



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about **“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”**

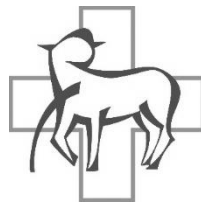
If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **8:00a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.

## THE 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 1, 2026

### Today in Worship

- “Born again” has become a catch phrase in our age. It is not merely that Jesus says one must be born again but born from above. This new birth happens not from human will or desire but solely from the love and act of God working by the Spirit.
- Baptismal water is the womb through which we are born again and born from above to the life that death cannot overcome and is eternal. As we make our way through Lent, we are constantly reminded of the truth of Luther’s explanation: we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Christ, our Lord, or come to Him.



### Ringing of the Bells

**Announcements** (10:30am Service)

**Welcome**

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #571

*“God Loved the World So That He Gave”*

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Confession & Absolution

Ps. 121:1-2, 8

**P** From where does my help come?

**C** My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

**P** The LORD will preserve your going out and your coming in,

**C** from this time forth and forevermore.

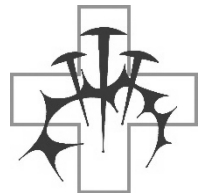
*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto 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.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.



## Kyrie

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** 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.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Psalm 121



**P** I lift up my eyes | to the hills. \*

**C** **From where does my | help come?**

**P** My help comes | from the Lord, \*

**C** **who made | heaven and earth.**

**P** He will not let your | foot be moved; \*

**C** **he who keeps you will not | slumber.**

**P** Behold, he who keeps | Israel \*

**C** **will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.**

**P** The Lord is your | keeper; \*

**C** **the Lord is your shade on your | right hand.**

**P** The sun shall not strike | you by day, \*

**C** **nor the | moon by night.**

**P** The Lord will keep you from all | evil; \*

**C** **he will | keep your life.**

- P** The Lord will keep your going out and your | coming in \*
- C** **from this time forth and for- | evermore.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | -ginning, \***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

*“God’s call to Abraham and His promise that Abraham would become the father of a great nation.”*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the Second Sunday in Lent is from Genesis, chapter 12.

<sup>1</sup> Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh.

At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup> Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. <sup>9</sup> And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Choir Anthem** (8:00am) “Children of the Heavenly Father”

## Epistle Reading

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

*“Abraham and his heirs are declared righteous by grace through faith.”*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from Romans, chapter four.

<sup>1</sup> What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup> And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup> just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;

<sup>8</sup> blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count  
his sin.”

<sup>13</sup> For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup> That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of

Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse

John 3:16

**P** For God so loved the world,

**C** **that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

## Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

*“Except a man be born anew, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

<sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**The Nicene Creed** *8:00am service*

**The Apostles Creed** *10:30am service*

**Message for Children from God’s Word**

**Hymn of the Day**

*Lutheran Service Book #708*

*“Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart”*

**Sermon**

**Offertory ~ “Create in Me”**

*Lutheran Service Book #192-193*

**Offering**

*“Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.’” – John 3:5*



*We encourage you to place your offering in the dropbox in the narthex before service. As the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord’s Word this morning.*

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

*Responses after each petition:*

**P** ...let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Remembering faithful Abraham who was counted righteous by faith and giving thanks for those who have gone before us with the sign of faith and now rest from their labors, we pray You to bring us at last with them into the place of eternal light and life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*(10:30 a.m. Services continue page 11 of the Worship Folder.)*

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*8:00 a.m. Service*

## Service of the Sacrament

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.*

**Preface** *sung*

### Proper Preface for Lent

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...

... evermore praising You and saying:

LSB p. 194



<b>Sanctus</b> <i>“Holy, Holy, Holy”</i>	LSB p. 195
<b>Lord’s Prayer</b> <i>Spoken</i>	LSB p. 196
<b>The Words of our Lord</b> <i>Spoken</i>	LSB p. 197
<b>Pax Domini</b> <i>“The Peace of Our Lord”</i>	LSB p. 197
<b>Agnus Dei</b> <i>“Lamb of God”</i>	LSB p. 198

**Distribution Hymns**

<i>“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”</i>	LSB # 560
<i>“All Christians Who Have Been Baptized”</i>	LSB # 596
<i>“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”</i>	LSB # 819

<b>Nunc Dimittis</b> <i>“Song of Simeon”</i>	LSB p. 199-200
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<b>Thanksgiving</b>	LSB p. 200
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**The Closing Prayer**

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

<b>Benediction</b>	Numbers 6:24-26
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**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**Greeting of Peace & Announcements**

<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<i>Lutheran Service Book #971</i> <i>“There Is A Redeemer” (words on displays)</i>
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*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*



10:30 a.m. Service

## Lord's Prayer

### The Closing Prayer

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### Greeting of Peace

### Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #971*

*"There Is A Redeemer" (words on displays)*