



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 3 – March 3, 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

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:21-31

²¹ Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and take lambs for yourselves according to your family size, and slaughter the Passover lamb. ²² You shall take a bundle of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and paint the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you are to go out of the door of your house until morning. ²³ When the LORD passes through to strike Egypt and sees the blood on the lintel and the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you.

²⁴ “You shall observe these instructions as a perpetual regulation for you and your descendants. ²⁵ When you enter the land that the LORD will give you just as he said he would, you shall observe this ceremony. ²⁶ So when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ ²⁷ you will say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the Passover to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. When he struck the Egyptians, he spared our houses.’”

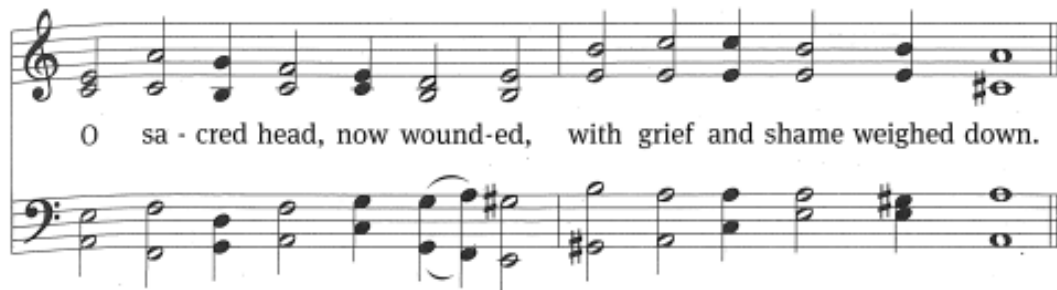
The people bowed down and worshipped. ²⁸ The Israelites went and did all this. They did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron.

²⁹ At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner who was in the dungeon, even all the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰ During the night Pharaoh got up—he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians—and there was a loud outcry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not someone dead. ³¹ Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron that night and said, “Get up, get away from my people! Both you and the Israelites, go, serve the LORD, as you have said!”

THE PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 22

Refrain



O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down.

My God, my God, why have you for-/saken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of / anguish?

I am a worm and / not a man,

scorned by everyone, despised by the / people.

All who see me / mock me;

they hurl insults, shaking / their heads.

"He trusts in the / LORD," they say,

"let the LORD / rescue him." *Refrain*

All my bones are / on display;

you lay me in the / dust of death.

A pack of villains en-/circles me;

they pierce my hands / and my feet.

They divide my clothes a-/mong them

and cast lots for my / garment.

But you, LORD, do not be / far from me.

You are my strength; come quickly to / help me.

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*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:19-29

¹⁹ This is the testimony John gave when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?"

²⁰ He confessed and did not deny. He confessed, "I am not the Christ."

²¹ And they asked him, "Who are you then? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

"No," he answered.

²² Then they asked him, "Who are you? Tell us so we can give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

²³ He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' just as Isaiah the prophet said."

²⁴ They had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ So they asked John, "Why then do you baptize, if you are not the Christ, or Elijah, or the Prophet?"

²⁶ "I baptize with water," John answered. "Among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

²⁸ These things happened in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was

²⁹ The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of 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.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #525: The Lamb

*The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where’s the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes – God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own!
The Lamb is reigning on his throne.*

*The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav’n his praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own!
The Lamb is reigning on his throne.*

*The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, his will, on our behalf the law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own!
The Lamb is reigning on his throne.*

*He sighs, he dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me his own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own!
The Lamb is reigning on his throne.*

*He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong - Till ev’ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!*

And I saw a scroll in the right hand of him who sat on the throne, with writing on the front and on the back, sealed with seven seals.² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll by breaking its seals?”³ No one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it.⁴ And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, “Stop weeping. Look! The Lion from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed and is able to open the scroll.⁶ And I saw a Lamb standing in the center, near the throne, surrounded by the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders. The Lamb seemed to have been slain, and he had seven horns and seven eyes (these are the seven spirits of God that have been sent into all the world).⁷ The Lamb came and took the scroll out of the right hand of him who sat on the throne.⁸ And when the Lamb took the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders bowed down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and gold bowls full of incense (these are the prayers of the saints).⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and you bought us for God with your blood out of every tribe and language and people and nation.

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

CW21 Blue #511 (1,3): “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

***Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns, All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing; of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King, through all eternity.***

***Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife, for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.***