

## **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:**

Office: 937-596-6516 ~ (*Open M – F, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm*) ~ Fax: 937-596-0516

E-mail [jcgracelutheran@outlook.com](mailto:jcgracelutheran@outlook.com) ~ WEB Address: [www.jcgracelutheran.org](http://www.jcgracelutheran.org)

Pastor Bert Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1037

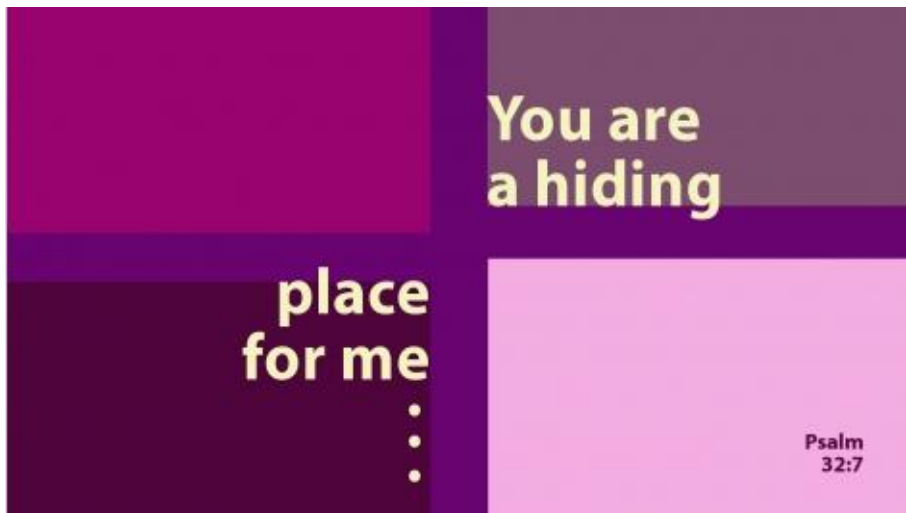
Pastor Shelly Schultz ~ Cell phone: 715-418-1761

~ Email: [jcgracepastor@outlook.com](mailto:jcgracepastor@outlook.com)

Nikki Tontrup, Secretary Rhonda Burch, Janitor: Matt Kohler, CAC President:

**License # 1903179 & Streaming License # 20263402**

---



*Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Jackson Center, Ohio  
March 30, 2025  
10:30 am*

Welcome to  
**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
March 30, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

**Welcome to Our Guests**

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” We walk with Jesus along the road to Jerusalem, the road to death but also resurrection, the road of faith and worship. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

**Focus for Today**

God’s anger about our sin is real. But his anger will not last forever for those who call upon his name. He covers over, or atones, for the sins of those who acknowledge their sins, and trust in his salvation. This is partly what it means to be “in Christ”; our sins are covered by him. Indeed, they are buried in him, put to death. This is how God reconciles us or justifies us to himself. Christ’s death satisfies, propitiates, atones for the debt of our sin. In doing so, the past is now dead, and we are a new creation of God in Christ. He who knew no sin became the sin of unrighteous sinners, nailing the sin of a world to the cross, and making us the righteousness of God. This is the great love of the Father in action, sending his Son to save us at all cost.

**As We Gather**

*\* Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

***“Always”***

Praise Band

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

\*Gathering Song

***“How Can I Keep From Singing”***

\*The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, †Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Hear the word of the Lord from 1 John 1:8-10...

P: Lord, have mercy.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

P: Lord, have mercy.

P: In this season of Lent, let us draw near to the Lord and examine our hearts and minds for the ways in which we have fallen short of the glory of God.

*(Silence for self-reflection and examination)*

P: Holy God,

**C: You sent your Son, Jesus, into the world to save us from the power of sin, death, and the devil. We confess that we have failed in many ways to follow Him in our lives. We have forsaken the poor and hungry, we have neglected the sick and sorrowful, and we have looked out for our own needs rather than the needs of others. Forgive us, we pray, and restore us to a new and right relationship with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; all those who believe in Christ are living stones in His holy house. Hear His Word of forgiveness and be comforted by His love. In the name of Jesus Christ and by His precious blood you are forgiven. You are made new again by the blood of Christ who gave Himself for you so that you might be holy and precious in His sight. *(Luke 20:17)*

**C: Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

**All: Merciful Father, in you is love, mercy and forgiveness. We give thanks that not only do you welcome us back when we wander you seek us out as you seek to gather and reconcile all of creation to you through your son & our Lord Jesus. Amen**

**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Isaiah 12:1-6

ESV pg. 576

Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32 (read responsively)

**32** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**<sup>2</sup> Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup> For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**<sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah***

<sup>5</sup> I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

**<sup>6</sup> Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.**

<sup>7</sup> You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Selah*

**<sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

<sup>9</sup> Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**<sup>10</sup> Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**Praise the LORD!**

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

ESV pg. 966

Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11-32

ESV pg. 874

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Bert

Sermon Prayer

P: May the Spirit of the Lord be in my heart and on my lips so that I may sincerely and humbly, courageously and effectively proclaim the Good News.

**C: And may the Spirit of the Lord touch our ears that we may listen carefully. Touch our minds that we may understand correctly and touch our hearts that we may respond to that message courageously.**

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sermon

Pastor Bert

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

\* Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

\*Blessing

Ministry and Mission Moments

\*Closing Songs

***"King of My Heart"***

***"Your Grace is Enough"***

***Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve***

**Ministry and Mission Moments**

**Your offering to the Lord's work through Grace.** There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord's work.

**Attention!!!** There are a number of **servicing trays missing** from the church kitchen. If you possibly borrowed them for a personal function, and forgot to return them, please return ASAP. They would be very useful during the Lenten meals for the next several weeks. Thanks! Women of the Church

**Catechism Connection** Catechism youth continue with Sunday morning studies at 9:15 am. Wednesday catechism is worship at 7:00 pm. Please continue submitting sermon notes (either in the offering plate, the offering box, your Sunday school teacher).

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Luther League will be hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The hunt will take place at Grace Lutheran church and as long as the weather permits it will be held outdoors. All children are welcome!

**Interested in being part of our Grace Lutheran fellowship?** The pastors are offering a **Grace Inquiry Gathering on Sunday, March 30 at 11:30 am** to learn more about our congregation of Grace. We invite you to become an active member of Grace and join our Christian fellowship. Please RSVP to the church office or the pastor if you are interested in attending. Lunch will be served.

**The Backpack program** is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups. There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.

**Jackson Center Community Blood Drive** will be held **Tuesday, April 1st**. from 12:30 pm – 6:30 pm at the American Legion Post 627 E. College Street. There will be platelet collection until 5:30 pm along with the whole blood collection ending at 6:30 pm. You can schedule your appointment at [www.DonorTime.com](http://www.DonorTime.com) or CBC 937-461-3220. Any questions please contact Nancy McName

**Tonight, Praise & Worship Service** at 7:00 pm. Freewill offering for LifeWise Academy. Refreshments to follow. Handouts available at the back of the church.

**March WOC Collections**

Personal Care items for Fish Pond Food Pantry. Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Shampoo, Conditioner, Liquid hand soap, Bar Soap, Deodorant. Any questions please contact Barb Wical, Chairperson

If you have **full, queen, or king size FLAT sheets** that you no longer need, the WOC could use them for making our quilts for NALC disaster. They do not need to be in perfect condition. Please put them in the baskets in either vestibule. Thank you!!!

**Official Notice - Quarterly  
Congregational Meeting  
9:20 AM April 13, 2025**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold a quarterly congregational meeting beginning at 9:20 AM Sunday, April 13, 2025.

**Adult Sunday Morning Sunday School at 9:15      The Parables of Jesus – April and May Sundays**

Jesus' parables are timeless, powerful, and profound. Yet there is a dimension to them that can only be appreciated fully when seen through ancient Middle Eastern eyes. Drawing on remarkable cultural and historical insights from renowned New Testament and Middle East scholar Dr. Kenneth Bailey, this study explores how Jesus' audience would have understood eleven of Jesus' parables as recorded in Luke. See these great stories come to life for you.

**Mission Trip for High School Youth and Congregation Members -- Disaster Relief Rebuilding** The Luther League high school youth are inviting congregation members to join them for a mission trip to North Carolina to assist in rebuilding homes in Burnsville, NC. This summer June 19-25, 2025. Join the high school youth as you are able, it is not necessary to be there the full time. All skill levels are needed for cleanup, building, meal preparation, devotional and prayer leadership. Please let Lori Wiswell 937-538-7182 or the Pastors know of your interest and to receive more information.