

Grace Lutheran Church

7610 NE Fremont St.
Portland, OR 97213

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 St, Pastor – Christopher Goelzer

School Campus: 2252 SE 92nd Ave, Principal - Justin Eternick (920.988.1999 – call /text)

Preschool: 2252 SE 92nd Ave, ECE Director Tammy Godish (503.312.4230 – call /text)

Easter 3

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; - Psalm 33:5-6

May 4, 2025

Grace ~ “I 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**

Opening Hymn

TEXT: PAUL GERHARDT

CW BLUE 443 AWAKE, MY HEART, WITH GLADNESS (1-3)

TUNE: JOHANN CRÜGER

**1. Awake, my heart, with gladness
See what today is done!
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realm of light
Our spirit wings it flight.**

**2. The foe in triumph shouted
When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed,
His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
In glorious victory
He who is strong to save
Has triumphed o'er the grave**

**3. This is a sight that gladdens –
What peace it does impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son
In love for me has won.**

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

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil, and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: LORD, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Absolution

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The 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

The First Lesson

ACTS 9:1-22

⁹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners. ³ As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” He replied, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do.”

⁷ The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. ⁸ They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

¹⁰ There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias!” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”

¹¹ The Lord told him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight.”

¹³Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵The Lord said to him, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. ¹⁶Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

¹⁸Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. ¹⁹And after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. ²⁰Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, “Isn’t this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn’t he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

Psalm of the Day

140

Refrain: ♪ I will live in the presence of the LORD.

**Rescue me, Lord, from evil|doers;*
Protect me from the | violent.
Who devise evil plans | in their hearts*
And stir up war | ev’ry day.
Keep me safe, Lord, from the hands
of the | wicked;*
Protect me from the | violent.**

Refrain

**I say to the Lord, “You | are my God.”*
Hear, Lord, my cry for | mercy.
Sovereign Lord, my strong de|liverer,*
You shield my head in the day of
| battle.
Do not grant the wicked their de|sires,
Lord;*
Do not let their | plans succeed.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
And to the Holy | Spirit,
As it was in the be|ginning,*
Is now, and will be forever. |
Amen.**

Refrain

¹¹ And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. ¹² With a loud voice they were saying:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive
power and riches and
wisdom and strength and
honor and glory and blessing.

¹³ I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

¹⁴ The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

Verse of the Day

LUKE 24:32

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia.

The Gospel Lesson

JOHN 21:1-14

²¹ After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I’m going fishing.”

They replied, “We’ll go with you.”

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

⁵ Jesus called to them, “Boys, don’t you have any fish?”

“No!” they answered.

⁶ He told them, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard, “It is the Lord!” he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards. ⁹ When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”

¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153 of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn.

¹² Jesus said to them, “Come, eat breakfast.”

None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Hymn of the Day

CW BLUE 459 CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN AGAIN (1,3, 5-6)

**1. Christ the Lord is ris'n again;
Christ has broken death's strong chain.
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high: Hallelujah!**

**5. He who slumbered in the grave
Is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings
That the Lamb is King of kings.
Hallelujah!**

**3. He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry:
Hallelujah!**

**6. Now he bids us tell abroad
How the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiv'n,
How we, too, may enter heav'n.
Hallelujah!**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Our Thanksgiving

The Offering

An opportunity to give online can also be used at [Paypal.me/GracePortland](https://www.paypal.com/GracePortland) or by utilizing this QR code:



Rite of Confirmation

AUDEN - *See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!* - 1 JOHN 3:1

SIMON - *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.* - 1 JOHN 4:10

CLARA - *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.* - JOHN 14:3

The LORD's Prayer

C: 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.

Hymn

CW BLUE 800 HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

1. How firm a foundation,
You saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
In his excellent Word!
What more can he say
Than to you he has said,
To you who for refuge
To Jesus have fled?

2. "Fear not, I am with you,
O be not dismayed,
For I am your God
And will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you,
And cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous,
Omnipotent hand.

3. "When through the deep waters
I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow
Shall not overflow,
For I will be with you,
Your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you
Your deepest distress.

4. "When through fiery trials
Your pathway shall lie,
My grace all-sufficient
Shall be your supply;
The flames will not hurt you;
I only design
Your dross to consume
And your gold to refine.

5. "The soul that on Jesus
Has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not,
Desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell
Should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never,
No never forsake!"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Words of Institution

M: Our LORD Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: Amen.

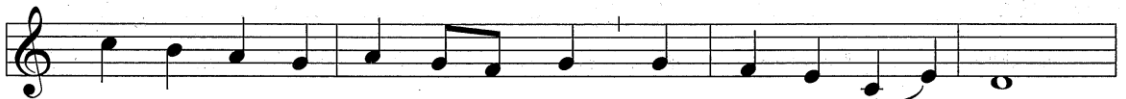
Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



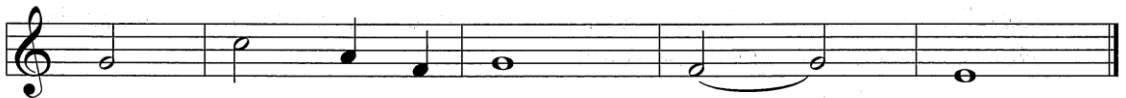
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

The Distribution

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the LORD's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy.

Distribution Hymn

CW BLUE 663 SOUL ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS

**1. Soul, adorn yourself with gladness;
Leave behind all gloom and sadness.
Come into the daylight's splendor;
There with joy your praises render
Unto him whose grace unbounded
Has this wondrous supper founded.
Though he reigns above most holy,
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**

**2. Hasten as a bride to meet him,
And with loving rev'rence greet him,
For with words of life immortal
He is knocking at your portal.
Open wide the gates before him,
Saying, as you there adore him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you,
That I nevermore will leave you.**

**3. He who craves a precious treasure
Neither cost nor pain will measure,
But the priceless gifts of heaven
God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
Naught would buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven,
And his blood, for you once given.**

**4. Now I kneel before you lowly,
Filled with joy most deep and holy,
As with trembling awe and wonder
On your mighty work I ponder,
By such mystery surrounded,
Depths that no one ever sounded.
None may dare to pierce unbidden
Secrets that with you are hidden.**

**5. Human reason, though it ponders,
Cannot fathom these great wonders,
That Christ's body must be boundless
Since the souls it feeds are countless,
And that he his blood is giving
With the wine we are receiving.
These great mysteries unsounded
Are by God alone expounded.**

**6. Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You have left your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forgo all joy and gladness
And to shed your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.**

7. Jesus, Sun of life, my Splendor,
Jesus, Friend of friends most tender,
Jesus, Joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring
At your feet I cry, my Maker:
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven
For our good, your glory, given.

8. Jesus, Lord of life in heaven,
Help me when this meal is given
To receive it for my blessing
As I come, my sins confessing.
In this supper let me measure,
Lord, how deep is your love's treasure,
That, as I on earth have eaten,
I may be your guest in heaven.

Prayer

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O LORD, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the LORD with gladness.

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.

Closing Hymn

TEXT: PAUL GERHARDT

CW BLUE 443 AWAKE, MY HEART, WITH GLADNESS (4-5)

TUNE: JOHANN CRÜGER

4. Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior dear.
My Lord will leave me never;
With him I need not fear.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain.
He shatters hell's dark thrall;
I follow him through all.

5. He brings me to the portal
That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in scriptures of gold:
"Who there my cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Where there with me has died
Shall here be glorified.