

✠ **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT** ✠

Saturday, 5:00 p.m., March 5, 2016 ~ Sunday, 9:30 a.m., March 6, 2016

Hymns

G-R807 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Psalm 32 (Psalms begin on page 339)

D-R606 Our Father, We Have Wandered

C-R592 Just As I Am, without One Plea

S- R679 For the Fruit of All Creation

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Welcome to our guests and visitors who are with us today. We hope you feel at home in our midst and look forward to seeing you again. If you would like more information about Grace Lutheran, the pastor or ushers can help you. Please consider your presence to be your gift to us. No other is necessary or expected. Thank you for worshiping with us today.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 8 LARCC parishes. Today we pray for the Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers in the Catholic Community.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP FOLDER

A large print worship folder, hymns and weekly bulletin are available for anyone who would like one. Please ask the ushers for it.

PRAYERS: Tammy Furze, Thelma Stevens, Debbie Anderson, Marilyn Whitscell, Sara Kamyszek, Erv Simi, Jeanette Grove, Elfie Jahnke, Lorraine Leathead, Gloria Moore, Dave Chroninger, Harold & Jean Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Dorothy Gentry, Emma Nelson, Iris Snyder, Julie Troy, Linda Norton, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Cody Gustin, Ken Liske, Brett & Katie Schoner, Eric Carlson, Martin Suszek, Larry Beaudoin, Shirley Johnson, Mike Knoblett, Dennis Diamond, Stuart Grenkowicz, Sam Brown, and Jaiden. We also remember the families of Lester Fettes (Ruby Haske's father), Betty Bordine, and Rev. Sherry Schacht, UCC, who passed away this past week.

ALTAR FLOWERS: In honor of Vicki Cripps' March birthday.

PRAYER LIST

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).

ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held
Sunday, March 13
following 9:30 a.m. worship.

On the Agenda

Receive Annual Reports

**COMMUNITY
CELEBRATING & SHARING DINNER
TICKETS TICKETS TICKETS**

Tickets are available in the office at Grace Lutheran for the upcoming Celebrating and Sharing Community Dinner at the Aplex on Sunday, April 3, 2016. We have 300 to sell and the cost is \$12.00 per person with children under 12 free. Help make this a successful event again! Jon Benson, owner of J J's Catering, will once again donate a delicious meal. The silent auction, Chinese raffle and Battle of the Breads return, too.

We are looking for donations for the silent auction and Chinese raffle. If you have a wonderful idea or some treasure you would like to donate, please let Sandy Malaski at 989-657-4480 or Myra Cross at 989-340-1523 know and they will help make the arrangements.

It will be a wonderful time to enjoy fellowship and a catered dinner!

NEEDED FOR CC&S DINNER

Blue wine bottles are needed to create centerpieces for the Community Celebrating & Sharing Dinner. Bottles may be dropped off in the kitchen any time. See Eleanor Coddington for more information.

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE DINNER

(McDonald's - Chisholm St)

March 9 ~ 5-7:00 p.m.

Tickets \$3 each (includes 1-breakfast sausage and all you can eat pancakes). Proceeds benefit the Alpena NRN Mission Trip. We will be assisting with flooding clean up in South Carolina. Questions? Call Vicki 989-916-9258. More info available on the table in the Narthex.

**FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK LUNCH/
EUCHRE TOURNAMENT & GAME DAY
FOLLOWING OUR ANNUAL MEETING**

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Please join us for some fun, fellowship, and a little friendly competition. We will start with a potluck lunch at approximately noon (or whenever the annual meeting is done), followed by a Euchre Tournament (for 9th Graders through Adults) and game day (all ages welcome). Drinks and table setting will be supplied for lunch. Please bring a dish to share if you'd like to join us for a meal before the games begin.

Details of the tournament/game day are available with the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Please bring a card table, if you have one. Also, please invite your friends to join us. This is a great time to share our Grace hospitality with others. If you have any questions, please see a Fellowship Committee member. See you all there!!!

THANK YOU

Thank you for the prayers, happy thoughts and cards that have been sent my way. I appreciate all of them. -- Thelma Stevens

Thanks for the cards and prayers I have received from my friends at Grace. They mean so much to me. -- Debbie Anderson

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL
CHOICE DOLLARS EXPIRE SOON!**

Thrivent Financial members have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2015 Choice Dollars. After that date, Choice Dollars will expire. Please call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted or log on to www.thrivent.com and direct your Choice Dollars. Dollars directed to Grace will be distributed through our Local and World outreach programs. We CAN make a difference.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Sunday - 6th

9:30 a.m. Worship
 Children's Sunday School

12:30 p.m. Catechism - St. Paul

Monday - 7th

600 p.m. ROC - Lounge

Tuesday - 8th

9:00 a.m. Quilting

3:30 - 6:30 p.m. Lounge Reserved

4:00 p.m. Worship Work Group

Wednesday - 9th

BULLETIN DEADLINE

2:30-6:30 p.m. Lounge Reserved

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper &

7:00 p.m. Worship -
 St. Bernard

Thursday - 10th

11:00 a.m. Computer Hour

Saturday - 12th

5:00 p.m. Worship

SERVING THIS WEEK

Ministers God's People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director Berniece Lyon Clapp
Lector Sandy Welch
Acolyte
Communion Assts. Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Ushers Roger & Jeanne Pankey, Don Furze,
 Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske
Greeters Gordon & Dorothy Hansen
Hospital Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild Sandy Welch, Angie Crittenden,
 Ellie Walker
Counters Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Barb Werle, Angie Crittenden,
 Ellie Walker

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Ministers God's People
Pastor Rev. Tom Orth
Music Director Berniece Lyon Clapp
Lector Verna Furze
Acolyte
Communion Assts. Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Ushers Roger & Jeanne Pankey, Don Furze,
 Matt, Everett & Olivia Haske
Greeters Melissa & Madison Timmreck
Hospital Janet Chroninger
Altar Guild Sandy Welch, Angie Crittenden,
 Ellie Walker
Counters Cheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek
Coffee Hour Ruby & Olivia Haske

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 3,981.00
Weekly giving - February 28	\$ 4,288.45
Year-to-date over/(under)	(\$2,238.00)

FIRST READING**Joshua 5:9-12**

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

PSALM 32

(Psalms begin on page 339)

SECOND READING**2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

GOSPEL**Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that

country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707****Phone: Office 354-2640****Pastor's Home 356-8729****Pastor's Cell Phone 916-8759****Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth ~ Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org****E-mail: pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org****officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org**