

April 2026
Graceful Greetings



April 2026 WORSHIP SERVICES

**Worship Schedule: Worship Services are at 8:15 & 10:30am
with Sunday School & Faith Formation at 9:15am**

Thursday, April 2—Maundy Thursday; 7:00pm Service

Friday, April 3—Good Friday; 7:00pm Service

Sunday, April 5—Easter Sunday (3 services, see details below)

Sunday, April 12—2nd Sunday in Easter, One Service at 9:30am (First Holy Communion)

Sunday, April 19—3rd Sunday in Easter

Sunday, April 26—4th Sunday in Easter

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.



Holy Week & Easter Services:

Maundy Thursday—April 2nd at 7:00pm: Preaching,
Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar - Sanctuary

Good Friday—April 3rd at 7:00pm: Tenebrae Service with Passion Reading

April 5, 2026—EASTER SUNDAY—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
SUNRISE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION— 7:00am on the front lawn
FESTIVAL SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION—8:15 & 10:30am in the Sanctuary
(No GRACE Place)

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 6th.

Budget Update: This past winter has put us a bit behind the 8 ball budget-wise, as the allocation of \$7000 has been crushed by more than \$11,000 in snow removal invoices from our contractor. To fund this shortfall, we are asking our members to consider an additional contribution to the general fund. A member of the church has offered to match this additional giving up to \$2000 that should cover the expense. Please use an envelope and mark it SNOW REMOVAL to contribute to the cause. Each dollar you contribute will effectively be doubled! As always, many thanks for your generosity.



From the Rostered Minister's Desk: Dear Siblings in Christ,

Last November, Bishop Bryan Penman appointed me to serve on the Policy Council for LAMPa (Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Pennsylvania) as one of two representatives from our SEPA Synod. It is both an honor and a joy to serve in this way. Rooted in my baptismal calling, I feel called to dive deeper into advocacy ministry by serving on the Policy Council and to put my passion for serving with a justice-oriented focus to good work in a world that aches for love, reconciliation, justice, and peace.



Today I want to share with you about this ministry and invite you to join me in Harrisburg later this month for an advocacy learning and action event.

First, a bit about LAMPa in case you are not already familiar with this long established ministry: Lutherans in Pennsylvania are united under an office of the church called LAMPa, whose mission statement reads: ***"In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we advocate for wise and just public policies in Pennsylvania that promote the common good."*** On its website, LAMPa describes its ministry as follows:

To advocate is to plead the cause of those suffering injustice. Advocacy ministry is rooted in Scripture. Lutheran theology and our baptismal calling to strive for justice and peace in all the earth (Affirmation of Baptism, ELW). It is expressed by advocating with and for our neighbors in need, for the sake of the common good, in places where important political and economic decisions are being made. LAMPa is a ministry of the ELCA and serves as a State Public Policy Office of the ELCA. LAMPa's vision is centered in the ELCA strategic direction to "Step forward as a public church that witnesses boldly to God's love for all that God has created." LAMPa's ministry is based on ELCA Social Statements and social justice policy resolutions and the ELCA Constitution: "This church shall advocate dignity and justice for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among nations, & standing with the poor and powerless and committing itself to their need... This church shall study social issues and trends, work to discover the causes of oppression and injustice, and develop programs of ministry & advocacy to further human dignity, freedom, justice, and peace in the world." (4.02 and 4.031),

In partnership with ELCA World Hunger, and based on the deep experience and commitment of our more than 1,000 congregations across the Commonwealth, LAMPa leads non-partisan advocacy to Pennsylvania public officials on a range of interconnected issues, but particularly in addressing hunger and its root causes, striving to create a just world where all are fed. We equip disciples of Jesus Christ for civic engagement rooted in their baptism and led where God is calling them into the world. LAMPa is a partnership ministry of the Service and Justice Unit of the ELCA with Pennsylvania synods, congregations, agencies and institutions. LAMPa serves these partners through:

Providing an advocacy voice for the ELCA, its congregations and members, and with government policy-makers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Conducting analysis and providing resources on current social issues and public policy to help Lutherans understand the connections between faith and daily public life.

Providing training and opportunities for Lutherans to become better advocates for justice.

For decades, every spring LAMPa has hosted a "Lutheran Advocacy Day" at the Capitol in Harrisburg. This year the event is taking a broader approach with an invitation to our ecumenical partners to join their voices with ours as we are equipped together as disciples to act of justice and peace. **I want to invite members of Grace to join me on April 20th for a day of learning, community-building, inspiration, and advocacy.** We'll gather at a local church with advocates who are people of faith from across the Commonwealth to be grounded in our faith and equipped to act together on issues that make a difference to the wellbeing of all. There will be inspiring speakers and a whole variety of workshops to engage us in issues that matter and that teach us how to be advocates who make an impact. Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to make legislative visits at the Capitol if you'd like. You can learn more about this day here: <https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/about/citizens-with-the-saints/>

Please let me know if you would like more information and if you would like to attend this year's Lutheran Advocacy Day called "Citizens With the Saints" on April 20th in Harrisburg. I would love to have you join me!

Peace + Grace,

Pastor Leah

YOUTH NEWS



G.R.A.C.E. Place programming will be every Sunday with 2 worship services and is for preschool through 6th grade! Confirmation will have class every Sunday.

G.R.A.C.E. Place April Dates: April 19 & 26 - 9:30am - 10:15am
2 year old – kindergarten meet in Lower Level 07; 1st– 6th grade class meets in Lower Level 08-09.

Please register your child for G.R.A.C.E. Place online at:
www.gracelutheranroyersford.com/registration.

Confirmation Class - April 15, 2026, 6-8pm in the All Purpose room

First Holy Communion Sunday is April 12th; One Service at 9:30am

Box City April 11 & 12, 2026. Registration is closed.

First & second year confirmation students are combined and will meet in room L01, lower level of the church. If your child has not received First Holy Communion, please contact Pastor. Your child will receive Communion instruction in this class & receive First Holy Communion.

Blessing of the Prayer Garden—April 26th at the end of both services. Come out & see Kaitlyn Stebner's completed Girl Scout Gold Project.

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/channel/UC...)

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

Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

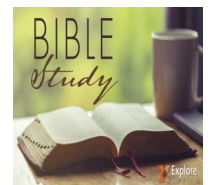
Twitter search: [@gracelutheran12](https://twitter.com/gracelutheran12)



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

Check Out These Ways to Support Your Faith Journey

Bible Studies: Thursday morning's Bible Study group continues to study the Revelation of John in the parlor at 10 am. Monday evening's group at 7pm is now studying the Book of Micah. Contact Deacon Allison at her new email address - deaconallison@gracerofo.org, with questions or if you'd like a link to Monday's Teams meeting.



Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation & Fellowship: Richard Harshaw's group continues to meet in the Choir Room (L04) at 9:15am for topical conversations on faith and life and for a time of fellowship. Check with Richard for details.

Judy Stryker's book discussion group is back. They will resume their discussion the book *Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories* by Debie Thomas, the Sunday after Easter, in the Parlor, Room (L05).

Faith First: Last Wednesday of this Month. We will meet this month on **Wed., April 29th**. We'd love to have you join us at Main Street Café at 8:30am for great fellowship & conversation about faith.

APRIL 2026 Worship Assistants

Thank you all for your service!



Trustee—Kellie Martin

Altar Guild Team—Armstrong, Jordan & Lewis

Counting Teams—4/5 Petel/Ibach 4/12 Shiley/Fritz
4/19 Matzke/Harshaw 4/26 Matzke/Harshaw

Readers—4/2 Maundy Thursday 7pm Darrell Lewis (Lesson) & Jackie Perry (Psalm)
4/3 Good Friday 7pm TBD
4/5 7:00 Sunrise TBD 8:15 M. James 10:30 M. Satryan
4/12 (One Service at 9:30am) M. Alloway
4/19 8:15 B. Matzke 10:30 C. Butler
4/26 8:15 A. Pennypacker 10:30 J. Claypotch

Children's Sermon—4/5 Pastor Leah 4/12 Angela 4/19 Tina 4/26 Brenda

Tech Table—4/2 Maundy Thursday 7pm Jim 4/3 Good Friday 7pm Jim
4/5 8:15 Jackie 10:30 Dave
4/12 (One Service at 9:30am) Jim
4/19 8:15 Jackie 10:30 Rick
4/26 8:15 Paul 10:30 Austin

Communion Assistants—4/2 Maundy Thursday 7pm D. Fritz
4/5 7:00 Sunrise TBD 8:15 K. Meyers, J. Curran, S. Firering & R. Harshaw
10:30 D. Lewis, B. Johnson,, M. Alloway & K. Brown
4/12 (One Service at 9:30am) C. Bauer, D. Fritz, D. Lewis & A. Martin
4/19 8:15 Jackie Perry 10:30 T. Meredith
4/26 8:15 K. Reese & J. Curran 10:30 K. Mills & K. Thomson

Ushers—4/2 Maundy Thursday 7pm D. Fritz & K. Lewis
4/3 Good Friday 7pm T. Jordan & B. Johnson
4/5 7:00 Sunrise T. Weikel 8:15 K. Meyers, B. Johnson, R. Pennypacker & J. Stryker
10:30 B. Meredith, D. Murphy, T. Jordan & C. Ferguson
4/12 (One Service at 9:30am) M. Rehrer, M. Johnson, K. & D. Lewis
4/19 8:15 B. & S. Matzke 10:30 M. Satryan & K. Brown
4/26 8:15 T. Weikel & J. Stryker 10:30 T. McGarry & G. Straface

Acolytes—4/12@ 9:30—Jacob Weaner 4/19@10:30—Jack Eynon
4/26@ 8:15—Drew Mazur

(Changes to this schedule may occur after printing; assistants should be alert for updates.)
