

**First Sunday in Lent
February 26, 2023—8:30am**



Grace Lutheran Church

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Chesapeake, VA 23325
757-420-4704

www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

Our Mission Statement:

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

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Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.
+ Please stand as you are able.

+ **Gathering** +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

“Out in the Wilderness” arr. Morgan Hatfield

+ **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

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+ Gathering Song

“Graves to Gardens”

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Refrain: Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing
Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws, Lord You've seen them all, and You still call
me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley
And there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me
again

You turn mourning to dancing, You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory, You're the only one who can
You turn graves into gardens, You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways, You're the only one who can

Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, Tiffany Hudson
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+ Prayer of the Day

ELW p.26

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil
rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that
defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your
word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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+Word+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” ²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

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Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

A reading from Romans.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

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+ Gospel Acclamation

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and
mer-cy; Come, seek the ten-der faith-ful-ness of God.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

+ Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

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Young at Heart Message & Sermon

The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

+ Song of the Day

“God Will Make a Way”

Refrain: God will make a way,
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see;
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide,
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength
For each new day;
He will make a way,
He will make a way.

By a roadway in the wilderness,
He'll lead me,
And rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade,
But His Word will still remain
He will do something new today

Don Moen

© 1990 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

+ Nicene Creed

p. 104

With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic* 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.

* universal

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+ Prayers of Intercession

sung refrain: "Sanctuary"

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Refrain: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

John W. Thompson Randy Scruggs © 1982 Full Armor Publishing Company
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You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future.

You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor.

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world.

Refrain

You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love, especially those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).

You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Refrain

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+ Peace

+Meal+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able! Electronic donations can be made at

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe.ly/give-one-time/475611.

*Checks can be also be sent to church:
521 Providence Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23325*



+ Offering Prayer

Please stand as you are able.
Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

+ Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.206

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ Thanksgiving at the Table

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+ Lord's Prayer

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Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

+ Invitation to Communion

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace

When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.

Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors. If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.

Communion Song

"Bread for the Journey"



1, 5 Give us bread for the jour - ney, give us bread.
2 Guide our way as we trav - el, guide our way.
3 Make us one with each oth - er, make us one.
4 Lead us home to the gar - den, lead us home.



Give us bread for the jour - ney, give us bread.
Guide our way as we trav - el, guide our way.
Make us one with each oth - er, make us one.
Lead us home to the gar - den, lead us home;



When our legs are get - ting heav - y, and we're hang - ing down our heads,
With so ma - ny roads be - fore us, where to go is hard to say.
All the walls we've built a - round us: may we learn to tear them down.
where we'll live with all cre - a - tion, find our place and nev - er roam.



give us bread for the jour - ney, give us bread.
Guide our way as we trav - el, guide our way.
Make us one with each oth - er, make us one.
Lead us home to the gar - den, lead us home.

Text: Bret Hesla
Music: BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY, Bret Hesla

Text and tune © 1990 Bret Hesla, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

Announcements

+ Sending Song

“No Longer Slaves”

You unravel me, with a melody. You surround me with a song
Of deliverance, from my enemies 'til all my fears are gone

Refrain: I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God

From my Mother's womb, You have chosen me.
Love has called my name
I've been born again, into your family. Your blood flows through
my veins

Oh, oh, whoa-oh, oh. Oh, whoa-oh, oh.
Oh, oh, whoa-oh, oh. Oh, whoa-oh, oh.

You split the sea, so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me, so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God
You split the sea, so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me, so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God, I am a child of God
Yes, I am a child of God. Yes, I am a child of God.

Brian Johnson | Joel Case | Jonathan David Helser
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+ Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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