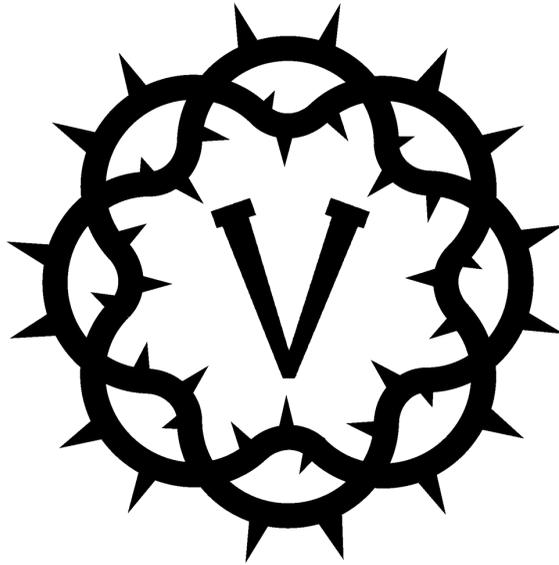


Fifth Sunday in Lent



March 29, 2020

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to Grace to worship in God's house.

To our guests — We invite you to worship with us often and consider our family of faith yours.

Everything you need for worship is printed in this bulletin. Large Print Bulletins and Quiet Books (for our very young worshipers) are available from the ushers.

Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician for a receiver.

Please turn off or silence your personal communication device.

We also ask that you not bring food or drink into our worship space.

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 and the NALC.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Today we are reminded of the blessed promise that God brings life out of death. Whether it is breath to dead, brittle, dry bones or hope for those stuck in sorrow and despair, new life emerges by God's mighty hand. Jesus demonstrates this power to those around him as he raises Lazarus from the dead after four long days. This miracle foreshadows his own impending death and resurrection.

Please stand to face the Baptismal Font.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful Father,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. 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.**

The Gathering

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

GATHERING HYMN

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

1 To - day your mer - cy calls us to wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day your gate is o - pen, and all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; his Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,

How - ev - er great our tres - pass, what - ev - er we have been,
 shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come and par - don for their sin.
 his bless - ed an - gels gath - er a - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 what should we do with - out you when heart and eye run o'er?

how - ev - er long from mer - cy our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, a pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us, how of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, to drive us to de - spair,

your pre - cious blood can wash us and make us clean to - day.
 a fu - ture grace be prom - ised, a glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 al - though we oft have wan - dered, it is our Fa - ther's home.
 we know one gate is o - pen, one ear will hear our prayer.

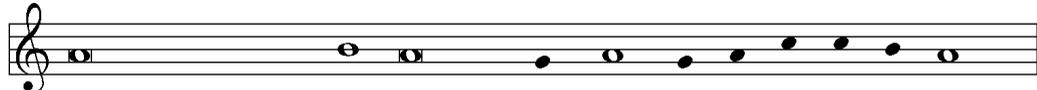
GREETING

- A 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!**

KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



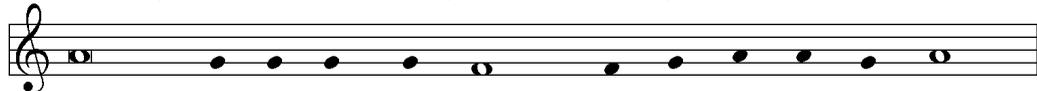
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



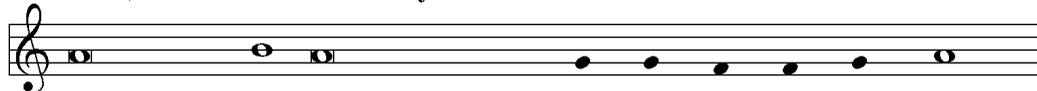
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. C A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Holy One,
C **your Son came into this world bringing salvation and life to all who believe. May your Spirit breathe life into the dry bones of our lives so that we may follow and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

PARISH CONCERNS

The Word

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

God revealed, through a vision to the prophet Ezekiel, his promise to restore the decimated and exiled nation of Israel: a valley of dry bones was brought back to life. Ezekiel was then told to prophesy to Israel revealing God's promise, and that, through God's faithfulness, Israel will know that God is the Lord of life.

¹The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

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

Psalm 130

L ¹Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, | hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my | supplication.

C ²**If you, Lord, were to note what is | done amiss,
O Lord, | who could stand?**

L ³For there is forgive- | ness with you;
therefore you | shall be feared.

C ⁴**I wait for the Lord; my soul | waits for him;
in his word | is my hope.**

L ⁵My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen | for the morning,
more than watchmen | for the morning.

C ⁶**O Israel, wait | for the Lord,
for with the Lord | there is mercy;**

L ⁷With him there is plen- | teous redemption,
and he shall redeem Israel from | all their sins.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul contrasted life in the Spirit with living according to the flesh, which leads to death. He reminded the church in Rome that if the Spirit of God dwells in them through Jesus Christ, then just as Jesus was raised from the dead, so also will their mortal bodies be given resurrection life.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

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

Please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL John 11:1-45 (46-53)

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

When Lazarus became ill and died, Jesus was days away from Bethany. When he finally arrived four days after his friend's death, Jesus brought him back to life. This miraculous action amazed all those gathered around the tomb of Mary and Martha's brother. When word of Jesus' last and most extraordinary miracle reached the Pharisees, they realized they would not be able to control Jesus' growing impact on the people and thus they began to plot to have him killed.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but

Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, [⁴⁶but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵²and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.]

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

Please be seated, children come forward for the Children's Message.

Children return to their seats.

MESSAGE

Pastor Tom Phillips

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,

in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
 lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
 that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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.

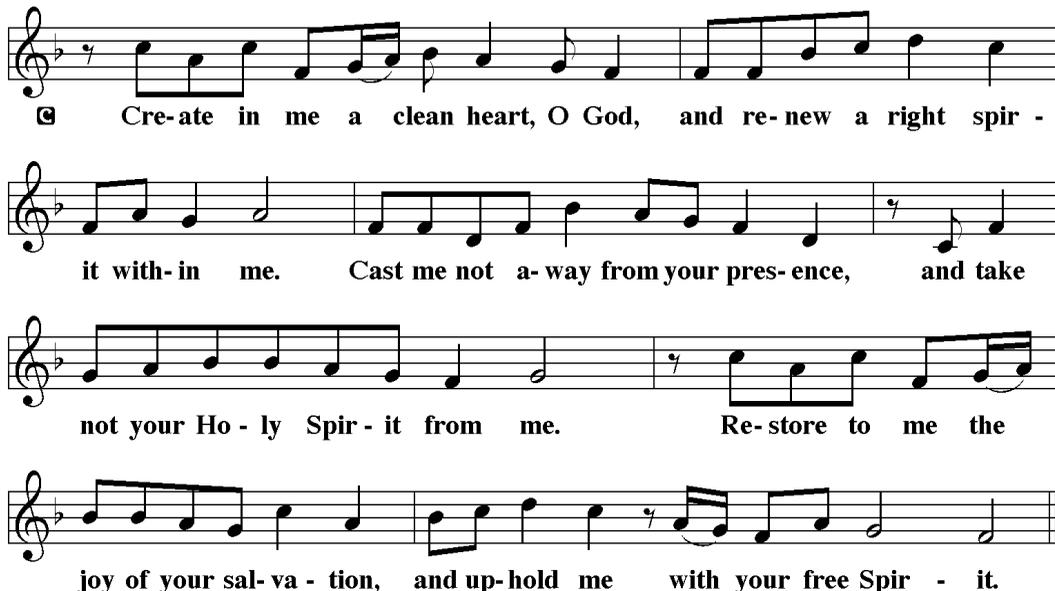


I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

We Worship God Through our Giving

Please stand.

CREATE IN ME



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. 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 PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

A brief silence.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

A 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Please be seated.

The Sending

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, blest re - deem - er, whom we love,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re - pen - tant vow,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent love for you;



foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior from the world a - bove;
though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
may our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be - hold your cross a - new;



of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall;
Yet your sin - less death has brought us life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



yet up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, you have borne the pain of all.
on - ly what your grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

DISMISSAL

Children Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God!**

Today's flowers are given by...

Lois Bernhardt in celebration of Béla Bernhardt's Birthday.

Remember in our prayers... *Mary Ulrich, Clarence Clapham, Shirley Wortman, Janice Hardick, Yvonne Cline, Joan Hassler, Eileen Damm, and Grace Call Committee*

Notes & News

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. Please accept a “guest bag” at the Welcome Center, containing information about Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. Please see an usher for assistance.

Church Hours: After evaluating our current situation, all services and activities at Grace will be cancelled through Saturday, April 11th. During this time, access to the church will be restricted so please contact the church office ahead of any visit, 614-882-3026.

YOUTH & FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

The collection of items for **Lutheran World Relief Health Kits** will resume, once services resume. Stay tuned and keep collecting.



Save the Date for Vacation Bible School: **Anchored: Deepening Faith in God!** Sunday, July 19-Tuesday, July 21, 6-8pm.

REACHING OUT TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Piggy Banks for Habitat “Putting God’s Love into Action”: Grace’s Habitat for Humanity Lenten Calendars and Piggy Banks are a chance to realize our blessing while helping others. If you have questions contact Joanne Figge or Lois Rumph. Donations can be dropped off once services resume or made directly to Westerville Habitat Partnership: <http://westervillehabitat.org/>



FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS *Let all that you do be done in love”. (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

March Grocery List:

Hamburger/tuna helper; canned tomato product; canned fruit; canned potatoes; rice and potato sides; ketchup, mustard, mayo; canned spinach, beets, limas; ramen noodles, toilet paper; tissues; and fresh produce is always welcome, especially early in the week. We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. REMEMBER to place only non-perishable items in our grocery carts. Take fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products directly to WARM. Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.



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.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Melissa Hodek, at melissa.hodek@gmail.com and it will be emailed to you.

Feb 2020	Pledged	Collected	Excess/ (Deficit)
MTD	\$ 36,667	\$ 36,207.71	\$ (459.29)
YTD	\$ 73,334	\$ 67,432.71	\$ (5,901.29)

Weekly Worship Attendance

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 22: services cancelled

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Westerville, Ohio

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Phone: (614) 882-3026

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

Website: www.grace43081.org

<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

Holy Communion

Every Sunday Morning — 8:15 & 11 am

*Join us for fellowship
and refreshments after
each service.*



Learning for Children & Youth- 9:30 am
Learning for Adults— 9:45 am

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 108 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 Boy Scout Troop 007 and three 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.