

March 2024
Graceful Greetings



MARCH 2024 WORSHIP SERVICES

Our Worship Services are at 8:15am (Traditional) & 10:30am (Non-Traditional)

Sunday, March 3—3rd Sunday of Lent
 Sunday, March 10—4th Sunday of Lent
 Sunday, March 17—5th Sunday of Lent
 Sunday, March 24—Palm Sunday
 Thursday, March 28, 7pm—Maundy Thursday
 Friday, March 29, 7pm—Good Friday
 Sunday, March 31—Easter Sunday



If you are unable to worship with us in person, our worship services can also be found on our website under the “Worship” tab & on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Mark Your Calendar Now to Join Us for Holy Week & Easter Worship:



Sundays of Lent – the theme for this season is **CROSSING OVER**. With Grace in the midst of significant transition we felt it would be helpful to visit Scripture stories about crossing over (Jesus being driven into the wilderness, Joshua crossing the Jordan River, prophet moving from Elijah to Elisha, Paul ship wrecked, Moses crossing the Red Sea, Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey)

EACH WEDNESDAY we will post a video meditation following the same **Crossing Over** theme. There will be **NO** mid-week in-person gatherings.

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday – Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem with palms, hallelujahs, and great fanfare
Maundy Thursday; 7pm – Jesus’ great gift of His presence at the Table, even in the face of betrayal & stripping of the altar

Good Friday Service of Tenebrae, 7pm (diminishing lights) after each Scripture reading the room gets darker and darker until only the solitary light of Christ remains.

Easter Day

6:30 am Sunrise Service (outside) with Holy Communion
 8:15 am Traditional Holy Communion
 10:30 am Non-traditional Holy Communion

Rise Against Hunger Registration

Sign-ups will begin for our April 27th packing event on Tuesday, March 12th and will be open through Friday, April 12th. A link will be sent out via email on March 12th for the registration page. Stay tuned!!



Sisters and Brothers of Grace,



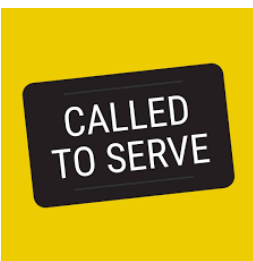
We continue our journey in Lent. As we cross over from Christmas and Epiphany to Easter we live in between. Living “in between,” can feel unsettled, uncomfortable, and sometimes anxious. Recall the frustration the Israelites expressed at Moses after he had led them into the desert? Remember also God is in all this. God has this!

As we are living through Lent, Grace is also living through a pastoral transition. Even more “in between” (liminal) time. All required documents have been submitted to the Office of the Bishop. The Council is in the process of establishing our Call Committee which will begin their work with the Conference Dean and will soon be able to review pastoral candidates. Please keep them and this process in your regular prayers. There is sometimes a desire to do this quickly, we would rather do this correctly.

Once the Call Committee, having reflected upon various pastoral candidates, has identified the pastoral candidate they believe to be the best choice for Grace, they will present said candidate to Council. The Council will then introduce the pastoral candidate to the membership, arrange a Sunday for the pastoral candidate to lead worship here at Grace, meet the Staff, and provide some time for a meet and greet.

So, hang in there. We are on a journey. There are always surprises and unexpected turns. Our journey will have much that is familiar, and some that is new to us. Try not to let the new and unfamiliar unsettle you. This is an adventure led by the Holy Spirit. It will take as long as it takes. That is okay, because even as we are “in between” God is right here with us every step of the way.

Peace in Christ <>< *Pastor Wayne*



It takes a lot of people to make worship and ministry happen!

Where are you being called to serve? There are many ways you can help; you're here on Sunday mornings anyway. Call or email the church office to see how you can help by being a trustee one month per year or helping with tech, altar guild, counting, reading, singing, Sunday school, children's chat, serving communion and more! We can provide any instruction needed & most positions are on a rotating schedule once every 4 –8 weeks.

Adult Service Project! Adults, are you interested in building homes for those who have lost theirs due to natural disasters in Tennessee? Alongside St. James Lutheran church in Limerick, Grace would like to take a team in the spring to help Appalachia Service Project with new build projects in Tennessee. If you are interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Kelsey!





From the Deacon's Desk: Stations of the Cross

You probably have Roman Catholic friends who use the Stations of the Cross as part of their Holy Week worship. Well...it isn't just for Catholics! Lutherans and some other denominations also have a form of the "Way of the Cross" (as we tend to call it) as part of their Lent or Good Friday worship.

On March 3rd, I'll be leading an Adult Forum on The Way of the Cross as Lutherans see them. We'll discuss what the Stations are and talk about how we can use them as a way of worship or devotion during Lent and Holy Week.

I hope you'll join me in the parlor on Sunday, March 3rd at 9:15 am!

Peace on the journey, *Deacon Allison*

Assisted Listening System Now Available for Services: Have trouble hearing during services? Please reach out to an Usher when you arrive if you'd like to use an assisted listening device. We have 2 models: a loop around the neck that works directly with most hearing aids; and an over-the-ear speaker. Each has personal volume control.



Recycle for Ronald McDonald House Charities! Molly Moran is inviting everyone at Grace Lutheran to collect tabs for Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia. The tabs you collect create comfort and hope for families when they need it most. It's easy, just drink your favorite pull tab canned beverage, save the tabs and bring them in to Grace. There is a bucket in the Welcome Center for you to put them in. I'll take care of the rest!! Thank you.

Our Prayer List Coordinator is Becky Leonard. Becky helps keep our church family connected & growing, through her willingness to take your prayer requests. Please contact Becky or send any prayer requests to her at bellpn@aol.com or you can call the church office at 610-948-3684 and leave a message. Thanks for sharing your joys & concerns and praying for others.



YOUTH NEWS

G.R.A.C.E. Place at 9:30am! G.R.A.C.E. Place programming is for preschool through 6th graders and will be the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, 9:30 - 10:15am. March programming will be March 3rd & 17th.



Parents are invited to attend a monthly small group held by Kelsey, in the Prayer Croner Room, at 9:30am. Dates below: April 14th, May 19th, and June 9th.

High Schoolers: 2nd & 4th Sunday's, you're invited to meet in the high school room for fellowship and food! The 1st & 3rd Sunday's, they are invited to assist in a G.R.A.C.E. Place classroom. AND, on March 3rd from 6-7:30pm they are invited to High School Youth Group in the social hall!

Rise Against Hunger Fundraiser - Mark your calendars to help pack 20,000+ meals through Rise Against Hunger for those in serious need on April 27th! Help Grace raise \$1500 for Rise Against hunger by contributing to the jar on the window in the back of the church. When we hit our goal of \$1500, staff will host a Feast of Fools worship! Let's be generous and Rise Against Hunger! We will collect until Sunday, April 14th. Stay tuned for packing event sign up information!

Lent Family Take-Home Kits - Families are invited to pick-up kits for family lent activities and devotions each week of Lent. This year's theme is Love One Another. Kits will be available in the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings February 11th, 18th, 25th, March 3rd, 10th, and 17th. These take-home kits are made for all ages!

Easter Egg Hunt - Join us Sunday, March 24th at 9:30am in the social hall for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! We will have an Easter Story told by our middle and high school youth to start. 2 year olds - 2nd graders will hunt for eggs and our 3rd - 12th graders will have a scavenger hunt that will take them around the church for their eggs!

Easter Egg Candy Donations are needed! Please drop-off individually wrapped, small-sized candy to Kelsey or in the church office by Sunday, March 10th.

Box City - 6th - 12th graders are invited to participate in Box City, an annual event to raise awareness (and money) for homelessness. Registration cost is \$20. We encourage you to fundraise at least \$100 for Beacon of Hope in Pottstown. Saturday, April 6th from 3pm - Sunday, April 7th at 12pm at Advent Lutheran Church in Harleysville. Registration forms can be found in the confirmation classroom! You will need to provide your own box to sleep in

AGAPE is in town! Join our synod (Southeastern PA Synod) in welcoming Agape, a Christian Rap artist, and Joe Davis, a spoken word poet on Sunday, April 14th at 4pm! Together, these two create amazing music and art as well as do anti-racism work. Tickets are \$25 a person and will go towards the synod Youth Scholarship fund! Location TBD



**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Youth Group
"Like" us to see recent news & events**

Check Out These Ways to Support Your Faith Journey



Adult Faith Formation Opportunities—Sunday Mornings at 9:15am

Weekly -

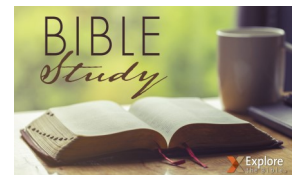
Richard Harshaw's group continues to meet in the Choir Room (L04) at 9:15 am. Judy Stryker's group meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the parlor (L05). They are reading *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

On the first Sunday of the month, alternate programming will be offered in place of the book group in the parlor, led by either Pastor Wayne or Deacon Allison. **On March 3rd, the topic will be Stations of the Cross.** Led by Deacon Allison, The Adult Forum on March 3rd will look at The Stations of the Cross. What are they? Do Lutherans use them? Deacon Allison will lead this session in the parlor (L05), starting at 9:15am.

On the 2nd, 3rd, 4th & occasionally 5th, Sundays of the month, a book discussion group will meet in the Parlor, led by Judy Stryker. The group will be reading "*Holy Envy*", by Barbara Brown Taylor. The author is an Episcopal priest who is teaching a college class about other people and their religious traditions. Through those religions, we learn to accept others and reevaluate our own thoughts about God.

Morning Grace Daily Devotions may be found at allisonwilcox.com. Sign up there to have these devotions delivered directly to your email box Mondays through Fridays.

Bible Study groups meet on Monday evening at 7:00pm via Zoom and Thursday mornings at 10:00am in the parlor (room L05). We are studying the Letter to the Ephesians through the end of March, and then will move to a study of Colossians. Let Deacon Allison know if you'd like a link to the Monday Zoom.



Interested in joining Grace? Please contact Deacon Allison at deaconallison12@gmail.com, to learn more about membership at Grace. Our next information class will begin soon.

Stay "connected" wherever you go! We're all over social media!!

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutr@verizon.net

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

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)
