

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



March 10, 2024

10:00am

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

GATHERING

Prelude

Wondrous Love

Samuel Barber

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

**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.

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.

Amen

Opening Hymn Lift High the Cross

#660

Apostolic Greeting

Kyrie

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Breathing

Inhale: God loves this beautiful world

Exhale: We turn to love it as well.

Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Message

Installation of New Council Members

The new people who will be serving on our Congregational Council are:
Wilma Hovland, Kathi Sue Krause, Mel Rau, and Dorie Schwellenbach.

They will join our continuing members:

Barb Eidahl, Barb Piper, Jan Adams, Roxy Gehring, and Carla Reppert-Lokken.

When Pastor Phil asks the new members:

Will you faithfully fulfill the duties God and this congregation have entrusted to you? If so, respond, I will and I ask God to help and guide me.

I will and I ask God to help and guide me.

And members of our congregation, will you support and pray for these new leaders as together we live out God's call to us in this place. If so, respond, We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

The First Reading is from Numbers, Chapter 21

⁴From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

Wondrous Love

arr. Larry Shackley

What wondrous love is this, O my soul.

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous crown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, who is the great "I Am."

While millions join the theme, I will sing, and I'll sing of wondrous love!

The Second Reading is from Ephesians, Chapter 2

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

The Gospel for today comes from John Chapter 3 Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn of the Day God Loved the World

#323

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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of the Church

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Robert A. Hobby

Offering Prayer

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. 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

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

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

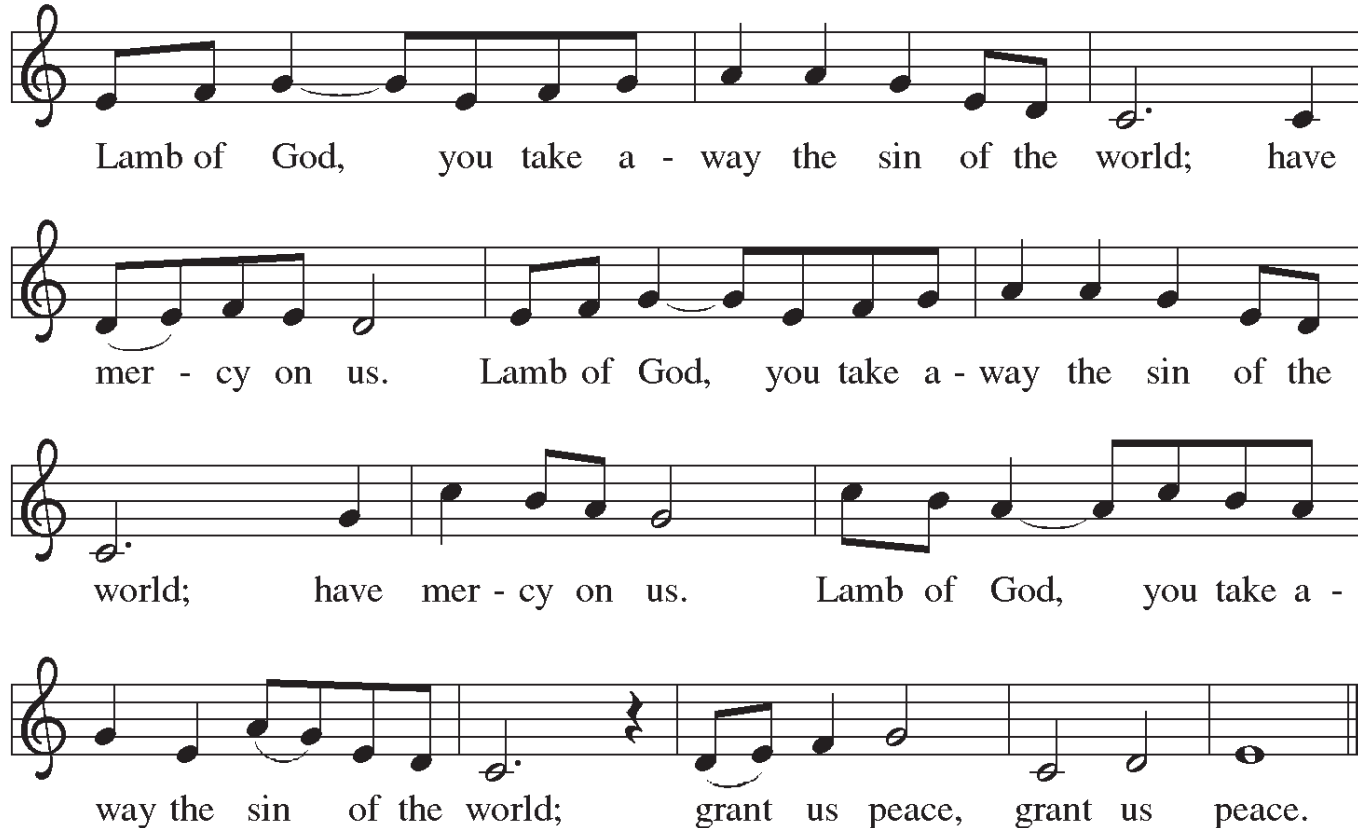
Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Communion

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



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.

Prayer After Communion

Generous God, 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.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn Christ Is the Life



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: COE FEN, Kenneth Naylor, 1931–1991

Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

O Christ, Our Hope

Dietrich Buxtehude

Portions of service from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS103714

Licensing Permission

All music Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License # A-724795

Copyright Information

Meditation 209, Paul Page, © 2020 CynMar Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Paul Page.

Lift High the Cross, Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. *God Loved the World*, Public Domain. *Christ Is the Life*, Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, arr. Robert A. Hobby, ©1996 MorningStar Music.

Wondrous Love, arr Larry Shackley, © 2003 Alfred Publishing Co.

Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones

Assisting Minister: Arthur Grothe

Reader: Stacey Geist

Organist: Elaine Mann

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (10th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am

Worship – 10am

MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am

TUESDAY

Prayer Group – 11am

Strong Bodies – 1pm

WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 10am

Text Study – 12pm

Lenten Service – 6:15pm

Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY

Strong Bodies – 1pm

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

SATURDAY

Mary Samuelson Visitation – 10am

Mary Samuelson Funeral – 11am

SUNDAY (17th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am

Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, ADRC, Theater Guild



2024-3-10

**A
N
N
O
U
N
C
E
M
E
N
T
S**

Palm Sunday March 24, 10:00 AM Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem	Maundy Thursday March 28, 6:15 PM A new commandment: Love one another	Good Friday March 29, 6:15 PM The crucifixion of Jesus by worldly powers	Easter Sunday April 21, 10:00 AM Alleluia! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!
--	--	---	---

Lenten Services

Grace will have mid-week services in the chapel at 6:15pm on Wednesdays of Lent. We will sing evening prayer and our Lay Preachers will help us understand Jesus' "I am" statements.

- March 13: I am the Good Shepherd **John 10:11-18 Jon Thorpe**
 - March 20: I am the Resurrection and the Life **John 11:17-27 Jan Adams**
- Please join us.

Sunday School

Classes will be held during the worship service following the children's message on the following dates:

- March 17
- April 7
- April 21
- May 5
- May 19

Family Choir

The family choir will be rehearsing and singing during the worship service on the following dates:

- Rehearsal: March 17
- Sing: March 24 (Palm Sunday) & 31 (Easter service)
- Rehearsal: March 31; April 14 & 28
- Sing: May 12 & 19 (Music Sunday)

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet Monday March 11th at 10 am in the Lounge for fellowship, treats and Bible study. All women are invited to attend. If you would like to join the circle or have questions, contact Barb Piper (715-529-6900 or bpiper2007@yahoo.com)

Beacon House

Thank you to all the grace members who provided food for the evening meals at beacon house in February. The families, 7 adults and 11 children, enjoyed the nutritious and tasty meals served. Several families found housing that week so fewer residents were at the supper table the last day. However, the extra casseroles were frozen to be used whenever needed. Your continued support for the homeless families throughout the year is appreciated.



Before Bach's Birthday Concert

featuring
Elaine Mann, organ
Donald Patterson, piano

Sunday, March 17, 3 pm
organ, piano
with reception to follow!

Grace Lutheran Church
202 W. Grand Ave
Eau Claire



Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org/our-ministry> *Bulletins may also be found on the same page.*

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <https://bit.ly/49WLWPj>



Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713