

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

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Sunday, February 28, 2021 * 9 AM * ONLINE



INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON – On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. God promises the baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world. Won't you join the caravan of faithful, remembering our baptism and walking the way of the Lord?

TODAY'S THEME - Lent is all about setting priorities and working out just how seriously our commitment to God really is. It is not a time for us to work out where we are going in life, or what decisions we need to take for our future. If we are serious about our faith then we have to allow our own priorities to be seen in the light of God's guidance.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP FROM HOME.

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.

Announcements are televised or found on our website

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.

We hope all people find it easy to follow along.

GOD GATHERS US WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

Let Jesus Bear the Cross Alone

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

WEEKLY CONFESSIONAL LENTEN LITURGY

O God, we remember that to repent means to turn around from old and hurtful ways of living to new and life-giving ways to which you call us. It means to turn and go your way, get on your road. We confess that we don't often realize or want to admit those parts of who we are that are in need of such change. We confess that we do not choose your path. So we turn to you wanting to be more honest and open to your transforming Spirit as we pray...

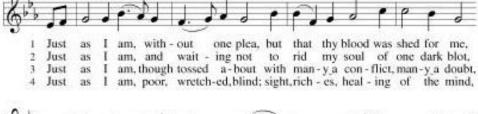
For the wrongs we keep secret out of shame for what others might think of us,

- ALL We want to repent, O God.
- For the ways we judge others harshly without knowing them, Ρ
- ALL We want to repent, O God.
- Ρ For the ways we shame others into silence whether we know it or not,
- ALL We want to repent, O God.
- For the ways we close ourselves off from others' advice, support, or pushback,
- ALL We want to repent, O God.
- Р For the ways we rationalize our own self-preservation and ignorance,
- ALL We want to repent, O God.
- O God, light the dark corners of our lives in need of change, so we can become the disciples you want us to be. Amen.

OPENING SONG

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

LBW 296 vs. 1-3, 5





and that thou bidd'st me come to thee. thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come. fight-ings and fears with-in, with-out, in thee need

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down; now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868 P The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL And also with you.

P Let us pray..... God of our Salvation, we embark today on a journey that we have not made before. You are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. Empower us to turn away from our selfish interests, to take up the cross and to follow after Jesus and to find life by giving it up to Your greater purpose. Send your Holy Spirit that we may be guided on this path of penitence, prayer, and preparation. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord.

ALL Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P Turn toward God, follow the tumultuous path of righteousness. May the peace of the Lord encompass you.

ALL And you also.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 4:13-25 (Living Bible)

INTRODUCTION – Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

R Word of God; Word of Life. All Thanks be to God.

What is Pastor cooking up today? "Faith on the Path"



ALL Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from you presence and take not your holy Spirit from me.

INTRODUCTION - After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ.

MESSAGE FOR ALL

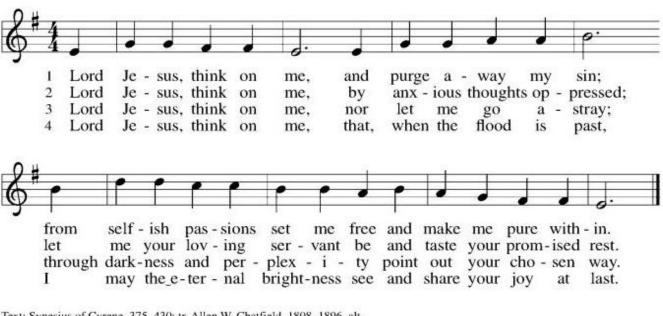
"I am NOT Perfect" Pastor Dawn Roucka

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

•	Face it, none of us are perfect. We all fall short of God's glory and intentions for our lives. Lent is the
	opportune time to strengthen our faith by learning more about who God is, and the importance of building
	our relationship with God.

How will you respond to the invitation God extends to you through his son Jesus Christ, to jump into full
participation in the covenant community? What areas of your life might God be inviting you to let go of in
order to deepen and strengthen your interior life?

• What might it mean for you to "deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus," in the present circumstances of your life?



Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt. Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, The Psalmes of Dauid, 1579, alt.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GOODNESS

LENTEN CREED

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This is our faith and we are humbled to profess this in Jesus the Christ. Amen

— from Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our Guide, posted on the website of Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba. http://www.patmosabbey.org/

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P In Jesus, God shows us the path to righteousness and everlasting life. God has written the law of love on our hearts. And so we become people of generous hearts – giving as Jesus gave to show the generosity, unwavering passion and grace of God.



PLEASE CONSIDER IN THIS TIME OF NEED, TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH, IF POSSIBLE, AND SUPPORT OTHERS AS WELL BY BEING AS GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENTS AND YOUR VARIOUS TREASURES.

You may mail offerings to Grace at 5N600 N. Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175 or send through your bank or online; there is also a DONATE on our website or a plate by the entryway.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P God of the wilderness, We give these offerings in gratitude and faith, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us, trusting you will provide for what we need, and knowing your will use them to share your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves. Help us to live with generous hearts, with open hands. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord we pray.

ALL Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.

Please respond accordingly
P Hear us O God.

All Your Mercy is Great.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional)

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 trespasses, as we

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.

(Modern)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done.

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

And deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ⊕ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

ALL Amen.



Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891 Music: WERDE MUNTER, Johann Schop, 1600–1665

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

ALL Thanks be to God

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2021

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSONS

February 28, 2021

Traditionally, there are four readings weekly. We usually focus on 2 but often refer to the others so it may be helpful to have them at your fingertips. The lectionary is a three year cycle which gets us through hearing MUCH not all of the Bible, but not always in order.

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Psalm 22:23-31 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;

neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;

but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever! R

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD,

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" R

Second Reading - Romans 4:– see bulletin above

Gospel - Mark 8:31-38 - see bulletin above

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 28, 2020

ZOOM FELLOWHIP WILL CONTINUE WEEKLY <u>AT 10 AM</u> on Sundays following our online worship services. Join our Grace family for sharing news, prayers information and more. Don't miss out! Check your eblast for details.

MIDWEEK LENTEN JOURNEY VIA ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/95615147239?pwd=TIY5QnV4bkV3ZFRQaHk2RVhPeTJMdz09

Meeting ID: 956 1514 7239

Passcode: Grace
One tap mobile

+13126266799,,95615147239#,,,,*315474# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 956 1514 7239

Passcode: 315474

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## **Annual Meeting Minutes are available now at Grace and Online**

## REAL NEWS TO USE DURING THESE TIMES

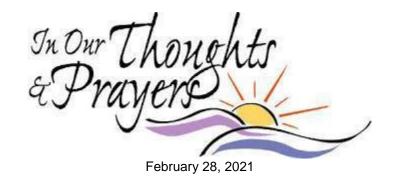
VISIT OUR Website <a href="www.graceoflilylake.com">www.graceoflilylake.com</a> FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES Check out our updated website. Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services

And our FACEBOOK PAGE or Youtube page for activities and posts of interest:

https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/

https://youtube.com/graceoflilylake.com

630-365-6751



## THOSE TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

#### FOR THE WORLD

- For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- For the healing of the divisions in our Nation and the defeating of fascism and white supremacy.

#### FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- For God's Spirit to guide Pastor Dawn, Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- As we plan to meet regarding the future of our congregation

## FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- Glenn Adams, son of Mark and Renee Adams \* Lucy Adams
- \* William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey Adam Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren (If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

#### **FOR ALL**

- The continued support of our members \* For all members of healthcare around the world
- For those serving as first responders and in the military \* For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

#### FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT

Margaret Swanson, Fred Alstadt, Joan Mortenson, Chris Richards and Lisa Leyden

## FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers. Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE

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## **GRACE'S MISSION IS**

To share God's GRACE with all through our rich traditions of faith, family, and community.

**Gospel** – God's love shared in all we say & do

Respect for all God's people & creation

**A**ction – response to the Gospel

**C**ommunity – Loving God, neighbor, & self

**E**veryone – we are all God's children