

The Lord
our
STRENGTH



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 Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5th, 2024

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**

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy, Whose
 2 Lord of all eag - er - ness, Lord of all faith, Whose
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace, Your
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm, Whose

trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy, Be
 strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, Be
 hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace, Be
 voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm, Be

there at our wak - ing and give us, we pray, Your
 there at our la - bors and give us, we pray, Your
 there at our hom - ing and give us, we pray, Your
 there at our sleep - ing and give us, we pray, Your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

M: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them! Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. O Lord have mercy on us!**

ABSOLUTION

M: This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light.

C: **In him there is no darkness at all.**

M: If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice.

C: **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.**

– 1 John 1:5-7

M: 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: **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Refrain

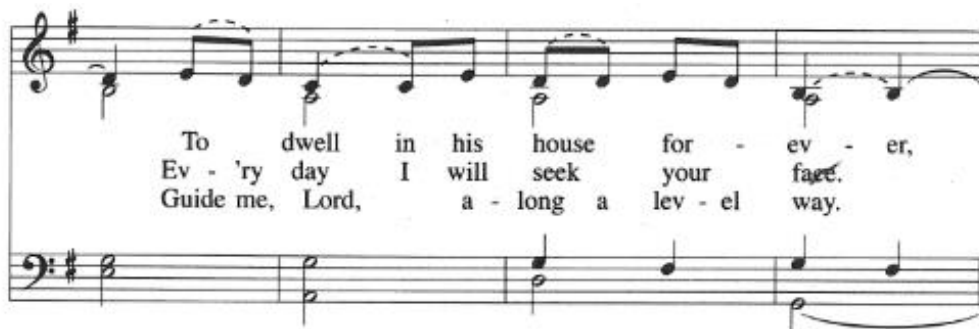
The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion. The Lord is the

strong-hold of my life. Since the Lord is my life, my

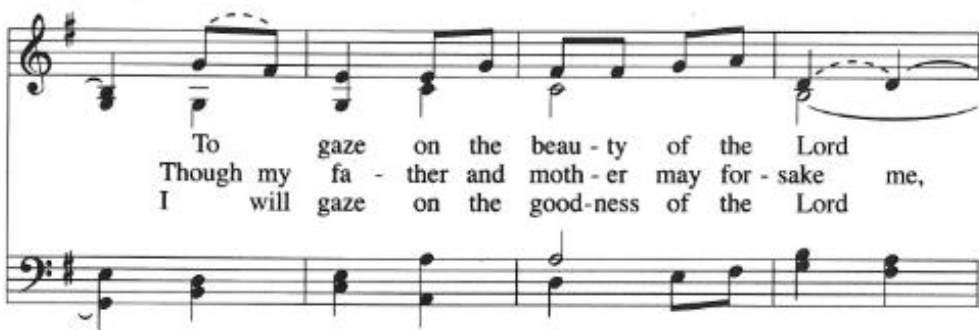
strength, and my all, Whom then shall I fear?

Verses

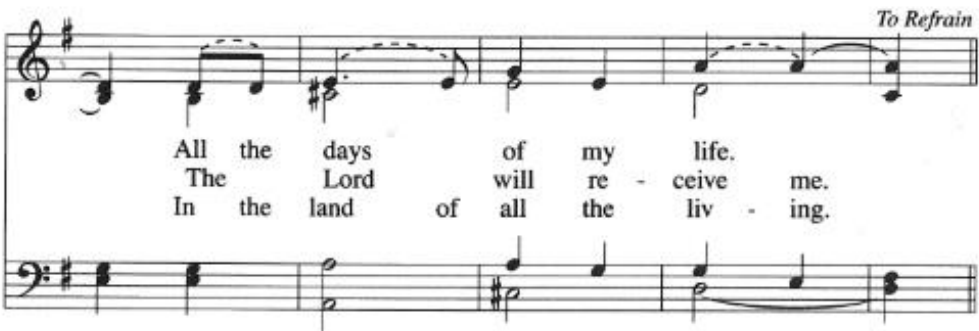
1 There is one thing I ask of the Lord:
 2 Do not hide your face, O Lord.
 3 Teach me, Lord, and keep me on your paths;



To dwell in his house for - ev - er,
 Ev - 'ry day I will seek your face.
 Guide me, Lord, a - long a lev - el way.



To gaze on the beau - ty of the Lord
 Though my fa - ther and moth - er may for - sake me,
 I will gaze on the good - ness of the Lord



All the days of my life.
 The Lord will re - ceive me.
 In the land of all the liv - ing.

To Refrain

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 15:1-6

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted.

Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.

²“The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

³The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name.

⁴Pharaoh’s chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea.

The best of Pharaoh’s officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

⁵The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone.

⁶Your right hand, LORD, was majestic in power.

Your right hand, LORD, shattered the enemy.

HYMN RESPONSE

Refrain CWS #767



***The Lord is my light and my salvation. The Lord is the stronghold of my life.
Since the Lord is my life, my strength, and my all, whom then shall I fear?***

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-39

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him? ³³Who will bring an accusation against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God’s right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written: For your sake we are being put to death all day long. We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

HYMN RESPONSE

Refrain CWS #767



***The Lord is my light and my salvation. The Lord is the stronghold of my life.
Since the Lord is my life, my strength, and my all, whom then shall I fear?***

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 16:22-33

²² “So you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. ²³ In that day you will not ask me anything. Amen, Amen, I tell you: Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be made complete. ²⁵ I have told you these things using figurative language. A time is coming when I will no longer speak to you using figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I am not telling you that I will make requests of the Father on your behalf. ²⁷ For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am going to leave the world and go to the Father.”

²⁹ “Yes!” his disciples said. “Now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative language. ³⁰ Now we know that you know everything and do not need to have anyone ask you anything. For this reason we believe that you came from God.”

³¹ Jesus answered them, “Now do you believe? ³² Listen, a time is coming, in fact it is here, when you will be scattered, everyone to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not going to be alone, because the Father is with me. ³³ I have told you these things, so that you may have peace in me. In this world you are going to have trouble. But be courageous! I have overcome the world.”

THE 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.

THE HYMN

CW21 Blue #806: “Your Days and Ways to God Surrender”

*Your days and ways to God surrender,
and let his wisdom be your light.
He stands beside you, strong but tender,
And guides your steps thro' storm and night.
Upon a rock you build your life
when you rely on Jesus Christ.*

*Why do you wallow in this worry?
Why tightly clutch this pain and fear?
Do you forget that on this journey,
You're not alone? Your God is near!
The many midnight tears you spill
Just make the darkness darker still.*

*Wait for his hand to write your story,
his gracious will, your destiny.
What looks like gloom he turns to glory;
What's hidden now he will reveal.
Who holds your future and your past
Knows what you need before you ask.*

*Then wake with joy and expectation,
For God is good and heav'n is sure.
Sing, pray, and work in your vocation,
And sleep in peace, your heart secure.
Surrender all to his good grace;
He keeps you safe in his embrace.*

SERMON

EXODUS 15:1-6

OUR 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 THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: O God, through Jesus' sacrifice and triumphant resurrection you have restored us as your forgiven children. In his name we pray:

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

M: Dear Lord, with these words you tenderly invite us to believe that you are our true Father and that we may pray to you boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

C: Hallowed be thy name.

M: Help us to know you through your inspired Word and to live by it as children in your family.

C: Thy kingdom come.

M: Give us your Holy Spirit to rule in our hearts, and use us to extend your kingdom of grace to others.

C: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

M: Make us zealous to carry out your will as gladly as the angels do, and to conform our will to yours.

C: Give us this day our daily bread.

M: Merciful Lord, since you are the provider of all things necessary for our bodies; fill us with trust.

C: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

M: You who have forgiven all our sins, help us gladly to forgive and to do good to those who wrong us.

C: And lead us not into temptation.

M: We know the devil seeks to destroy our souls and the world lures us to ruin by appealing to the desires of our flesh. Guard us from the poison of misbelief and the trap of unrepented sin.

C: But deliver us from evil.

M: *(Include any special prayer requests)* Keep safe our bodies and souls, our property and honor, and above all send the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith in Christ which leads to life everlasting.

C: For thine is the kingdom,

M: For all these petitions we look to you as King of Kings and Lord of your church.

C: and the power,

M: You alone hold the power to grant our requests.

C: and the glory forever and ever.

M: We worship you from whom all blessings flow and relying on Jesus, who paid for all our sins and made us acceptable in your sight, we pray with confidence:

C: Amen. It shall be so.

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 upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN:

CW21 - BLUE #835: **Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

*Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.*

*When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.*

*When the darkness appears, and the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.*



**MOSES PARTS
THE RED SEA**

