

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 26, 2023—8:30am**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

521 Providence Road  
Chesapeake, VA 23325  
757-420-4704

[www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](http://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

“Come Alive (Dry Bones)”  
*arr. Morgan N. 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**

“Jesus, Friend of Sinners”

There is a voice that must be heard.  
There is a song that must be sung.  
There is a name that must be lifted high.  
There is a treasure more than gold.  
There is a King upon the throne.  
There is One whose praise will fill the skies.

**Refrain:** His name is Jesus, friend of sinners.  
Jesus, Jesus, friend of mine.

There is a peace that calms our fears.  
There is a love stronger than death.  
There is a hope that goes beyond the grave.  
There is a friend who won't let go.  
There is a heart that beats for you.  
There is one name by which we are saved.

When I was captive to my fears  
You were the One who came to me  
You set me free

Friend of mine. Friend of mine.

Paul Oakley

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**+ Prayer of the Day**

ELW p.28

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through 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**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on 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."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

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

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**Second Reading**

Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans.

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

**+ 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.

*Optional Repeat*

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

**+ Gospel Reading**

John 11:1-45

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

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he

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whom you love is ill.”<sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus,<sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”<sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?”<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world.<sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”<sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.”<sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.”<sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.<sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”<sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,<sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.”<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister

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Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” <sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

**Young at Heart Message & Sermon**

The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

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**+ Song of the Day**

“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

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**+ 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: “O God, We Call” ACS#1075  
Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church,  
the world, and all of creation.

**Refrain:**    **O God, we call, O God, we call, from deep inside we  
yearn, from deep inside we yearn, from deep inside  
we yearn for you.**

Linnea Good, b. 1962
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You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church.  
Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around  
the globe, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany  
them.

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and  
restore ecosystems in need of healing. Uplift prophetic voices  
that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air  
all around.

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of  
oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism,  
sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of  
government who work to promote the dignity of every human  
life.

### **Refrain**

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or  
who are troubled by illness, especially those listed on our prayer  
list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).  
You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of  
our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us.

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will  
live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live  
in your eternal love.

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](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

ELW p.163

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

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.

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### 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**

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

**Announcements**

**+ Sending Song**

“Glorious Day”

I was buried beneath my shame. Who could carry that kind of weight? It was my tomb 'til I met You.

I was breathing but not alive. All my failures I tried to hide. It was my tomb 'til I met You.

You called my name, (and) I ran out of that grave!  
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!  
You called my name, (and) I ran out of that grave!  
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day!

Now Your mercy has saved my soul. Now Your freedom is all that I know. The old made new, Jesus, when I met You.

I needed rescue. My sin was heavy, but chains break at the weight of Your glory. I needed shelter. I was an orphan. Now You call me a citizen of Heaven. When I was broken, You were my healing; now Your love is the air that I'm breathing. I have a future. My eyes are open, ('cause when)

Jason Ingram | Jonathan Smith | Kristian Stanfill | Sean Curran  
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**+ Dismissal**

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

**Postlude**

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