

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

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Welcome! Lent 5, March 29th, 2020

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 Peter 3:18

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Lyrics Displayed On Screen

OPENING HYMN:

INVOCATION

- **M:** In the name of the Father and of the **+** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

CONFESSION

- **M:** Blessed is the one who transgressions are forgiven and whose sins are covered.
- C: Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them. -- Psalm 32:1&2
- M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

THE ABSOLUTION

M: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to give you peace, not disaster, plans to give you hope and a future. -Jeremiah 29:11

This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light. In him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, just as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. – 1 John 1:5-9 **HYMN OF THE DAY**: "Power of the Cross"

Lyrics Displayed On Screen

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THE SERMON

Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here."

²God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you."

³Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

⁷ Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?"

He said, "I am here, my son."

He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. ⁹ They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

"The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham,

Abraham!" Abraham said, "I am here."

¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham called the name of that place "The LORD Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

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.

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

Please be faithful in your gifts and tithes, in proportion to the physical blessings the Lord has entrusted to you (1 Cor 16:2). Our Called Workers' needs must be covered, and other ministry expenses are increasing as a result of these times. Gifts and tithes can be submitted via the links below or mailed to the Church address.

Give online: bit.ly/GracePortland

Give by mail: Grace Lutheran Church, 7610 NE Fremont, Portland, OR 97213 <u>PRAYER OF THE CHURCH</u>



Dear Father in heaven, we come before you during this time of uncertainty and stress and plead for your mercy. You met our deepest and greatest needs in Jesus Christ, and we therefore approach you in confidence, knowing that you will also meet the needs of this present time. Answer our fears, relieve our anxieties, strengthen our hearts, and guide our steps.

In asking for your blessings in the face of COVID-19 and all its complications, we do not forget that you have already given us great gifts that are too easily overlooked and left unappreciated. We therefore thank you that till now we have been unfamiliar with pandemic and plague — that we have been spared from its fears, sorrows, and pain.

In all our troubles and through all our days we have the assurance that you have all things well in hand and work them out for the good of those you have made your own. We have your promise to hear and answer every prayer that flows from every need and desire of your people. We have your guarantee, secured by the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, that through all and at the end of all, no matter what happens, we have a home with you in heaven, in bliss and for eternity.

You have provided countless people who care for us and provide for our needs on a daily basis and who are now united in battle against this disease and its spread. In this time of insecurity, we recognize all who work to maintain the health and safety of our nation and homes. We thank you for all the people who are willing to step up and take responsibility, make hard decisions, and work to keep us all safe and healthy. Give them skill, strength, wisdom, patience, understanding, compassion, energy, discipline, honesty, and devotion to all as they need it to do their duties. Help us to support them as you support us in our various vocations, serving as your representatives to this sin-sick and troubled world.

We pray for all those who are sick from Covid-19 in our community and nation, and in the wider world. Grant them comfort and peace when they suffer, provide them with the care they need, and give healing as it is your will. As we have opportunity to be of help, guide us to love and serve them as Jesus loved and served us. Let us also not neglect those who suffer from other illnesses, disabilities, and deprivations, and not forget to serve the needy and troubled.

Guide and enable all citizens, but especially our fellow Christians, to make good and wise decisions in these stressful days. Help us to respect those you have placed in authority over us and to act with concern for the vulnerable in our society. Give us patience and charity not only in dealing with new restrictions and discomforts, but also in dealing with each other, particularly our spouses and families, as we struggle with these stresses.

With great concern we also pray for our economy, which has been devastated by the steps taken to confront this coronavirus. Remember with mercy and blessing all those who have lost employment and income, those without resources and at risk, and those in danger of losing businesses and investments, careers and long-nurtured dreams. Enable our nation to bounce back quickly, with a minimal disruption to its commerce, so that none are left impoverished and all are able to thrive.

Finally, Lord, we ask you to regularly remind us to rejoice in our redemption and at all the blessings with which you have filled our lives. Where there is beauty and joy, let us appreciate and share it with others. Let this time of testing result in a stronger and more vital faith for each of us, even as we find ourselves separated from each other in worship, and bring us quickly back together around your Word and Sacraments. Through this crisis, protect our churches and the ministry and let the witness we present as your people give us opportunities to reach those around us who are without Christ. Make us always ready and move us to gladly give the reason for the hope that we have.

<u>THE LORD'S PRAYER</u> 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

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

CLOSING HYMN:

"Oh, That The Lord Would Guide My Ways" Lyrics Displayed On Screen

