

2024

Welcome to Worship



Grace Lutheran Church
A congregation of the ELCA
2/4/2024

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quiet to Prepare for Worship – Ringing of our Bell

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light,
word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: #617 We Come to You for Healing, Lord, v.1-3

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Read in unison)

C: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

READINGS

Isaiah 40:21-31

- ²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
- ²³who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
- ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
- ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name; because he is great in strength,
mighty in power, not one is missing.
- ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
- ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
- ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
- ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (Read responsively)

- ¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!
- ²**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**
- ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

**⁸who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the
mountains.**

⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

**¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}Hallelujah!

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Mark 1:29-39

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-

in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: #773 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

STATEMENT OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead; on the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

PEACE

Please share a sign of peace with those around in whatever way you are most comfortable.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

We will collect the offering at this time. The children will also be collecting coins at this time for the Childrens' ministries or ELCA water project. You may send your giving to the church office or give through the link to our Vanco site that is easy to find on our website: gracelutheranelroy.com.

P: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion at Grace Lutheran is open to all who believe in Jesus our Lord.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn by speaking:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*In the night in which he was betrayed . . .*)

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMNS: #787 On Eagle's Wings

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: #860 I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

Quiet pause for the ringing of our bell

BENEDICTION

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flower Sign-Up sheet is located in the Narthex on the bulletin board.

USHERS NEEDED Now that we are passing the plates to receive the offering, additional ushers are needed. A sign up sheet is located in the Narthex.

SUPER BOWL SUB SANDWICHES! Support the Youth attending the National Youth Gathering and enjoy a great sandwich for the big game. Orders are due Today.

SIGN UP FOR LENT SOUP SUPPERS IS LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX. Ash Wednesday is February 14th. A worship service with imposition of ashes will take place at 6:30 pm. Soup Suppers will begin on February 21st. Supper at 5:30 pm. Worship at 6:30 pm.

GRACE IS GOING BOWLING Sign up to bowl with us on Sunday, February 25th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Hooterbowl in Hustler. See you there!

WE PRAY FOR: Holly Hinzpeter, Kandy Hagen, Suzanne Soltvedt, John Thompson, Dawn Ertel, Dorothy Klipstein, Ethel Mae Baldwin, John Miller, Hunter Clark, Hank Benthouser, Dean Burmaster, Bob Brod, David Denter, Ed Miller, Adda DeMarco, Lynne Rudy, Henry Schmid, Megan Braund, Helen Milne, Mary Ann Bones, Sam Loizzo, and Joy Bever

Church office: 226 Erickson Street, Elroy, WI 53929

email: grace013@centurytel.net; Phone: 608-462-5398

Organist: Heather Vlasak

Synod Authorized Minister: Kris Stauffacher

Custodian: Dave Clark and crew



Come Grow
in Grace