis  
**Ushers**..... Dale Schultz (Sun.)  
..... Diane Prevost (Sat.)  
**Greeters** ..... Bill & Nancy Platt  
**Altar Guild**..... Mary Rowader, Elsa Phillips  
**Livestream Team** ..... Dawn Anderson, Jan  
Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble  
**Counters**.....Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek  
**Coffee Hour** ..... Joel & Cindy Suszek

*A list of March birthdays and anniversaries  
can be found on our website at:*

*[www.gracelutheran-alpena.org/2024-birthdays](http://www.gracelutheran-alpena.org/2024-birthdays)*

View our services  
on YouTube

