

Maundy Thursday



April 17, 2025

12:15 pm

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we walk the way of the cross, following our Lord on His path of sorrow!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, please complete a visitor information sheet and/or record your visit in the red attendance book found in each aisle. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor or an usher.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Quiet Books for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship!

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The NALC embraces four core values: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused. The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the NALC at www.thenalc.org!

Announcements

Please stand.

The Entrance Rite

Rite of Corporate Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became a servant, washing the feet of his disciples on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

As Lent draws to a close, we prepare ourselves to observe the Triduum, the great Three Days in which our Lord suffered, died and was raised for us, by confessing our sins and receiving absolution.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

C O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life. Amen.

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Those who wish may come forward for individual absolution. The minister lays hands on each and declares the absolution, followed by anointing with oil in the sign of the cross:

P In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Response: Amen.

After all who wish to come forward have, please stand as you are able.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord our God, in love, you established a new covenant with your people, sealed with the blood of the unblemished, sinless Lamb, Jesus Christ. As we eat and drink of His incarnate presence, cleanse us of our sin, prepare us to observe the Pascal Feast and create in us hearts set to obey your commandment that we love one another, 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 Liturgy of The Word

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:14*)
C **And also with you!**

KYRIE (*Mark 10: 47*)

- A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let
us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

- L The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116: 12-19 (*Spoken Responsively*)

L ¹²I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

C ¹³**Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his servants.**

L ¹⁴O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

C ¹⁵**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

L ¹⁶I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

C ¹⁷**In the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

L ¹⁸I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

C ¹⁹**In the courts of the house of the LORD in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:15-25

¹⁵The Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, ¹⁶"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds," ¹⁷then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. ¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 22:7-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 22th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." ⁹They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" ¹⁰He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters ¹¹and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹²And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." ¹³And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have

earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON: “The New Covenant!”

The Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

APOSTLES’ CREED

A We confess our Christian faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.
C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;
C **Hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL, LORD (*Psalm 104:14-15; Isaiah 25:6; 1 Corinthians 5:7*)

C Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us
a foretaste of the feast to come.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Merciful Father,
C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious
love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)

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 him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface,
concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS (*Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9*)

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r 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.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought, but as we are able;

and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,

and these your own gifts of bread and wine;

that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,

and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and
body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

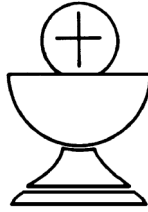
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (John 1:29)

**C Blessed are those who are invited to the supper of the Lamb!
(Revelation 19:9)**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord's sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray.

Please place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion:

O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood. Amen.

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion:

Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (*John 1: 29*)

- C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

After all have communed, please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION RITE

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in His grace.
- C** **Amen.**
- A** Lord God, in a wonderful sacrament you have left us a memorial of your
suffering and death. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in
us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for
you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.
- C** **Amen.**

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

As Psalm 22 is spoken in unison, the altar and chancel are stripped, in remembrance of Jesus' humiliation and torture at the hands of the Roman soldiers. After the psalm is concluded, please leave in silence.

PSALM 22 (RSV)

- ¹ My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
Why art thou so far from helping me, from the words
of my groaning?
- ² O my God, I cry by day, but thou dost not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
- ³ Yet thou art holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ In thee our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.
- ⁵ To thee they cried, and were saved;
in thee they trusted, and were not disappointed.
- ⁶ But I am a worm, and no man;
scorned by men, and despised by the people.
- ⁷ All who see me mock at me,
they curl their lips, they wag their heads;
- ⁸ "He committed his cause to the LORD; let him deliver him,
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
- ⁹ Yet thou art he who took me from the womb;
thou didst keep me safe upon my mother's breasts.
- ¹⁰ Upon thee was I cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me thou hast been my God.
- ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near
and there is none to help.
- ¹² Many bulls encompass me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- ¹³ they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
- ¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax, it is melted within my breast;
- ¹⁵ my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue cleaves to my jaws;
thou dost lay me in the dust of death.
- ¹⁶ Yea, dogs are round about me;
a company of evildoers encircle me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—
- ¹⁷ I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
- ¹⁸ they divide my garments among them,
and for my raiment they cast lots.

¹⁹ **But thou, O LORD, be not far off!**
 O thou my help, hasten to my aid!
²⁰ **Deliver my soul from the sword,**
 my life from the power of the dog!
²¹ **Save me from the mouth of the lion,**
 my afflicted soul from the horns of the wild oxen!
²² **I will tell of thy name to my brethren;**
 in the midst of the congregation I will praise thee:
²³ **You who fear the LORD, praise him!**
 All you sons of Jacob, glorify him,
 and stand in awe of him, all you sons of Israel!
²⁴ **For he has not despised or abhorred**
 the affliction of the afflicted;
 and he has not hid his face from him,
 but has heard, when he cried to him.
²⁵ **From thee comes my praise in the great congregation;**
 my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
²⁶ **The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;**
 those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
 May your hearts live for ever!
²⁷ **All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;**
 and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
²⁸ **For dominion belongs to the LORD,**
 and he rules over the nations.
²⁹ **Yea, to him shall all the proud of the earth bow down;**
 before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
 and he who cannot keep himself alive.
³⁰ **Posterity shall serve him;**
 men shall tell of the Lord to the coming generation,
³¹ **and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,**
 the saving deeds that he has done.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
 Amen.

Please leave the church in silence.

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Holy Week Schedule

Good Friday, April 18 (12:15 PM and 7 PM services) will focus on a service of Tenebrae (Shadows) as the church is progressively darkened with prayers and readings marking the Bib-lical Way of the Cross, beginning with Jesus in agony in the Garden of

Geth-semane, ending with Jesus' burial and the sealing of the tomb, at which point a single candle remains lighted and is carried from the sanctuary, symbolizing the earth in darkness as the Lord is no longer alive in the world. The candle is returned to the sanctuary after a time, reminding worshipers that death isn't the last word, but that the Light of Christ isn't extinguished but will shine on Eas-ter morning! Again, the 12:15 PM ser-vice will be spoken, with music at 7 PM.

Easter Sunday, April 20 (8:15 AM and 11 AM services) We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with a fes-tive service of Word and Sacrament, with brass ensemble and choir! A light conti-nental breakfast will be served between services. The Easter sermon is titled, "**Be Glad and Rejoice!**" During the sermon at both services, younger children who wish may depart the sanctuary for an age-ap-propriate story. A nursery will be available for both services. No Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Come experience a dif-ferent kind of traditional worship; spiritual, engaging, transforming!

Notes & News

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and sign the Pew Pad to let us know you were worshipping with us today.



Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The *Simply Giving*® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to *Simply Give* today.

Serving Today

OFFICIATING/PREACHER	The Rev. Dr. David Wendel
DEACON	Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister
ASSISTING MINISTER	Fred Pfanz
ORGANIST	Linda Hoch
SACRISTAN	Fred Pfanz
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dr. Helen Kang
ALTAR GUILD <i>Team 3</i>	Vanessa Stewart, Lois Bernhardt, Jodie Arreguin, Dorotha Fuhrman, Vern Kreachbaum, Amy Quinn, Linda Reasoner, Ellen Paulus, Joanne Figge
SOUND TECHNICIANS	Chris Banks, Dan George, Paul Grant, Eric Bush, Brice Graves

Acknowledgements

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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.

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