

The Means of Grace

October 10, 2021



14 teachings at define being Lutheran:

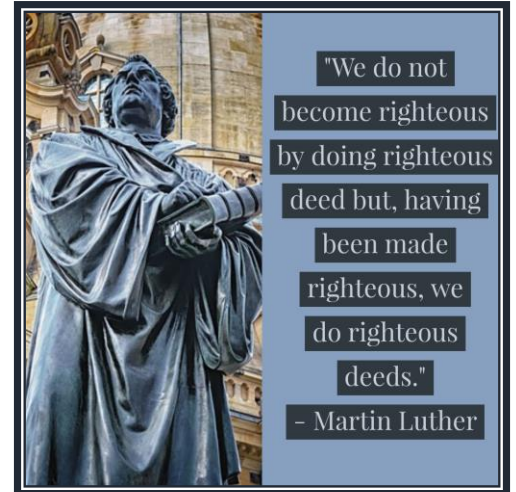
1. Grace alone

Grace is one of those big, beautiful Bible words. As with all big, beautiful Bible words, while it is an immensely comforting concept, it has also been misunderstood and misapplied throughout history.

Roman Catholicism has traditionally taught that grace is a quality that God injects into people so that they can obey his will and earn his blessings. Others try to limit the power of grace, teaching that grace can only get a person so far; we have to apply ourselves to doing acts of love or making the right decision for Jesus to finish the job.

Grace, however, is a quality in God. In fact, it defines who the true God is and what he does. Throughout the Old Testament, when God's characteristics are listed, grace is usually near the top of the list. For example, when God revealed himself to Moses on Mount Sinai, he declared, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness" (Exodus 34:6).

The standard catechism definition of grace is "God's undeserved love." Yet grace is deeper than that. It is the love that moves God to act for those who cannot act for themselves and need his loving action. God acts in grace simply because God wants to act in grace. That is who God is and what God does. Martin Luther defined grace this way: "Grace means the favor by which God accepts us, forgiving sins and justifying freely through Christ" (Luther's Works Vol. 12, p. 376).



Lutherans confess that it is by grace alone that we have been rescued from the curse and condemnation of sin (Romans 3:23,24). It is by grace alone that we have been given new life as one of God's children (Ephesians 2:4,5). It is by grace alone that we have been given the gift of eternal life (John 3:16). The Formula of Concord states this clearly and precisely. "We unanimously believe, teach, and confess the following about the righteousness of faith before God. . . . A poor sinful person is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and is adopted into sonship and inheritance of eternal life, without any merit or worth of his own. This happens without any preceding, present, or subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone" (III:9).

This is what makes grace such a big, beautiful, comforting Bible word. Our forgiveness, our right standing before God, and our eternal home in heaven are certain and secure entirely "out of pure grace." That pure grace is centered in Jesus' completed work for us. Grace alone means that our salvation, from beginning to end, is accomplished. True Lutherans understand this, proclaim it, confess it, and find comfort and confidence in grace alone.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Sunday October 10, 2021-Holy Communion

Flowers for The Altar-Werner's

Communion Prep-Marilyn Baer

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

9:30 AM Worship Service

and livestream grace-wels.net/worship or facebook.com/GraceWELS

11:00 AM – Confirmation Class at Church

OFFERINGS CAN BE MAILED TO THE CHURCH - 7610 NE FREMONT



A Family of Ministries For Christian
Worship, Education and Care

Monday October 11, 2021

Pastor in office

Tuesday October 12, 2021

Pastor in office

8:00 AM 5-6 Confirmation Class

10:00 AM-The Mary Martha Group Meeting

Wednesday October 13, 2021

Pastor in office

8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation Class

9:15 AM-Chapel

4:30 PM Confirmation Class at GLS

5:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting

6:15 PM Google Meet- Moments with the Messiah

Thursday October 14, 2021

Pastor in office

8:00 AM 5-6 Confirmation Class

Friday October 15 2021

Pastor in office

8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation Class

9:30 AM Preschool Jesus Circle

Home bound / Nursing Home Visits

Saturday October 16, 2021

Pastor in Office-Sermon Prep

Sunday October 17, 2021

Flowers for The Altar-Charlene Clark

Communion Prep- Marilyn Baer

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

9:30 AM Worship Service

and livestream grace-wels.net/worship or facebook.com/GraceWELS

11:00 AM Confirmation Class

OFFERINGS CAN BE MAILED TO THE CHURCH - 7610 NE FREMONT

Steve Vonfeldt who continues to struggles with many health issue and is hospitalized at Veterans.

Todd Hafner who continues to recover from effects of yearlong health issue that began with COVID.

Ruth Werner who underwent successful knee replacement surgery this past week.

Karl & Ruth Werner celebrate their 72nd wedding anniversary and Karl's 92nd birthday on Wednesday of this week. If you'd like to send a card their address is: 3220 NE 133rd Ave. Portland, OR 97230

Elana Glasheen who tested positive this week for COVID19 but is otherwise doing well.

Larry & Michelle Glasheen who celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this week.

JONAH

AT-A-GLANCE



O.T. BOOK #32



AUTHOR: THE PROPHET JONAH



WRITTEN: 780 BC

Jonah: God's compassion for all nations

Old Testament: 39 Books

32

New Testament: 27 Books

CLAIMS TO FAME: **Jonah was swallowed by a giant fish after refusing to prophesy to the kingdom of Nineveh.**

FAMOUS STORIES INCLUDED:

- Jonah is swallowed by the giant fish.
- Jonah prophesies to Nineveh and the nation repents.

MOST FAMOUS VERSES:

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land. **Jonah 2:10**

And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?" **Jonah 4:11**

Important Points about the Book:

- Jonah is the most widely known of the Minor Prophets, the last 12 books of the Old Testament.
- Jesus referring specifically to Jonah as a sign of the Messiah giving the story credibility to anyone who might doubt it. Matthew 12:40-41.
- Through the book of Jonah, we see God's compassion for Nineveh when they repent. Perhaps the greatest miracle in Jonah is not the fish but the total repentance of all of Nineveh in one day... even though it didn't last.
- The book of Second Kings tells us that Jonah had prophesied about Israel's king Jeroboam II (2 Ki 14:25), which means his ministry may have overlapped with those of Hosea (Hos 1:1) and Amos (Am 1:1; 7:11), who also preached to Israel during Jeroboam's reign.



8:30 – 9:15 AM Grace Church

Bible History Lessons

With Applications

From Luther's Catechism

Sunday School has started up again. To start we will have a combined class led by Melissa Baker.

Sunday School will meet in the room at the far end of the fellowship hall from 8:30 – 9:15 AM on Sunday mornings. Adult and older children are welcome to attend bible class with pastor in the fellowship hall. A weekly lesson will also be attached with the announcements each week.

But we could use your help too! If you're interested in teaching, assisting, administrating or participating in our Sunday School program in any way please contact Pastor Bitter.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Make the Connection



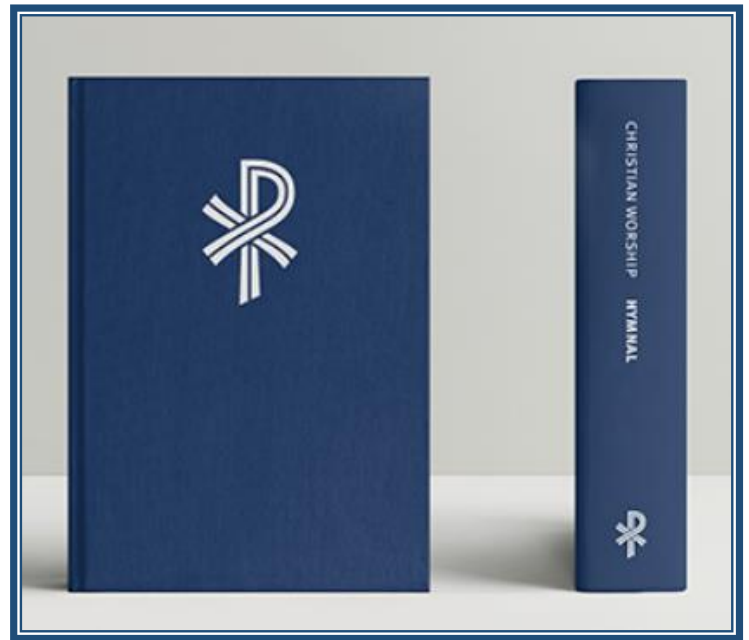


Wednesday Evenings at 6PM

**Online via Google Meet
(invite will be sent via email)**

The New Hymnal Is Here!

Nearly 100 volunteers served on 12 committees for the last 9 years as part of the WELS Hymnal Project.



To begin our transition to using this new hymnal in our ministry we are giving all our families an opportunity to purchase their own. The new hymnal is designed to be much more than just a book to be used in the pew on Sunday morning, it is in fact deigned to be a devotional book that can be used in your home all week!

For this reason, we'd like to first give our members an opportunity to purchase their own hymnal for use at home and at church.

A signup sheet is located by the entryway at church. If you'd like to participate in a group order, please sign up and indicate which hymnal or additional books for the church you'd like buy.

Sample copies of the new hymnal and Psalter are also on the table in the entryway for you to look over.

We pray that this new hymnal will be a blessing to our worship and your homes!



Two Weeks of Vacation Bible School

July is the month when most children in Mexico get out of school. This year that means they're free from online assignments and video classes and have more time on their hands. What better to do with that time than visit church!

We had two great volunteer groups come down for VBS – the first week from St. Paul (New Ulm, MN) and the second week from St. Mark (De Pere, WI). They each brought their unique gifts and experiences to our summer program. There was a nice mix of those who had been here before (one 4-time volunteer to Mahahual!), and those who were visiting for the first time.

We were very blessed to have our new space this year, enabling us to keep the children spread out as opposed to our cramped quarters in the past. Without the new building, we may not have been able to run VBS this year with Covid restrictions still in place.



For three hours a day the children received Bible classes, English lessons, arts and crafts, and sports time at the nearby community center. The two themes were "Genesis – How It All Began" and "Stories of Jesus' Power." It took quite a bit of energy and Christian love, but both the kids and teachers had a wonderful time, and the Word reached precious souls for Christ. Children and teens enjoyed their time socializing, laughing, and learning. Some enjoyed themselves so much they asked when the next program would be.

There was also plenty of time put in helping us organize, clean, paint, install socket plates, and work on all sorts of little details in our new construction ... and some free time, of course, for snorkeling, visiting **Mayan** ruins and eating delicious seafood.

We had a nice turnout for VBS this year and can only imagine the events God has in store for our community in the new church and education center in the future. May his Word be preached and his name be praised!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUwRTZJVKXc>

Online donations may be made at costamayaministries.org/give-a-gift or by check payable to
Costa Maya Ministries
c/o Fred Starck
2818 Jennifer Lane
Johnsburg, IL 60051





Weekly Mowing!

Please consider signing up for spring and summer lawn care. The lawn at church needs to be cut every week... can you sign up for a weekend to cut.

Weekly Cleaning!

Please consider signing up for summer and fall church cleaning. The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help!



MEMBER PHOTO BOARD

Cathie Gillespie is working at updating our membership photo board. If you are not yet included on this board, please take a copy of the membership information sheet, complete and turn it in with a colored 4x6 photo and drop it in the box located on the table at the entrance to the church. If you would like to replace your current photo, just drop the picture there with your name on the back.

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12th 10:00 – 12:00
at GLC fellowship hall. Charlene has volunteered to be hostess.





TRUNK

or

TREAT

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

● TRUNK DECORATING CONTEST ● CANDY GIVEAWAY ● GAMES ● ACTIVITIES

Join us for trick or treating, food, games, and activities!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST FROM 3-5 PM

2252 SE 92ND AVE. PORTLAND, OR 97216 QUESTIONS: 503.777.8628



The Eagle Message

Grace Lutheran School

DECLARE *His* PRAISES

Chapel Service at **9:15**

We will have our weekly school-wide Chapel Service on Wednesday mornings at 9:15. Pastor Bitter will lead our worship this week. An offering envelope is being sent home for your child's mission offering. We will support mission work in Costa Maya, Mexico for the first semester. Offerings gathered so far total \$427.56. Thank you. You do not have to fill in any of the blanks on the offering envelopes. We are just recycling some church envelopes.



Trunk or Treat

Grace Lutheran Church and School will be having a Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 31 from 3:00-5:00 PM at Grace Lutheran School. At Trunk or Treats, costumed children walk through a parking lot, stop at cars that have decorated trunks and receive candy. Join us for a trunk decorating contest, trick or treating, food (available for purchase) and other activities. We are asking GLS families to sign up to decorate their trunks and pass out candy. If you are willing to participate by decorating your trunk for this event or help with the concession stands, please email jeternick@grace-wels.net or contact the school office. Thank you! See the attached flyer and share it with your friends & family!

Tuition and Fee payments

We appreciate that so many of you have made your tuition and fee payments for September or for the whole school year. Payments are due and payable the 1st of each due month, and are considered late on the 5th. A late fee of \$25 will be assessed on the 15th of any month where tuition remains unpaid. You can pay for your tuition and fees in two different ways: Pay with a credit card by logging in to your Gradelink account www.gradelink.com and clicking on the "Billing" tab on the left side of the screen, OR bring a check or cash to the school office.

Thanks Matt!

If you see a man working around the school, driving a white Ford truck, never fear. His name is Matt Ginnow, he has two children at Grace, and he's just trying to make the school and grounds look as nice as possible. Feel free to wave and say hello, and thank you!

Student Photo Permission

Throughout the school year Grace Lutheran School would like to use photos or videos of students and activities for different publications to give information for promote our school. In order to do so, we would like parent permission to post those photos or videos for publicity, promotional and/or educational purposes. Please complete the attached form and return it to school by October 18th.

Student Illness

Unfortunately, it's that time of year when we start to see students getting sick. Please keep sick students home so that their classmates and teachers can stay healthy.



Openings Available!

We are looking for Daily Recess Supervisors to oversee our students during the lunchtime recess – 11:30 to 1:00 pm. If you can assist our school for one day or more per month or even on an "on call" basis, we'd surely appreciate it. Please contact Mrs. Kraklow in the school office (503-777-8628) or lkraklow@grace-wels.net.



KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE!

PLEASE drive SLOWLY on the street in front of school and on all school driveways, especially the long North drive next to the classroom windows. Parents are continuing to speed along this drive, and we have had some close calls with bicycle riders on the street! The posted speed limit on our driveways is 5 miles per hour and in the street it is 20 mph. We want everyone, especially your children, to be safe in our school zone.

2021-2022 Church Council



Juan Garcia
President



Jon Cohrs
1st VP



Dan Paschke
2nd VP/ BOE Chair



Thad Bitter
Pastor



Justin Eternick
Principal

2021-2022 Board of Education



Dan Paschke
BOE Chair



Dave House



Mike Godish



Vacant Position



Thad Bitter
Pastor



Justin Eternick
Principal

New Ministry Leadership Position 2021-2022



Craig Baker
Head Elder



Larry Glasheen
Financial Oversight



Ed Gillespie
Head Trustee

Mary & Martha Leadership



Sara Hehr



Sue Lewallen



Linda Bern

2021-2022 Grace School Staff



Justin Eternick
Principal
7th & 8th Grade



Thad Bitter
Pastor
Catechism



Susan Hartwig
Kindergarten



Joanna Hafner
1st & 2nd Grade



Jessica Acosta-Ware
3rd & 4th Grade



Megan Schwartz
5th & 6th Grade



Tammy Godish
Preschool
Administrator /
Teacher



Melissa Tanner
Preschool
Teacher



Naomi McLaughlin
Preschool
Teacher



Lynn Kraklow
Secretary



Tyler Hafner
Custodian

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK OF PENTECOST 20 2021

Sunday 1 Chronicles 29:1-2

- In verse one David is setting the stage for what is about to happen. What is that?
- For what has David provided materials during his reign?
- Look at the materials David gathered, is this going to be something cheap? Explain,
- Who will lead the way for this project to be completed? v. 1 Deuteronomy 26:1-10

Monday 1 Chronicles 29:10-13

- Whom does David honor above all else? How should this apply to us?
- What does it mean to be exalted above all?
- For what does David seem to be thanking and praising God?
- How good is our thanking of God? Consider the various ways of thanking God.
- Read Mt. 7:12; Colossians 3:17

Tuesday 1 Chronicles 29:14-18

- What are some words and phrases which emphasize David's humility before God?
- Do we know God like David did?
- Do we know what has come from him and what still comes from him? Explain.
- What gives God pleasure when he looks at David's heart?
- What has been the cause of many of David's troubles?
- How does David express sin and grace as he looks at his life?
- How can we do the same? Hebrews 3:10-15

Wednesday Romans 6:15-19

- What are the two options regarding slavery? Which option do we want?
- How does Paul answer the question, Should we keep on sinning to get more grace?
- What is the slavery from which we have been set free? Who is our slave master now?
- Who is our slave master now? What does this mean? Romans 8:13-18

Thursday Romans 6:20-23

- What are the benefits of being slaves to sin? What ongoing good does it do for us?
- Define freedom from sin. Define being slaves of God.
- How is living a God-pleasing life a fruit of faith? What is the ultimate fruit of faith?
- Consider the full meaning of verse 23. Ephesians 6:6

Friday Luke 17:1-5

- What are the odds that we will be tempted to sin? Why is this true?
- What does Jesus suggest is the worst sin? Why would that be?
- What is the message of Jesus in verses 3 and 4?
- Discuss: We rejoice in our forgiveness for Jesus' sake and eagerly forgive one another.
- Read Ephesians 4:32

Saturday Luke 17:6-10

- What is the proper station between slave and master? What is the protocol involved in this?
- How does this apply to us and God?
- Who is the master and who is the slave?
- Why do we put up with being a slave of God and do his every command?
- What is the overall message of this Gospel reading? Romans 10:1-10