

THE LORD
IS MY
Shepherd
HE RESTORES
MY SOUL





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)

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The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15th, 2022

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**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: CW21 #573 (1): “Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness”


 ***Jesus, your blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.***

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

C: CW21 #573 (3)

 ***Lord, I believe your precious blood, Which at the very throne of God
Forever will for sinners plead, For me --e'en for my soul --was shed.***

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: CW21 #573 (2):

 ***Bold shall I stand in that great day Who can a word against me say?
Fully through you absolved I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.***

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: CW21 #573 (4):

 ***Lord, I believe were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
You have for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.***

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you so they too may one day live in heaven with you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: CW21 #573 (5):



***When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
E'en then this shall be all my plea: Jesus has lived and died for me.***

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: CW21 #573 (6):



***Jesus, be worshiped endlessly! Your boundless mercy has for me,
For me and all your hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 34:1-16 (EHV)

The word of the LORD came to me.

² Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds that this is what the LORD God says.

Woe to you, shepherds of Israel, who have been shepherding for themselves. Aren't shepherds supposed to shepherd for the benefit of the sheep? ³ You eat the fat.^[a] You wear the wool. You slaughter the fattened ones—but you do not shepherd the flock. ⁴ You have not strengthened the weak. You have not healed the sick. You have not bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays, and you have not searched for the lost. Instead you have abused them with force and with violence. ⁵ So they scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep scattered and ⁶ wandered all over the mountains and on every high hill. Over the face of the whole earth, my flock was scattered, with no one looking for them and no one searching for them.

⁷ Therefore, shepherds, hear the word of the LORD. ⁸ As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, because my flock has become plunder, and because my flock has become food for all the wild animals, because they have no shepherd and my shepherds did not concern themselves about my flock, but the shepherds took care of themselves instead of taking care of my flock, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD.

¹⁰ This is what the LORD God says. I am against the shepherds. Watch! I will remove my flock from their hand. I will remove them from taking care of the sheep, and no longer will those shepherds take care of themselves. I will rescue my flock from their mouths, so that they will no longer be food for them.

¹¹ For this is what the LORD God says. Here I am. I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and carefully search for them. ¹² As a shepherd searches for his flock when his sheep that were with him have been scattered, so I will search for my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own soil. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settlements of the land. ¹⁴ I will lead them into good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will shepherd my flock. I myself will let them lie down, declares the LORD God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them with justice.

HYMN:

CW21 #518 (1,3): "Christ Be My Leader"

*Christ be my leader by night as by day,
Safe through the darkness, for he is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care;
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.*

*Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for he is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation --with Jesus I reign!*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:1-16 (EHV)

Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ² The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰ “A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

¹¹ “I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me ¹⁵ (just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd.

HYMN OF THE DAY

CW21#554: “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

*The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.*

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

*He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.*

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

*And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.*

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

SERMON

PSALM 23:1,3
NKJV

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want... ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OUR THANKSGIVING

OUR OFFERING

*An opportunity to give online can also be used at
Paypal.me/GracePortland or by utilizing this QR code:*



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M:** Risen and ascended Lord, in your loving care we can live every day without worrying; no needful thing will you fail to provide:
- C:** **The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.**
- M:** By your holy word you feed our souls and strengthen our faith. In your gracious forgiveness we are refreshed and restored:

- C:** He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.
- M:** You turn us away from the paths of sin, and move us to walk in the ways of God:
- C:** He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- M:** Though we walk in danger all the way, though the shadows of death enfold us at last, we will not fear. Your love goes with us wherever we go; in your comforting word we find courage and strength; your triumphant cross brings life from death:
- C:** Even 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.
- M:** You have called us to sit at your heavenly feast. Our table of blessing overflows, and you will not allow earthly enemies, nor Satan himself, to snatch them away:
- C:** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies: you anoint my head with oil: my cup overflows.
- M:** Good Shepherd, your mercies will never end. They will follow us as we follow you. Grant us to walk in your grace and love till we come to dwell in the heavenly home which you have prepared for us above:
- C:** Surely, goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN:

CW#483 (1,4): "Savior, I Follow On"

*Savior, I follow on, Guided by thee,
Seeing not yet the hand That leadeth me.
Hushed be my heart and still; Fear I no further ill.
Only to meet thy will My will shall be.*

*Savior, I long to walk Closer with thee;
Led by thy guiding hand, Ever to be
Constantly near thy side, Quickened and purified,
Living for him who died Freely for me.*