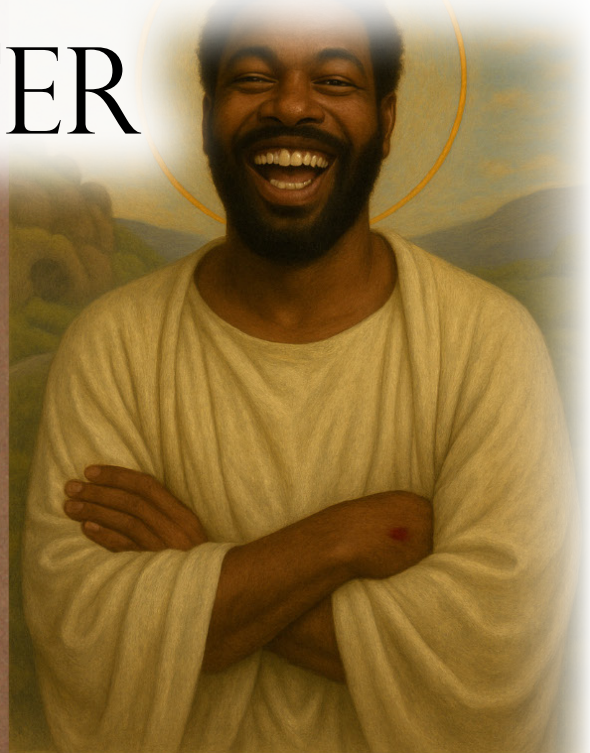
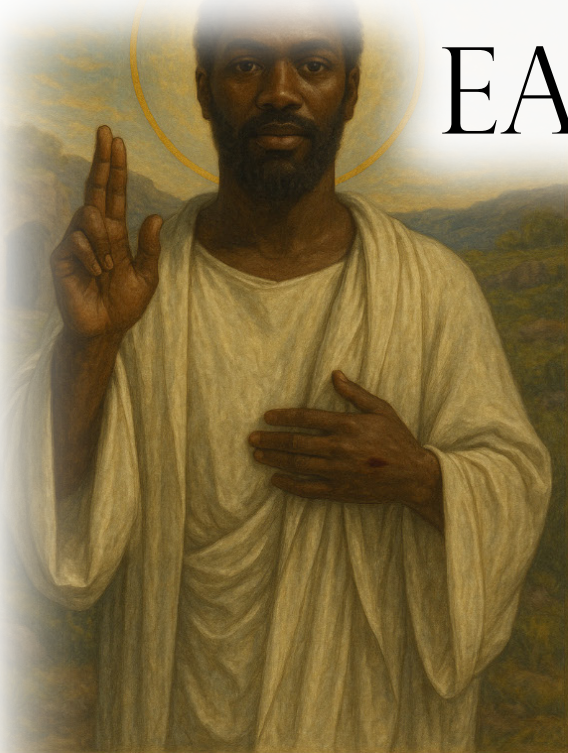


SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER



*April 27, 2025
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 *O Sons and Daughters of the King* *Alexandre Guilmant*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing* #389

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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

MacDowell Male Chorus *Great Is Thy Faithfulness Music* *arr. Dan Forrest*
Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah *arr. Rosalind Hill*
He Never Failed Me Yet *Robert Ray*
Soloist – Jason Watzka

The First Reading is from Acts, Chapter 5

²⁷ When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us."

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading is from Revelation, chapter 1

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 20

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the others, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ As he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are stuck."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, ain't no way I'll believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.

Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones*

Hymn of the Day *The Risen Christ*

#390

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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

Peace

MEAL

Offering

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

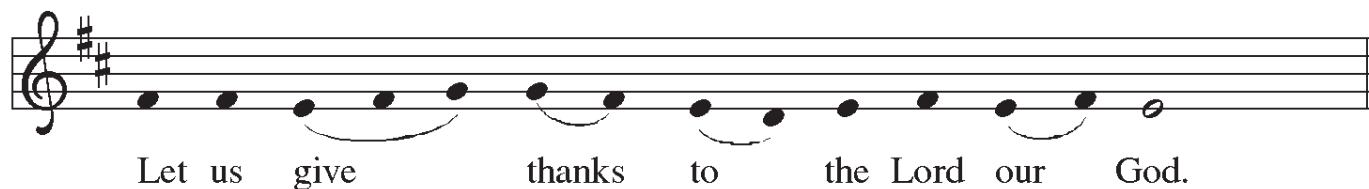
Phillip Hesterman

Offering Prayer

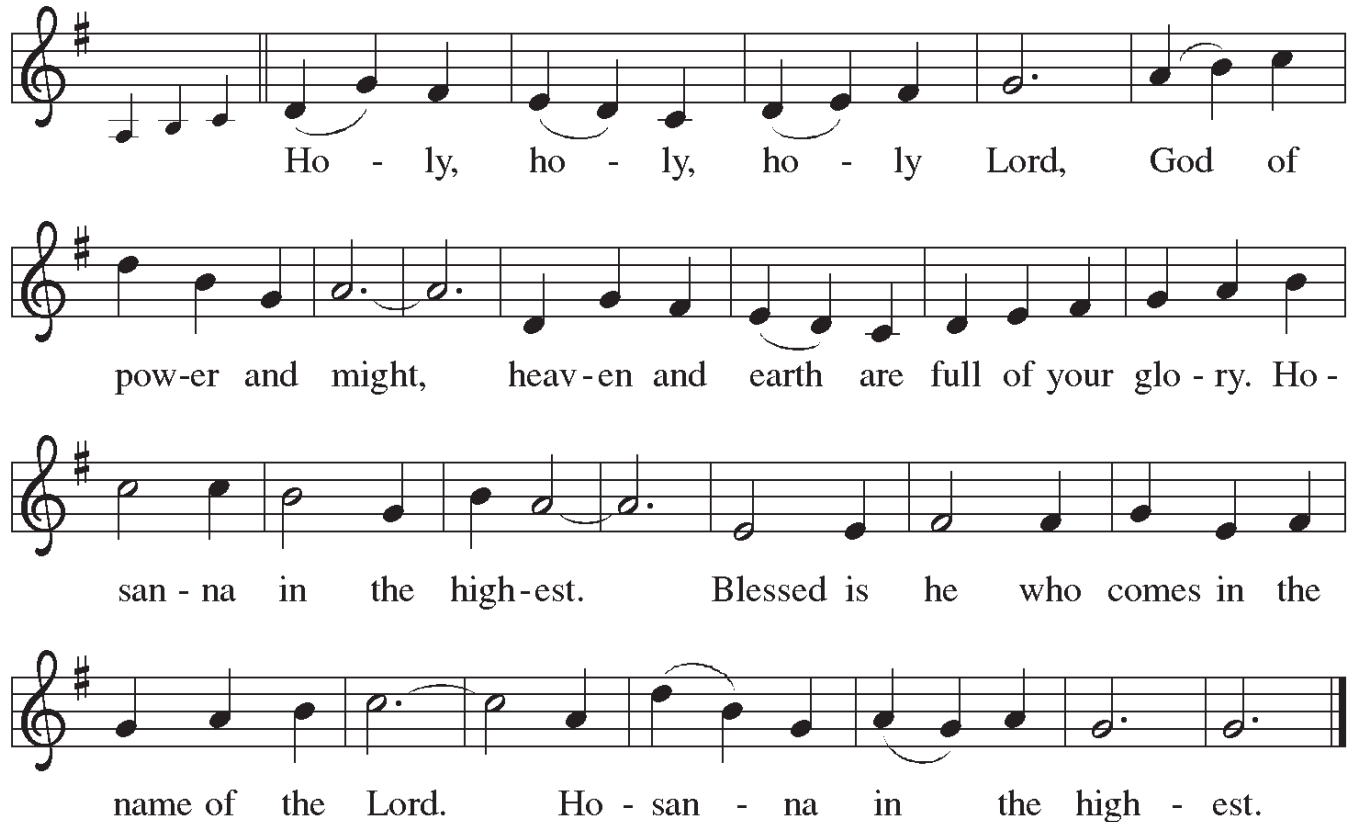
Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



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.

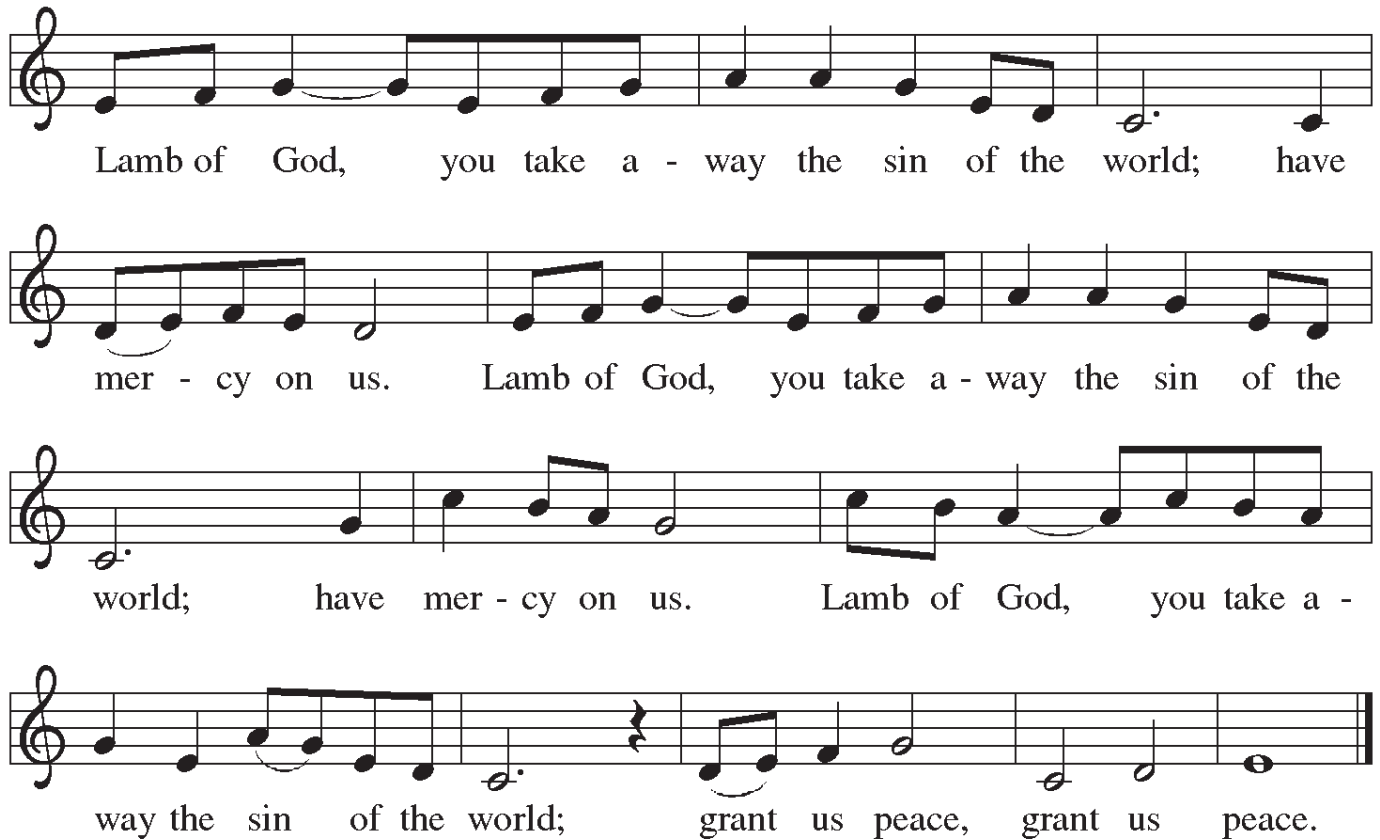
Eucharistic Prayer

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

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn The Peace of the Lord

#646

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Christ Is Risen, Christ Is Living

Robert Buckley Farlee



GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

2025-4-27

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MacDowell

MALE CHORUS
EST. 1934

MacDowell is an all-volunteer group of men who enjoy singing and fellowship. More than 874 men have been part of the chorus during its 91 years in the Fox Valley arts scene, donating their talents during hundreds of shows and events all over the Midwest. Primary concerts are in April/May with season-ending “home concerts” in the Fox Valley. The chorus has performed collaborative concerts with local High School choruses, various college choruses from around Wisconsin, and Midwest bands and dance groups. From October through March, they donate their musical talents to multiple churches throughout the Fox Valley, performing at Sunday Morning church services. Originally a founding member of the Associated Male Choruses of America, MacDowell has returned to participating in the “Big Sings” presented annually in various cities throughout the Midwest, including the one at the Pablo RCU Theater in April 2022. They donate their talents to charitable events such as Veterans’ Honor Flights, Fox Valley Symphony stadium concerts, and more! Most importantly, they have fun!

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Copyright Information

Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones **Organist:** Elaine Mann
Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken **Choir Director:** Diana Cataldi
Reader: Arthur Grothe

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (27th)
Eau Claire Marathon
Coffee Hour – 9:00am
Worship – 10am

WEDNESDAY
Crafters – 10am
Text Study – 12pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

SUNDAY (4th)
Star Wars Day
Coffee Hour – 9:00am
Worship – 10am
Grace Foundation Annual Meeting – 11am

TUESDAY
Prayer Group – 11am
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm

THURSDAY
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm

Other groups using the building this week: ADRC, Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, Theater Guild, Randall Park Neighborhood Association

Sunday School

Sunday School continues in the new year. Check out the following schedule for the first half of 2025.

- May 4

Sunday school takes place right after the Children’s Time during the service. See you there!

Noisy Offering

Save your coins and let them Spring into action on May 4. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!)

Our special offering will be for providing snacks for our neighborhood (Randall Park) school Lakeshore Elementary. The majority of Lakeshore students are low-income and until this January, the school had a grant that enabled healthy snacks to be bought and distributed to all students daily. Let's help our friends at Lakeshore!



Serving At Beacon House

Grace and Peace Lutheran will be responsible for evening meals at the homeless shelter for families the week of May 4.

Grace will provide food for the following days: Thursday, May 8, Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10. Menus will be posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. You can prepare an entree or bring side dishes as listed.

ALSO: A Breakfast Cart has been made available on the weekends for families to prepare morning meals. You may wish to contribute to this new meal option. Suggestions for items for their Cart: Microwave pancakes or waffles, syrup, diced ham, tomatoes, Instant Grits, sausage links. A donor is bringing in 2 dozen eggs each week for their use.

There are currently 4 adults and 8 children ages 10 to 4 years old. One family is from Venezuela and speak very little English so volunteers are helping mother and the children who are eager to learn.

Call Barbara Radke for additional information: 715-835-3440

Thank You for your unflagging support for this local mission.



Memorials & Honoraria

James & Connie Beck, Elaine Berg & Matt Wing, Barb Eidahl, Jeff & Deb Heath, Robert & Ruth Kein, Peter & Susanne Lokken, Barb Radke, and D Weggen, gave in memory of Ed Olson. Nathan Aaseng, Buzz & Rose Curtis, Roxanne Gehring, Barb Koch, Peter & Susanne Lokken, Barb Radke, Paul & Carla Reppert-Lokken, Thomas Tealey, and John Torgerson gave in memory of Dave Gehring. Cheryl Bluske, Patricia Candell, Robert & Ruth Kein, Barb Koch, Peter & Susanne Lokken, Denise Noll, Mark Olson, Barb Radke, WR Rowlett, John Schaaf, Kathy Schellfeffer, and David Weiss gave in memory of Nancy Schaaf. Thank you.



ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Grace Lutheran Foundation Voting Members

You are cordially invited to attend
Grace Lutheran Foundation's
Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 4, 2025

11:00 a.m.

(following the 10:00 worship service)

Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran Communities Board of Directors

Paul Lokken | President

Dale Reid | Vice President

Alan Boyes | Secretary-Treasurer

Barb Eidahl | Church Council President

**Pastor Philip Ruge-Jones, Ken Ziehr, Bob Kein,
Gloria Mittelstadt, Suzette Peltier, Arthur Grothe**

Grace Lutheran Communities Staff

Amy Duhr | CEO

Jamie Larson | COO



SUNDAY, APRIL 27

3:00 PM

MARIANNA SCOTT SCHOLARSHIP
ORGAN RECITAL

First Congregational Church
310 Broadway Street, Eau Claire

Freewill offering to benefit future scholarships

Performers include:

2024 Scholarship Winner
Lincoln Junior High School Choir
CVAGO Members

PRESENTED BY THE
CHIPPEWA VALLEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



The images on the front cover are by Rev. Zuogwi Earl Reeves (@nnamdifsees) and are called “The Laughing Lamb: A Theology of Scars and Smirks”. His project is rooted in a theological framework called Reverie Theology—a dynamic blend of sacred imagination and the lived realities of marginalized communities. It uses surreal and visionary elements to confront systemic injustice while re-imagining the world as a site of divine potential, transformation, and liberation. Each piece is both a prayer and a protest, a celebration of joy in the aftermath of pain.

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