

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP



honest repentance

March 4, 2026

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.

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE

Theme: *“Honest Repentance: Faith”*

March 4, 2026

Today in Worship

- Honest repentance means becoming more human, not less. Honest repentance recognizes that sin is the thing that stifles our genuine humanity, while repentance results in our natural impulses functioning more as God designed them.

Ringing of the Bells

Announcements (10:30am Service)

Welcome

Opening Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #420
“Christ, the Life of All the Living”*

Invocation & Sentences

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

G Amen.

P O Lord, open my lips

G and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

G make haste to help me, O Lord. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our Salvation.

Confession & Absolution

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

P I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

C **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

Psalm 34:1-8

P I will bless the Lord at all times;

C **his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

P My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

C **let the humble hear and be glad.**

P Oh, magnify the Lord with me,

C **and let us exalt his name together!**

P I sought the Lord, and he answered me

C **and delivered me from all my fears.**

P Those who look to him are radiant,

C **and their faces shall never be ashamed.**

P This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him

C **and saved him out of all his troubles.**

P The angel of the Lord encamps

C **around those who fear him, and delivers them.**

P Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

C **Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

C **Glory be 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.

Prayer

P O Lord, hear my prayer

C **and let my cry come to You.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; 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 22:1-18

L The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 22.

¹ After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

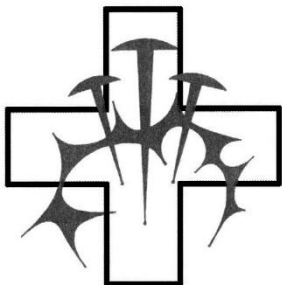
¹⁵ And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

Readings drawn from the Four Gospels



Part I: The Lord's Supper

Part II: Gethsemane

Part III: The Palace of the High Priest

Part IV: The Praetorium

Part V: Calvary

The Apostles Creed

Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book #436, vv. 1-3
"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Sermon

Offering

"This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles."

– Psalm 34:6



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.

Offertory *(after the offering)*

Lutheran Service Book #785, v. 2
"We Praise You, O God"

**We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

Stand

Responsive Litany

- P** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
C **for his steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** Give thanks to the God of gods,
C **for his steadfast love endures forever.**
- P** Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
C **for his steadfast love endures forever.** *(Ps. 136:1-3)*
- P** Hear our prayer, O Lord.
C **Let our cry come to You.**
- P** Almighty God, in the fullness of time, You sent the promised offspring, Your Son, Jesus Christ, to save us.

C By His redeeming death, He has crushed the serpent's head for us.

P Saved from sin, death, and the devil by His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death,

C help us to find healing in His wounds

P and grant us eyes of faith

C to see that His cross is, for us, the tree of life.

P Throughout these forty days, O Lord, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus

C and help us to run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

P until the day when we and all the faithful rest and rejoice with You in paradise

C and experience the fullness of Your peace; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #878, vv. 3-4

"Abide with Me"

