

PALM SUNDAY

March 24, 2024



*Grace Lutheran Church
Auburn, Michigan
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

Welcome to Our Guests

We give thanks to our risen Lord and Savior that you're with us to receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation that our Lord won for us by His suffering, dying, and third-day rising! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, personal spiritual struggles, understanding of our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. Pastor is available to speak with you before the service in the narthex (entrance at the rear of the sanctuary), or you can contact him on his cell phone at 607-972-5792. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you. The peace of Christ be with you!

Pastoral Care and Guests at the Lord's Supper

We are concerned about the spiritual welfare of all who partake of the Lord's Supper. If anyone eats and drinks our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily (that is, not believing what this meal is and the benefits it gives), they eat and drink to their great spiritual harm. Therefore, we kindly ask that any who are not yet instructed, are in doubt, or who hold to a belief different from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS) would not commune today.

Those who confess oneness in doctrine with us and are members of this congregation or a sister congregation of the LC-MS are welcome to commune. If you are communing, an usher will invite you from your pew to approach the rail. Pastor will then welcome you to the Lord's Table and you can either kneel or continue standing. You will be offered a cup that holds the Body of Christ. Take the cup and consume the Lord's Body. An elder will follow to pour the Lord's Blood into that same cup. If you are not communing but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms at the rail. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor or an elder before the service. Thank you!

Sermon Summary

Downward mobility isn't the goal of many! Upward mobility?!? Now we're talking! Power! Prestige! Possessions! That's what life is about, right? That's what seems most important to so many! Upward mobility, though, leaves a trail of blood! Adds to the misery and mayhem! What hostility against humanity as folks seek to fill the belly leaving so many stomachs empty!

Jesus shows us a better way with His Palm Sunday parade! It's all about downward mobility of humility for Jesus! No race to the top but a race to the bottom! Rock bottom! There, on the Cross, Jesus bears the burden of our humanity and empties Himself so that He can fill the emptiness in this World!

There's no reason for us to seek to fill ourselves when He's filled us and keeps filling us! "Take, eat!" "Take, drink!" As we feast on His Body and Blood, we're filled to overflowing so that we can go the Jesus way of humility that's all about the downward mobility! Yes, let's stoop and stand in solidarity with the weak, the vulnerable, the suffering! Downward mobility doesn't mean scarcity, but more than enough for everybody! When Jesus emptied Himself, He gave more than we could ever imagine, deserve, or hope for!

Palm Sunday Procession

Palm Sunday is here, which is hard to believe! At the beginning of the service the congregation sings "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" while Pastor and the children will process around the sanctuary with palm branches. (They're not singing the Refrain by themselves, as they did last year). We'd love for any children in the congregation to be a part of this. They should plan to meet in the chapel about 10 minutes before the service and then they'll receive palm branches and instructions from Pastor. If you have questions, please see Kantor.

Divine Service 1 - LSB 151



Ringling of the Bell

Anthem

Song of Zechariah – Hal Hopson

Hear, ye folk of Israel, Soon the Lord appeareth; Riding on a donkey's back, King of all is He. Loud will the streets rebound; What a bright triumphant sound; What a joyful dancing day, our salvation comes. Sing, O Zion's daughter, sing! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Hail the King, behold He cometh; Sing and shout! In Him salvation comes.

Peace shall come to Israel, Heathen nations crumble; Catch the vision Israel, God will keep His word. Bells on the horses ring; Voices of the people sing; What a joyful dancing day, our salvation comes. Sing, O Zion's daughter, sing! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Hail the King, behold He cometh; Sing and shout! In Him salvation comes.

Hear, ye folk of Israel; Our salvation comes.

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Processional Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor

LSB 442

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 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.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26



Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?*

The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Kyrie: Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved

LSB 945



1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer-cy up - on us.
2 O Son of God, Redeemer of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer-cy up - on us.



Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, By ev - 'ry
Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save From sting of
O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid The fee - ble



e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; Up - on Your cross - for -
death and grasp of grave; Your scars be - fore the
child Your grace has made. Now make us grow and



sak - en Son Our death is laid, and peace is won.
Fa - ther move His heart to mer - cy at such love.
help us pray; Bring joy and com - fort; come to stay.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9–12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a



[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of | his own blood,*
thus securing an eternal re- | demption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new | covenant,*
so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal in- | heritance.
He sent redemption to his | people;*
he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

Epistle

Philippians 2:5–11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse for Lent

Joel 2:13



C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

LSB 444

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Please sign the Record of Fellowship.

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



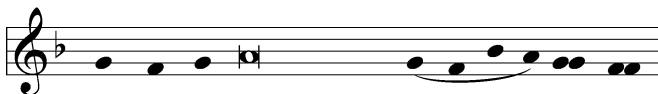
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Distribution Hymn: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 334

Distribution Hymn: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

LSB 443

Distribution Hymn: In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

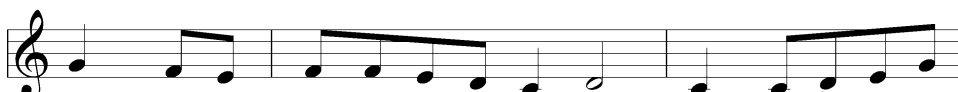
Luke 2:29–32



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

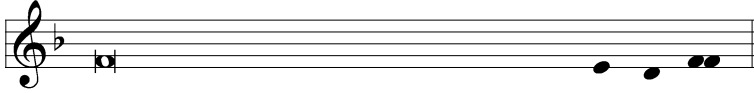
A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and \dagger give you peace.



Hymn to Depart: Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

LSB 441

Join us again for worship in Divine Service this Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m.!

Acknowledgments

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For The Week of Sunday, Mar 17

Attendance: Sunday 136, Wednesday 83

Week: YTD:

Tithes needed: \$9,380 \$103,180

Tithes received: \$9,573 \$106,737

Serving in God's House Today

Pastor: Rev. Aaron T. Schian
 Deaconess: Mika Patron
 Kantor: Nathan Beethe
 Choir: Grace Choir
 Elder: Phil Frank
 Usher Team: McNally
 Greeter(s): Brenda & Amy Bissonette
 Altar Guild: Barb Bartz, Linda Haven, Teresa Yaeger

Donation Tracking Log

Grace Lutheran Church Boiler Fund

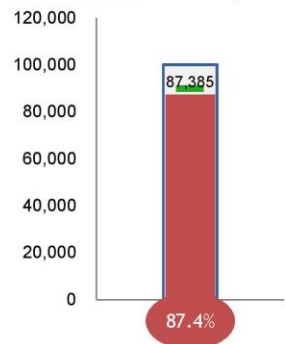
Overall	
Overall Target	100,000.00
On Track Target	89,798.56
Loan Balance	10,201.44
Overall Total	87,385.00
Overall Percent	87.4%

This Period	
Start:	3/7/22
End:	3/7/24
Total:	87,385.00

Current	
Date:	2/19/24
Total:	10,012.00

Boiler Fund

Overall Target
 Overall Total
 On Track Target



Rev. Aaron T. Schian
 607-972-5792

aaronschian@yahoo.com

Church Office
 989-662-6161

office.graceauburn@gmail.com

Dcs. Mika Patron
 316-284-4251

deaconessmika@gmail.com

If you'd like to support the Lord's work at Grace by giving electronically, please visit graceauburn.org/giving.
 To sign up to receive Grace's weekly email newsletter, *Spotlighter*, please visit graceauburn.org/spotlighter.

Church Notices

The Way of Encouragement

Following the Divine Service, we'll finish our time surveying the wondrous Cross in our journey with Jesus! It is finished! Come and be encouraged by this death that does death to Death!

Today in Sunday School...

Today in Sunday School we'll study 90. The Resurrection of Christ (Matthew 28; Mark 16; John 20). Jesus for us: Jesus rose from the dead so you too will rise and live forever with Him. Words to Remember: He was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 1:4)

YSC This Sunday

YSC is meeting today at noon at Grace! We'll be helping to fill eggs with candy for the children attending the community Easter Egg hunt at Grace on March 30. Lunch will be provided! See you there!

Pouring Out Purple!

Pouring Out! That's Jesus' mission as He enters Jerusalem in His Palm Sunday Parade. He's come to pour Himself out for you and me and everybody! He's come to empty Himself out and fill each one of us up with His peace and pardon, His purpose and power! That's what the color purple reminds us of today. Our Jesus has poured Himself out to fill us up by His Golgotha death, and He continues to fill us up with the gifts of His word, His washing, and His supper. Now we get to join Jesus in His Palm Sunday Parade by pouring ourselves out and filling others up with His plenty! There's more than enough of His peace and pardon, His purpose and power to fill you and me and everybody!

Encouraging Everyone

In our thoughts and prayers this week is Rita Saxton. If you would like to send a card or note, the address is: 301 Renshar Dr, Auburn 48611.

Thank You!

I would like to thank a Grace member for cleaning up the downed tree in my yard. It was truly unexpected and really appreciated. -Fran Galke

No GriefShare on Tuesday

There will be no GriefShare this coming Tuesday because of Holy Week. We will resume on Tuesday, April 2 at 10 a.m.

Women's Bible Study

There will be no Women's Bible Study for the next two weeks. We'll resume and start a new study on Wednesday, April 10. See you then!

Library Newsflash! ✨

The library table has been filled with new books: devotionals are located on the rack, and fiction, etc. are on the table. Please browse and feel free to borrow a book to read. You might be uplifted by enjoying a new author—or an old favorite!



All New Black and Blue

"Squirrel, Squirrel, Squirrel!" Hmm...what are Pastor and Deaconess talking about? Find out in this week's episode of *Black and Blue!*

Food of Faith

On Sunday, March 17, members from Grace served meals with Food of Faith at Trinity in Bay City. They were able to serve 55 hot meals to people in need! We look forward to serving again on October 6.

Grace Your Closet

We have recently been blessed with many donations for Grace Your Closet. We will be having another sorting on Tuesday, March 26 at noon. Any help would be appreciated.

Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt @ Grace on Saturday, March 30

The Evangelism/Stewardship Board is looking forward to another successful Easter Egg Hunt this year! The Auburn Chamber of Commerce has asked to partner with Grace for this event, making it larger than past years. With it being a larger event, some changes have happened. Instead of an all-at-once start at 10 a.m., the event will be open to attend **any time between 10 and noon**. There will be additional activities for the children to enjoy after they collect their 15 eggs. We could use your help! We're looking for volunteers to help us with setup and activities. If interested, the signup sheet is in the narthex. If you're unable to help on the day, you can still help by donating a bag of candy. If you have questions, please see Karla Weiss or Hannah Pyle. Thank you!



Office Closed April 1

The church office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 1. (No joke!) There will be no Bible study with Kantor that day.

LWML Prayer Day / Spring Rally Saturday April 27

Grace Sisters will be participating in the LWML Prayer Day at St. Paul Sanford on April 27. It's fun to socialize, worship and pray with other Lutheran women of our area. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with registration (\$5) at 8:30, including lunch. Our Gifts from the Heart will be given to the Open Door (Midland) and Midland Community Action. See the flyer on the bulletin board for information. If you are interested in attending, please contact Cheri Fish at 989-450-9058 or crosslwml@gmail.com no later than April 19.



LWML MI District Convention June 28-30

Taste and See that the Lord is Good! (Psalm 34:8) Registration is now open for the LWML MI District Convention to be held this summer at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship and to hear great Lutheran speakers on topics affecting all of us today. Information is available on the bulletin board or online at <https://lwmlmichig.org/convention/district>. Join other Lutheran Women in Mission from Grace and other churches in our district. Contact Linda Haven (989-750-3211 or peachpeople@netzero.com) with any questions.