

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*

*Lent* IS A TIME TO  
GROW  
CLOSER TO JESUS

*By Grace you have been saved!*

*Everyone is Welcome!  
Taste and See that the Lord is Good,  
Let us rejoice together!*

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 7, 2021

## **Pastor Jim Helgren**

## Prelude & Announcements

## Opening Hymn      “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**Kyrie: C: response... “Lord, have mercy.”**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## The Prayer of the Day See Insert

## The First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17 See Insert

## Psalm 19 See Insert

## Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

**C: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

## Gospel: John 2:13-22

See Insert

## P: The Gospel according to St. John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter

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

P: ....The Gospel of the Lord”

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

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day                    "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Nicene Creed

**C: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayers of the Church

P: .... Lord in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## Offering

**C: What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful Father,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Chris our Lord. Amen**

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 him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosana. Hosana. Hosana in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosana in the highest.**

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Words of Institution

The 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**

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Distribution

**P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.**

**C: Amen**

**C: Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer – P: Let us pray...

**C: Amen**

Benediction

Closing Hymn            "Lift High the Cross"

Dismissal

**We pray always for . . .**

*Robert Armknecht, Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels,  
Evelyn Effken, Mary Goudie, Casey Holsing, Bruce Gerking,  
Axl Walters.*

**We also remember in our prayers . . .**

*Erick, Diana & Meshack, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.*



# Today's Readings

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 7, 2021

## 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.

## First Reading

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

## Exodus 20:1-17

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.

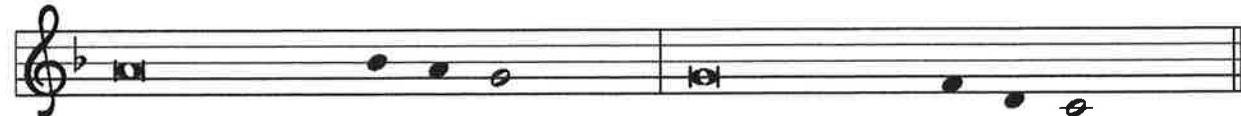
<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<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.

## Psalm



The heavens declare  
the glo-<sup>1</sup> ry of God,  
and the sky proclaims  
its<sup>1</sup> maker's handiwork.  
<sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale<sup>1</sup> to another,  
and one night  
imparts knowledge<sup>1</sup> to another.  
<sup>3</sup>Although they have  
no<sup>1</sup> words or language,  
and their voices<sup>1</sup> are not heard,  
<sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands,  
and their message

to the ends<sup>1</sup> of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent  
<sup>1</sup> for the sun.

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom  
out<sup>1</sup> of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion  
to<sup>1</sup> run its course.

<sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge  
of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of<sup>1</sup> it again;  
nothing is hidden  
from its<sup>1</sup> burning heat.

## Psalm 19; tone 2

continued

## Psalm, continued

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-<sup>l</sup> vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom<sup>l</sup> to the simple.  
<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and re-<sup>l</sup> joice the heart;**  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light<sup>l</sup> to the eyes.  
<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and en-<sup>l</sup> dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous<sup>l</sup> altogether.  
<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than<sup>l</sup> much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey<sup>l</sup> in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your ser-<sup>l</sup> vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is<sup>l</sup> great reward.  
<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's<sup>l</sup> own offenses? Cleanse me from my<sup>l</sup> secret faults.**  
<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion<sup>l</sup> over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a<sup>l</sup> great offense.  
<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable<sup>l</sup> in your sight, O LORD, my strength and<sup>l</sup> my redeemer.**

## Second Reading

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.

## Gospel

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 writ-

ten, “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.

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

## John 2:13-22

### TODAY'S READINGS March 7, 2021

### Volume 52, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21.

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**Today 3/7/21**

Worship with communion – 8:30 a.m.

**Monday 3/8/21**

Bible Study – 1:30 p.m.

**Tuesday 3/9/21**

Piecemakers Blanket making – All Day

**Wednesday 3/10/21**

Midweek Lenten Worship @ Hope Lutheran – 7:00 p.m.

**NEXT SUNDAY 3/14/21**

Worship – 8:30 a.m.



*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the south office. You may email the church office [grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com) NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613(cell)***

Please be sure to sign up for a couple of Sundays of Worship Duty – sign up sheet is at the back of the church.

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*We are trying Sunday School – Grab N Go style. There is a basket at the back of the church with individual packets of Sunday School materials for you to take home*

For those Thrivent Members who have Choice Dollars, the deadline to designate those is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Please call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt or go online before March 31<sup>st</sup> to designate those funds. If you have any questions regarding your Choice Dollars please contact Diane Wilken or your Thrivent Representative.

If you would like to bring an **EASTER LILY** to share with the church, you can bring them at any time. If the Easter lily is in memory or honor of someone, please add that information to the sheet at the back of the church. Be sure to label your Easter lily with your name for when you come to pick it up.

## **Midweek Lenten Worship Schedule**

### ***“Created for Community”***

**March 10**, Midweek Lenten Service at Hope Lutheran Church  
7:00 p.m. - “In Community with Our Neighbor”

**March 17**, Midweek Lenten Service at Grace Lutheran Church  
7:00 p.m. - “In Community with Those on the Margins”

**March 24**, Midweek Lenten Service at Hope Lutheran Church  
7:00 p.m. - “In Community with Christ”

## ***HOLY WEEK***

**March 28, Palm Sunday**

Worship at Grace Lutheran Church - 8:30 a.m.  
Worship at Hope Lutheran Church - 10:00 a.m.

**April 1, Maundy Thursday** Worship with communion at  
Hope Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m.

**April 2, Good Friday** Worship at Grace Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m.

## ***Easter - April 4***

**Easter Sunrise Worship** Service at Grace Lutheran Church - 6:30 a.m.  
No formal breakfast

**Easter Sunday Worship** at Grace Lutheran Church - 8:30 a.m.

**Easter Sunday Worship** at Hope Lutheran Church - 10:00 a.m.

## TANZANIA SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS 2021

Grace Lutheran Church is sponsoring 3 students at a Lutheran High School in Tanzania. Our scholarships are going to the following students this year.

**Erick Fredson** – Erick is in his last year at Nronga. His mother passed away and his father is a poor peasant who is ill and has difficulty providing for his family. Erick likes singing and hopes to become a lawyer.

**Diana Matowo** – Diana is in her third year at Nronga. She is the best student in her class. Her parents are separated and her father, a poor peasant has difficulty providing for basic needs and school fees. She likes playing volleyball and hopes to become an engineer.

**Meshack Nagunka** – Meshack is in his second year at Nronga. His parents are among the poorest families and it is very difficult for them to pay his school fees. He likes dancing and hopes to become an engineer.

Nearly every year, folks from Sheridan travel to Tanzania to visit schools and scholarship students. The most common experience each time we go is that of gratitude. Your student understands the “big picture” and knows how much his/her life is being transformed. They realize that the education that you are providing will change their life forever. Due to the pandemic, we are not able to travel to Tanzania this year. However, you will have the opportunity to write a letter to your student this spring. More information regarding this will be forthcoming.

Sheridan’s Tanzania Scholarship Project gives students in poverty the opportunity for a better education and the hope of a brighter future. Thank you for your kindness and for sharing the love and compassion of Jesus Christ!