



*Behold
a Host
Arrayed in White*

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving the Portland Area
With the Means of Grace
As a family of believers
For almost 110 years...

As a Church
As a School
As a Preschool
As a Mission
As a Ministry
As a Family of Ministries



A Family of Ministries For Christian
Worship, Education and Care

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End Time 3 – Saints Triumphant, November 15th, 2020

Welcome!

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 110 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 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. 3:1**

Opening

“Behold A Host Arrayed In White”

We invite you to enjoy the hymn sung in its original language first and then in English. The congregation is invited to join in signing the English verses which will be displayed on the screen. This beautiful hymn based in Revelation 7:13-17 allows us to see John’s vision of heaven and imagine the glorious choir of saints and angels singing together arrayed in robes of white. Author: Hans Adolf Brorson, c. 1760 Translated by: composite Titled: "Den store hvide Flok vi se" Norwegian folk-tune, c. 1600 Tune: "Great White Host" Arranged by: Edvard H. Grieg, 1907, ad. -- Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

Invocation

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. -- 2 Corinthians 13:13

C: And also with you.

M: I heard a voice from heaven say,
"Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

**C: "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor,
for their deeds will follow them."** -- Revelation 14:13

M: For the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom
and will possess it forever —

C: yes, for ever and ever!

Hymn

CW # 216 (1) “Saints, Behold! The Sight Is Glorious”

**Saints, behold! The sight is glorious
See the man of sorrows now,
From the fight returned victorious!
Ev'ry knee to him shall bow.
Crown him! Crown him!
Crowns become the victor's brow.**

CONFESSION

Psalm 142 is a penitential psalm. The words of palmist remind us of our struggle as the church militant.

M: With my voice I cry out to the LORD.

C: With my voice I call to the LORD for mercy.

M: I pour out my complaint before him.

C: I tell my distress before him.

M: When my spirit grows faint within me, you are the one who knows my course.

- C:** I look and it seems there is no one who recognizes me or cares about my life.
M: I cry out to you, LORD. I say, “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.”
C: Pay attention to my loud cry, because I am very weak.
M: Rescue me from those who pursue me, because they are too strong for me.
C: Set me free from my prison, so I can give thanks to your name.

Hymn

CW # 216 (3) “Saints, Behold! The Sight Is Glorious”

**Sinners in derision crowned him,
 Mocking thus the Savior's claim;
 Saints and angels crowd around him,
 Proud to glorify his name.
 Crown him! Crown him!
 Spread abroad the victor's fame.**

ABSOLUTION

Scripture assures us that through Christ we are the Church triumphant

- M:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. – 1 John 1:8-9

The Lord himself has taken away your sin. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God.
 --2 Samuel 12:13, 2 Corinthians 5:21

- C:** How blessed is the person whose rebellion is forgiven, whose sin is covered!
 How blessed is the person whose guilt the LORD does not charge against him,
 in whose spirit there is no deceit!

Hymn

CW # 216 (4) “Saints, Behold! The Sight Is Glorious”

**Hark, those bursts of acclamation!
 Hark, those loud, triumphant chords!
 Jesus takes the highest station;
 Oh, what joy beyond all words!
 Crown him! Crown him!
 King of kings and Lord of lords!**

Prayer of the Day

M: God, our refuge and strength, have mercy on your Church, as we come in prayer before you. Answer us not in judgment on our sins, but in peace and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:1-6

Wake, awake! Clothe yourself with strength, O Zion. Put on your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, you holy city, for never again will the uncircumcised and the unclean enter you. ² Shake off the dust. Get up and take your seat, Jerusalem. Loosen the chains from your neck, you captive daughter of Zion. ³ Yes, this is what the LORD says. You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money. ⁴ Yes, this is what the LORD God says. In the beginning, my people went down to Egypt to stay there for a while. Later Assyria oppressed them without cause. ⁵ Now what do I have here? declares the LORD. Indeed, my people have been taken away for nothing. Their rulers howl with mockery, declares the LORD. My name is continually despised all day. ⁶ Therefore my people will know my name. So on that day they will know that I am the one—the one who is saying, “Here I am!”

Hymn

CWS # 727 (1) “There Is A Higher Throne”

*There is a higher throne than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev’ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we’ll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace; salvation comes.
Hear heaven’s voices sing; their thund’rous anthem rings.
Through em’rald courts and sapphire skies their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow’r, strength, thanks, and honor
are to God our King who reigns on high forevermore.*

*And there we’ll find our home, our life before the throne.
We’ll honor him in perfect song where we belong.
He’ll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd-King; we’ll reign with him.
Hear heaven’s voices sing; their thund’rous anthem rings.
Through em’rald courts and sapphire skies their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow’r, strength, thanks, and honor
are to God our King who reigns on high forevermore.*

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Instruction Concerning the Resurrection of the Dead at Christ's Second Coming

¹³ We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, ¹⁴ so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. ¹⁴ Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus. ¹⁵ In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

Hymn

CWS # 730 "Blessed Are They"

***Blessed are they which are called, Blessed are they which are called,
Blessed are they which are called To the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Multitudes, clothed in white robes, From ev'ry nation and tongue,
Stood before God and the Lamb At the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***They'll neither hunger nor thirst, Death, sorrow, pain vanquished now,
God wipes all tears from their eyes By the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Blessed are they which are called, Blessed are they which are called,
Blessed are they which are called To the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Blessing and honor, they cry, Unto the Lamb that was slain,
Redeeming us with his blood In the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Servant, saint, martyr at rest, Sanctified, ransomed, restored,
Thund'rously sing a new song Of the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Blessed are they which are called, Blessed are they which are called,
Blessed are they which are called To the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Worthy are you, Lamb of God, To receive glory and praise.
Alleluia and amen! For the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

***Blessed are they which are called, Blessed are they which are called,
Blessed are they which are called To the marriage feast of the Lamb.***

Jesus spoke to them again in parables. He said, ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent out his servants to summon those who were invited to the wedding banquet, but they did not want to come.

⁴“Then he sent out other servants and said, ‘Tell those who are invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and my fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet!’

⁵“But those who were invited paid no attention and went off, one to his own farm, another to his business. ⁶The rest seized the king’s servants, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷As a result, the king was very angry. He sent his army and killed those murderers and burned their town.

⁸“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. ⁹So go to the main crossroads and invite as many as you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those servants went out to the roads and gathered together everyone they found, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²He said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wearing wedding clothes?’ The man was speechless. ¹³Then the king told the servants, ‘Tie him hand and foot and throw him into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Sermon

Today’s sermon was recorded this week on YouTube and will be displayed on our screen. Pastor Bitter is in Eugene this morning for the installation of Mark Swanson as the new pastor at Trinity.

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:



The Prayer of the Church & 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

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over god's people for over 3500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on them, and I will bless them". – Numbers 6:24-26

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

C: Amen.

HYMN:

Beyond The Sky
Fernando Ortega
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