

A close-up, artistic photograph of a person's face, focusing on the right eye which is a striking, vibrant blue. The skin is textured and appears to have some redness or bruising, particularly around the eye and on the cheek. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights.

YOUR SINS HAVE
BEEN **FORGIVEN.**

GO.
AND SIN
NO MORE.

For God **SO LOVED** the **WORLD**
that he gave his **ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON**
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish
BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving the Portland Area
With the Means of Grace
As a family of believers
For almost 110 years...

As a Church
As a School
As a Preschool
As a Mission
As a Ministry
As a Family of Ministries



A Family of Ministries For Christian
Worship, Education and Care

Church Campus
7610 NE Fremont Street
Pastor Thad Bitter
503.290.6316 – call/text

School Campus
2252 SE 92nd Street
Principal Justin Eternick
920.988.1999 – call/text
ECE Director Tammy Godish
503.312.4230 – call/text

Welcome! Lent 4, March 14th, 2021

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 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. 3:1**

HYMN:

Here Is Love

T4G Live - Lyrics Displayed On Screen

Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822

Invocation

- M: In the name of the Father
C: ***Almighty King; All-glorious, O'er all victorious, Ancient of Days.***
M: and of the Son
C: ***Incarnate Word; Put on your mighty sword; Savior and Friend.***
M: and of the Holy Spirit
C: ***Holy Comforter; Now rule in every heart; Spirit of Power.***
M: I rejoiced with those who said to me,
C: ***Let us go to the house of the LORD.***

HYMN: CW #238 (1-2)

Oh, Bless the Lord My Soul

***Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!
Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless his name
Whose favors are divine.***

***Oh, bless the Lord, my soul,
Nor let his mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness
And without praises die.***

Confession – Psalm 139

- M: You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.
C: ***You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.***
M: You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
C: ***Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.***
M: You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
C: ***Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?***
M: If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
C: ***Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.***
M: See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

HYMN: CW #238 (3-4)

Oh, Bless the Lord My Soul

*'Tis he forgives my sins;
'Tis he relieves my pain;
'Tis he that heals my sicknesses
And makes me young again.*

*He fills the poor with good;
He gives the sufferers rest;
The Lord has judgments for the proud
And justice for th' oppressed.*

Absolution

M: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. *(Psalm 103:8-12)*

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN: CW #238 (5)

Oh, Bless the Lord My Soul

*His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known
But sent the world his truth and grace
By his beloved Son.*

Prayer Of The Day

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ They set out from Mount Hor along the road to the Red Sea to go around the land of Edom, but the people became very impatient along the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? Look, there is no food! There is no water! And we are disgusted by this worthless food!”

⁶ The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and the snakes bit the people. As a result many people from Israel died. ⁷ The people went to Moses and said, “We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD to take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed on behalf of the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, “Make a venomous snake and put it on a pole. If anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will live.” ⁹ Moses made a bronze snake and put it on the pole. If a snake had bitten anyone, if that person looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you formerly walked when you followed the ways of this present world. You were following the ruler of the domain of the air, the spirit now at work in the people who disobey.

³ Formerly, we all lived among them in the passions of our sinful flesh, as we carried out the desires of the sinful flesh and its thoughts. Like all the others, we were by nature objects of God’s wrath.

⁴ But God, because he is rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in trespasses. It is by grace you have been saved! ⁶ He also raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. ⁷ He did this so that, in the coming ages, he might demonstrate the surpassing riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance so that we would walk in them.

VERSE OF THE DAY

1 John 3:16a

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

HYMN: CW #391 (1, 3-4,6)

God Loved the World So That He Gave

***God loved the world so that he gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in him believe
Should everlasting life receive.***

***God would not have the sinner die
His Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word does teach
How we the blessed goal may reach.***

***Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives the sins that you have done.
You're justified by Jesus' blood;
Baptized, you are a child of God.***

***Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!***

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:14-21

¹⁴ “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ The one who believes in him is not condemned, but the one who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ This is the basis for the judgment: The light has come into the world, yet people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ In fact, everyone who practices wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, or else his deeds would be exposed. ²¹ But the one who does what is true comes toward the light, in order that his deeds may be seen as having been done in connection with God.”

*Light high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ the Son of God.
Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory.
Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

THE SERMON

Numbers 21:4-9

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.

THANKSGIVING

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 Sacrament of Holy Communion

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who has called us to be his own that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy.

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

CWS #745: May the Peace of God

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father

And the grace of Christ the risen Son

And the fellowship of God the Spirit

Keep our hearts and minds within His Love

Refrain: And to him be praise for his glorious reign

From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.

We declare the name of the Lamb once slain Christ eternal King of kings

May this peace which passes understanding

And this grace which makes us what we are,

And this fellowship of his Communion

Make us one in Spirit and in heart

Refrain: And to him be praise for his glorious reign

From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.

We declare the name of the Lamb once slain Christ eternal King of kings.