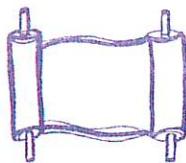


*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes you to  
The Great Thanksgiving*



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





# Today's Readings

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 3, 2024

## 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.

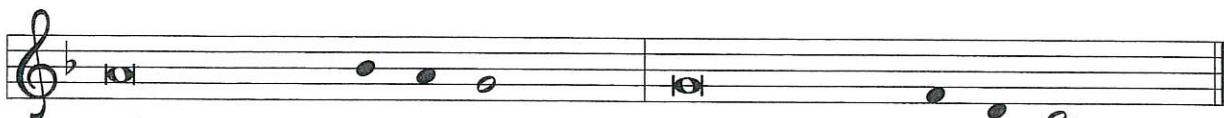
<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<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.  
**2**One day tells its tale<sup>1</sup> to another,  
and one night  
imparts knowledge<sup>1</sup> to another.  
**3**Although they have  
no<sup>1</sup> words or language,  
and their voices<sup>1</sup> are not heard,  
**4**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.

**5**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.

**6**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>1</sup> vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom <sup>1</sup> to the simple.  
<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and re-<sup>1</sup> joice the heart;**  
**the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light <sup>1</sup> to the eyes.**  
<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and en-<sup>1</sup> dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous <sup>1</sup> altogether.  
<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than <sup>1</sup> much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey <sup>1</sup> in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your ser-<sup>1</sup> vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is <sup>1</sup> great reward.  
<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's <sup>1</sup> own offenses? Cleanse me from my <sup>1</sup> secret faults.**  
<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion <sup>1</sup> over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a <sup>1</sup> great offense.  
<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable <sup>1</sup> in your sight, O LORD, my strength and <sup>1</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,

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

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.

## John 2:13-22

### TODAY'S READINGS March 3, 2024

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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Volume 55, Number 2

## AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

We believe that with the bread and wine one receives the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome other Christians to receive Holy Communion with us. Children who have not had first Communion instruction may come forward for a blessing.

*We pray always for . . .*

*Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Bruce Gerking, Becky Knake*

## *Friends & Families of Kurt & Julie Effken.*

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

*Anna, Juliet, Vanessa & Vance, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)***

**402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)**

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the south office. Church office email [grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com)*

Today 3/3/24

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

*Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

## St. Paul's UCC – Osage Soup Dinner – 11 am – 1 pm

Tuesday 3/5/24

## Piecemakers – Blanket Making – ALL DAY

Wednesday 3/6/24

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

**Lenten Worship @ Grace Lutheran – 7:00 p.m.**

Thursday 3/7/24

## Lenten Gathering @ Grace Lutheran – 11:30 a.m.

*Worship – 8:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

**During the month of March, we will be collecting Winter Clothing for men & women for Operation Stand Down, to be taken as Tangible Offering at the ELCW Spring Gathering. See the list in the March Tower Echoes.**

## **Pictures Wanted**

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is looking for pictures that might be included in a video presentation or on a picture display board. If you have a picture(s) that you would like to contribute please make a copy of the picture(s) and give to Alta Bohling, Andrea Eggleston, Pastor Helgren, Lori Panko, Sarah Purcell, Dean Wellensiek, or Melissa Wellensiek. If you prefer, you can email the picture(s) to GraceLutheran75@gmail.com. All possible pictures are needed by June 1, 2024. Thank you!

The Midweek Lenten services will be at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings.

March 6 at Grace

March 13 at Hope

March 20 at Grace

March 28—Maundy Thursday at Grace—7:00 p.m.

March 29—Good Friday at Hope—7:00 p.m.

Thursday Lenten Gatherings will be held at Grace Lutheran on March 7, 14 & 21. We will start to gather at 11:30 a.m. We will begin serving the meal at 11:45 a.m. and have a service with a theme from the night before at about 12:10 p.m. Invite others to also attend with you.

## **Church Council Presidents**

We have had a request to list all 75 names of those who have served as Grace Lutheran Church Council Presidents. Currently, we have all but seven names. If anyone has any record or recollection of who was church council president in the years 1949 through 1955, please let Sarah Purcell know. Thank you!