



March 2022

Graceful Greetings



MARCH 2022 WORSHIP SERVICES

If you prefer to worship online, our services can be found on our website under the “Worship” tab & on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

- Wed., March 2—Ash Wednesday
- Sun., March 6—First Sunday of Lent
- Sun., March 13—Second Sunday of Lent
- Sun., March 20—Third Sunday of Epiphany
- Sun., March 27—Fourth Sunday of Lent



Join us on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd to begin the season of Lent.

There are 2 opportunities:
Drive-through Prayer & Ashes will be available in the church parking lot from noon – 2pm.
 (Pastor Kraiss will pray with you while you may mark your own forehead with ashes provided.)
Also, worship will be held in person in the sanctuary at 7 pm. You will be invited to place ashes onto your own forehead (or the forehead of someone from your household whom you came to worship with). These ashes will be provided similarly to the communion kits. This service will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel [gracelutheranroyersford](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgracelutheranroyersford). For those worshipping online, you may use ashes from your own fireplace, or pick up ashes from the box on the office porch between Sunday, Feb. 27.—Wed, Mar. 2.



“**Life on the Margins**” will be this year’s theme for Wednesday evenings in Lent. This zoom series will be hosted by Grace Lutheran Church, Royersford Baptist Church, Royersford United Methodist Church, and 1st United Church of Christ. Each Wednesday evening, we will have prayer & devotions, along with a presentation & discussion about those who live on the margins of society and how people of faith can respond. Our guest presenters will be speaking on topics such as homelessness, affordable housing, immigration, and mental health. Join us from 7 -8 pm on March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6. The zoom link will be emailed in March.

Part-time Paid Substitute Secretary Position Available. After nine years of wonderful service as our Parish Administrator’s fill-in, Diane Harshaw has given notice that she is no longer able to do this. We thank Diane for her weeks of work and diligence in this position.

We are now looking for someone who would be interested in being trained to fill in as Parish Administrator, when Phyllis goes on vacations. This position would be needed for 3 weeks a year, Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-2:30pm, mostly during the summer months, but occasionally at other times throughout the year & usually for a week at a time. Some experience with computers helpful, but not required. If interested, please contact the church office at 610-948-3684.



Pastor's Points:

At this year's annual meeting, I spoke of "rebuilding" at Grace, following 2 years of a pandemic. What does that mean and what will it look like? Together, we'll be working on restoring relationships and inviting re-engagement of members. We'll be reaching out and establishing new connections in our community. This will be a time of creating a space big enough to hold those who have suffered and need comfort and healing, along with those who are eager to just get all of this behind us (and those in between!).

"Rebuild" does not mean everything will look the same. It won't. It will mean centering ourselves on the mission given to us by God to be Christ's Church here in Royersford. It will mean lots of prayer and asking for God's guidance and being open to where Jesus leads us to grow, love, and serve by grace through faith. We've got work and an adventure ahead, and I trust that the Holy Spirit is at work. I pray that you will be there too! As we begin, I invite you to share your thoughts, fears, dreams, and vision via phone or email, or in person with me!



From the Deacon's Desk: Outdoor Worship

Last summer Grace had two opportunities for outdoor worship. This was met enthusiastically by those who attended.

As summer 2022 draws near, it is time to start planning what our summer worship will look like. Since we have returned to having two indoor worship services, plans are underway to consider the desire for and find a new time for our outdoor summer service.

A survey will be sent out mid-March in an email blast. Please take a few minutes to fill this out when you receive it. Hard copies will also be available during worship. You can return your written responses from the hard copies to the church office, put it in the offering plate, or simply email me at deaconallison12@gmail.com with your replies.

Your response **by April 18th** would be greatly appreciated!

Blessings!

Our Prayer List Coordinator is Becky Leonard. Becky is a wonderful addition to our volunteers, who help keep our church family connected and growing. Please send any prayer requests to Becky at bellpn@aol.com or you can call the church office at 610-948-3684 and leave a message. Thank you for sharing your joys & concerns and praying for others.



YOUTH NEWS



Join us for G.R.A.C.E. Place from 9:30am – 10:15am, Mar. 6th & Mar. 20th.

March 6th is G.R.A.C.E. Place for individual classes:

2 year old – 1st Grade & 3rd – 6th graders.

March 20th will be large group G.R.A.C.E. Place with Kelsey in the Welcome Center, learning faith through life size board games!

2nd graders have 1st communion class every Sunday, 9:15-10:15am with Miss Judy Lukens in LO9.

1st graders & under (with parents) will meet in the social hall..

3rd – 6th grade will meet and stay in the welcome center..

All classes are back inside. We ask that you wear a mask and stay socially distanced.

We're looking for volunteers to help lead these classes.

Please be prayerful about this opportunity and email Kelsey if you'd like to volunteer.

Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat is for 6th – 12th graders!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 26th from 10am – 6pm at St. Luke's in Devon!

Registration is \$50

LAST DAY TO REGISTER is March 6th to Kelsey (registration forms & fee due)

Lent – “Life on the Margins”

Families are invited to learn and serve those who live in the margins.

Each Wednesday, we invite you to put together snack bags for Daily Bread & participate in a family daily devotions, learning about those who live on the margins. Snack bags can be dropped off by Sunday's at Grace.

These devotions and directions for snack bags can be found each Wednesday on Facebook or by email.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Youth Group
“Like” us to see recent news & events

During the Sundays in Lent, Grace will be collecting items for the Welcome Church, in Philadelphia. The Welcome Church is “a church with no walls” and attracts people of all walks of life, especially the homeless. Kelsey Tomlinson and crew will be helping at the Welcome Church in May. Here are the items we are collecting:

Sandwich size Ziploc bags, Water bottles, Juice boxes, Capri Suns,
Snack-size items, individually wrapped:

Fruit Snacks, Mini chocolates (i.e., Hershey), Raisins
Chewy granola bars, Cookies (i.e., Oreos, Chips Ahoy)
Potato chips (1 oz.), Peanut butter crackers/cheese crackers,
Mini Slim Jim's

Please place your donations on the table in the 6th Avenue foyer!

For I was hungry,
and you gave Me
something to eat; I
was thirsty, and you
gave Me something
to drink; I was a
stranger, and you
invited Me in.

Matthew 25:35

Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected



Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation—Richard Harshaw is leading a group for fellowship and discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. You can find Richard in the choir room. Judy Stryker's book discussion group will begin when COVID numbers go down and we can begin to meet without masks again. Stay tuned and continue to check back for a start date. (and please remember that masks are required in the building now for all gatherings).

Other Adult Faith Formation— Are you looking for a way to gather with others to deepen your relationship with God and with each other? Small groups are a great way to get together to grow, to learn, and to serve (living up to our mission here at Grace). If you have questions about what kinds of groups or learning opportunities we can create, contact Deacon Allison, who will help you get started.



A new study of the Gospel of Luke began on the week of February 28th.

Come join us! No experience necessary! Come find out how exciting scripture is. On Sunday mornings we get only a taste. One thing this group has discovered is just how different the gospels are for each other. We meet via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Monday evenings and at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings. Both groups study the same material. Anyone is welcome to join us at any time. Contact deaconallison12@gmail.com or the church office for a link.

Facebook Live Opportunity —Join either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison for prayer time on **Sundays**. **Times will fluctuate** based on what is happening with our in-person Sunday morning schedule. The Thursday Facebook Live has ended, but Deacon Allison will occasionally host one at various times. Check the Facebook page for updates.



Morning Grace Daily Devotions. You can find our Morning Grace Devotions at allisonwilcox.com. Sign up there to receive devotions in your email box Mondays through Fridays.

Healing Service—If you are interested in the Healing Service starting up again via Zoom (at least for now until numbers go back down), please let Deacon Allison know! (deaconallison12@gmail.com)



Noon Coffee Hour & Get Real Link Info.! Miss seeing your Grace friends? You don't have to! Join this zoom meeting just to chat and check in with one another. You'll be glad you did! Please call Angela Feist or the church office at 610-948-3684 for the new link or more info.



Stay “connected” wherever you go! We’re all over social media!!

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutrn@verizon.net

YouTube Channel: [gracelutheranroyersford](https://www.youtube.com/gracelutheranroyersford)

Instagram search: [grace.lutheran.royersford](https://www.instagram.com/grace.lutheran.royersford)

Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Twitter search: [@gracelutheran12](https://twitter.com/gracelutheran12)

Worship at Grace:

Here's what a typical Sunday morning looks like at Grace:

8:15 am: Traditional worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word & Sacrament. Inspiring music, faithful preaching, life-giving Communion. This service is immediately in need of volunteers who will click through a power point for the service; an easy job, but very important! Please contact the church office if you are willing to do this!

9:30 am: Grace Place! (Sunday School for 1st- 6th grades) Every other Sunday. Confirmation classes will run from 9:15-10:15 every Sunday. Check out the details in our youth section of the newsletter.

10:30 am: Contemporary worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word & Sacrament, is less formal. Spirit-filled music by Spirit of Grace praise band, children's sermon by Kelsey & Communion. This service will be livestreamed to our Youtube channel at GraceLutheranRoyersford and is always recorded & saved to our website at www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com, where you can view it at your convenience.

Grace will continue to follow local guidelines for masks and other recommendations. Currently, we are asking for all worshipers to wear a mask for their protection and the protection of children who are not eligible for vaccinations. (We're a family church – we love our kids!) Please continue to follow social distance guidelines, *especially* when you are in the buildings.



Volunteers
Needed



Volunteers needed for Altar Guild. You will be partnered with one or more people and assigned only 2 months/year. Duties include weekly refilling of candles, making communion kits, and changing colors & sign boards as per church calendar. Pastor Kraus guides and reminds us of what is needed for the month. This is a great way to share and minister with other members of the congregation. Training and support are always provided. Please contact me if interested/would like more information. Thank you, Tammy Jordan 610-724-7459 or tazzjordan@hotmail.com

If inclement weather is predicted for a Sunday, please check your email! A mass email will be sent with the zoom link and other details, if it is determined that worship is best held online. (Don't forget to check your spam also—sometimes mass emails end up there!) What a blessing to have worship options, even in snow & ice!



Fellowship Thursday - The third Thursday of each month, at 7pm, on Zoom! Join us one time or, even better, every month for fellowship, sharing & time with friends. Each month will feature a different topic. If you have a topic idea please feel free to share it! Let us know or contact the church office for the link!
