STAY WITH US the day is almost over.



Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

Church Campus: 7610 NE Fremont Street, Pastor – Pastor Thad Bitter (503.290.6316– call /text) School Campus: 2252 SE 92nd Street, Principal - Justin Eternick (920.988.1999 – call /text) Preschool: 2252 SE 92nd Street, ECE Director Tammy Godish (503.312.4230 – call /text)

The Third Sunday of Easter April 23, 2023

Grace ~ "? am not ashamed of the gospel ... "



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

Grace ~ "These are written that you may believe ... "



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God's Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical

Lutheran Synod (WELS).

Grace ~ "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...."



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God's grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen." 2 Pt. 3:18

Hymn:



INVOCATION

- M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

HYMN VERSE

CW21 Blue #444 (1): Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me. Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will recall me. Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.

ABSOLUTION

- M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: God is light. In him there is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice. But if we walk in the light, just as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

CW21 Blue #444 (2): Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

HYMN VERSECJesus lives! To him the throneHigh o'er heav'n and earth is given.I shall go where he is gone,Live and reign with him in heaven.God is faithful; doubtings, hence!This shall be my confidence.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

²³ "Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll,
²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!
²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.^[d]
²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God;
²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

HYMN VERSE

Jesus lives! For me he died; Hence will I, to Jesus living, Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to him and glory giving. All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.

SECOND LESSON

¹³ Therefore, after preparing your minds for action by exercising self-control, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in

CW21 Blue #444 (3): Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

Job 19:23-27

1 Peter 1:13-21

HYMN VERSE Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from him shall sever, Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever. God will be a sure defense; This shall be my confidence.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia! But your dead will live, LORD; their bodies will rise let those who dwell in the dust wake up and shout for joyyour dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead. Alleluia!

HYMN VERSE

CW21 Blue #444 (5): Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate to life immortal; This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal. Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: "Jesus is my confidence!"

Isaiah 26:19

CW21 Blue #444 (4): Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

everything you do. ¹⁶ For it is written, "Be holy, because I am holy."^[a] ¹⁷ If you call on the Father who judges impartially, according to the work of each person, conduct yourselves during the time of your pilgrimage in reverence, ¹⁸ because you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, not with things that pass away, such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish or spot.²⁰ He was chosen before the foundation of the world but revealed in these last times for your sake.²¹ Through him you are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

ignorance. ¹⁵ Rather, just as the one who called you is holy, so also be holy in

THE GOSPEL LESSON

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide, For round us falls the eventide, Nor let your Word, that heav'nly light, For us be ever veiled in night.

In these last days of sore distress Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness That pure we keep, till life is spent, Your holy Word and sacrament.

O God, how sin's dread works abound! Throughout the earth no rest is found, And falsehood's spirit wide has spread, And error boldly rears its head.

Lord Jesus, help, your Church uphold, For we are sluggish, thoughtless, cold. Oh, prosper well your Word of grace, And spread its truth in ev'ry place.

Oh, keep us in your Word, we pray; The guile and rage of Satan stay! Oh, may your mercy never cease! Give concord, patience, courage, peace.

A trusty weapon is your Word, the Church's armor, shield, and sword. O let us in its pow'r confide that we may seek no other guide.

Oh, grant that in your holy Word We here may live and die, dear Lord, And when our journey's ending here, Receive us into glory there.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

An opportunity to give online can also be used at Paypal.me/GracePortland or by utilizing this QR code:



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.
- C: Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.
- M: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to us and all people.
- C: Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.
- M: Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.
- C: Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.

- M: Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.
- C: Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.
- M: Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.
- C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed.
- M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.
- M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

Special prayer requests may be included here

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

- M: Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers, spoken and in silence, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.
- C: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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.

THE BENEDICTION

- M: The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
- C: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN

CW21 Blue #783 (1-3,6-7) "Abide with Me"

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away. Change and decay in all around I see; O thou who changest not, abide with me!

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings, But kind and good, with healing in thy wings, Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea; Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

