A sunset sky with a wooden plank floor in the foreground. The sky transitions from blue at the top to orange and red near the horizon. The wooden planks are light brown and run parallel to each other, receding into the distance.

“For our light and momentary
troubles are achieving for us
an eternal glory that far
outweighs them all.”

2 Corinthians 4:17

Dorothy Elsasser,
March 23, 1926 – March 19, 2024



Grace
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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)

Christian Funeral – May 11th, 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 Peter. 3:18

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  Christ who said, "Do not let your heart be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that you may also be where I am. You know where I am going, and you know the way... I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me. (John 14:1-6)

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Dorothy, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought him to faith. In your rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with you and all the saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

CW#21 Blue 576 **"Amazing Grace – How Sweet the Sound"**

Amazing grace --how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost but now am found,

Was blind but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me;

His Word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares

I have already come;

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we'd first begun.

THE 23RD PSALM

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures:

He leads me beside the quiet waters.

He restores my soul:

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies:

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

RESURRECTION COMFORT

M: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. The apostle Paul wrote to the Romans, "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

C: **He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: When Christ, who is our life, appears,

C: **Then we also will appear with him in glory.**

M: We will be before the throne of God

C: **And serve him day and night in his temple.**

M: Never again will we hunger;

C: **Never again will we thirst**

M: For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd. He will lead us to springs of living water,

C: **And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

DOROTHY ELSASSER'S TIME OF GRACE

The obituary is read.

HYMN:

CW21 #612 (1,3,4): "How Great Thou Art"

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"*

*And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"*

THE LESSONS

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

⁷We hold this treasure in clay jars to show that its extraordinary power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not despairing; ⁹persecuted, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹To be sure, while we are living we are continually being handed over to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal flesh. ¹²So then, death is working in us, but life is working in you.

¹³ Since we have that same spirit of faith, which corresponds to what is written: “I believed; therefore, I have spoken,” we also believe, and therefore we speak. ¹⁴ For we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and bring us (together with you) into his presence. ¹⁵ In fact, all this is for your benefit, so that as grace increases, it will overflow to the glory of God, as more and more people give thanks. ¹⁶ Therefore we are not discouraged. But even if our outer self is wasting away, yet our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ Yes, our momentary, light trouble produces for us an eternal weight of glory that is far beyond any comparison. ¹⁸ We are not focusing on what is seen, but on what is not seen. For the things that are seen are temporary, but the things that are not seen are eternal.

THE DEVOTION

PRAYERS & BLESSING

HYMN:

CW21 BLUE #817: “**Lord, let at Last Thine Angels Come**”

*Lord, let at last your angels come;
To Abram's bosom bear me home
That I may die unfearing.
And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe In peaceful sleep
Until your reappearing.
And then from death awaken me
That my own eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, your glorious face,
My Savior and my Fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ,
My prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise you without end.*

Dorothy Elsasser



Dorothy Elsasser, born on March 23, 1926, in Herrick, South Dakota, peacefully passed away on March 19, 2024, at the age of 97, in Portland, OR.

Dorothy was made a child of God through Holy Baptism as an infant and was confirmed in her Christian faith as a young adult. She was a devoted member of Grace Lutheran Church in Portland, OR for many years. She was the beloved wife of Manuel Elsasser, whom she married on Nov. 24, 1946.

Dorothy worked in the shipyard during World War II and was known for her kind and welcoming nature. She enjoyed fishing, camping, quilting, cooking, baking, and gardening, with a special passion for cooking. She lived her faith and confessed her love for Jesus every day of her life regardless of her circumstances. She was an example of Christian love to everyone she met.

She is survived by her son Douglas Elsasser; daughter Nancy Taber; three grandchildren Lisa, Jeremy, Heather; and four great-grandchildren Brayton, Tyler, Hazel, and Sadie. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Manuel Elsasser.

A service to honor and remember Dorothy will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 11 a.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, located at 7610 NE Fremont St. Portland, Ore. 97213.

Private interment to follow at Willamette National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Grace Lutheran Church in memory of Dorothy Elsasser.

“Do not fear anything... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” Revelation 2:10