



THE
CRUCIBLE
TO
CALVARY





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.

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Lent 1 – February 18, 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**

Refrain



To my pre-cious Lord I bring my flask of fra-grant oil;



kneel-ing down, I kiss his feet, a - noint them with the oil.



- 1 Je - sus, who for my sake walked the road to Cal - va - ry,
- 2 Je - sus, who for my sake had his feet nailed to the cross,
- 3 When in clouds of glo - ry you come back to earth a - gain,



Refrain

with each step has marked the im - print of his love for me.
with his blood has washed and healed me, paid the heav - y cost.
Je - sus, with your love, em - brace and claim me as your friend.



INVOCATION

- M:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- M:** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C: **Who made heaven and earth.**
M: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

- M:** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
And to you, my brothers and sisters,
That I have sinned in thought, word, and deed
By my fault, by my own fault, by my own grievous fault;
Wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
Forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.
- C:** **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission
of all your sins.**
- M:** Amen.
- C:** **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
And to you, my brothers and sisters,
That I have sinned in thought, word, and deed
By my fault, by my own fault, by my own grievous fault;
Wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
Forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**
- M:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission
of all your sins.
- C:** **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE WORD

Genesis 22:1-18

THE FIRST LESSON

Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, “Abraham!”

Abraham answered, “I am here.”

² God said, “Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you.”

³ Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵ Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you.” ⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

⁷ Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father?”

He said, “I am here, my son.”

He said, “Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them went on together. ⁹ They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹ The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!”

Abraham said, “I am here.”

¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”

¹³ Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham called the name of that place “The LORD Will Provide.” So it is said to this day, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, “I have sworn by myself, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

HYMN

CW21 Blue #397 (1-2): My Song Is Love Unknown

***My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?***

***He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow,
But such disdain! So few The longed-for Christ would know!
But oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need His life did spend!***

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² Indeed, 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?

³³ Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus,^[a] 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! ³⁵ What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ Just 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.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 4:10b

It is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."

HYMN

CW21 Blue #397 (4-5): My Song Is Love Unknown

***Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run; He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease and 'gainst him rise.***

***They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away.
A murderer they save; The Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes that he his foes from death might free.***

¹² The Spirit immediately sent Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels were serving him. ¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ “The time is fulfilled,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

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. look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #406: In the Hour of Trial

*In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me
Lest by base denial I unworthy be.
When you see me waver with a look recall,
Nor for fear or favor ever let me fall.*

*With forbidden pleasures should this vain world charm
Or its tempting treasures spread to work me harm,
Bring to my remembrance sad Gethsemane
Or, in darker semblance, cross-crowned Calvary.*

*Should your mercy send me sorrow, toil, and woe,
Or should pain attend me on my path below,
Grant that I may never fail your cross to view;
Grant that I may ever cast my care on you.*

*When my life is ending, though in grief or pain,
When my body changes back to dust again,
On your truth relying, through that mortal strife,
Jesus, take me, dying, to eternal life.*

¹⁷ As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside; and on the way he said to them, ¹⁸ “Look, we are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and experts in the law, and they will condemn him to death. ¹⁹ They will hand him over to the Gentiles to mock, flog, and crucify him. On the third day he will be raised.”

²⁰ Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking something of him. ²¹ He said to her, “What do you want?”

She said to him, “Promise that in your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right hand and one on your left hand.”

²² But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?”

They said to him, “We are.”

²³ He said to them, “You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not for me to give; rather these places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.”

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

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



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

CW21 Red #422: Jesus, Lead Us On

*Jesus, lead us on till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow, calm and fearless.
Guide us by your hand to our fatherland.*

*If the way be drear, If the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us,
For through many a woe to our home we go.*

*When we seek relief from a long-felt grief,
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring;
Show us that bright shore.
Where we weep no more.*