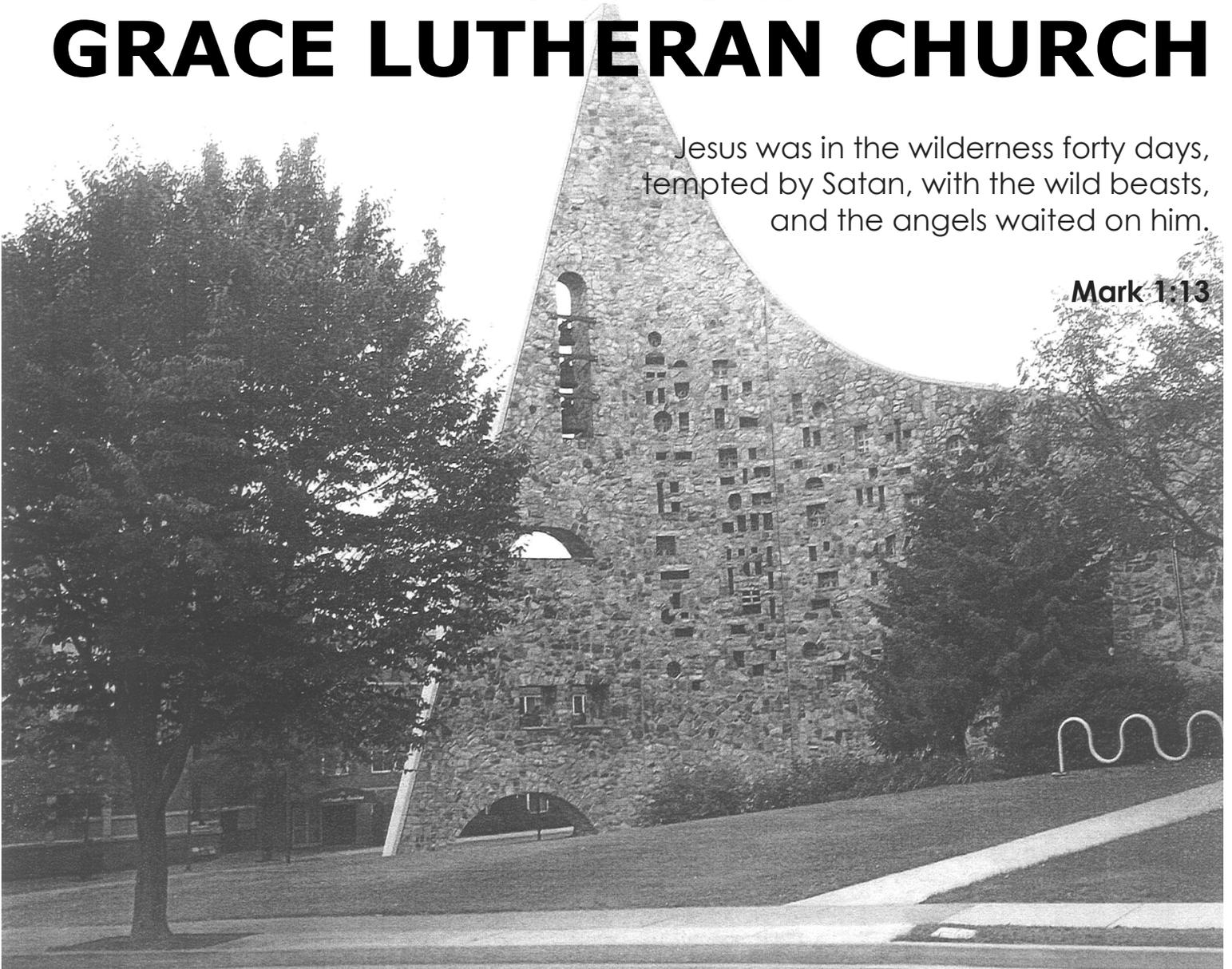


Welcome to **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Jesus was in the wilderness forty days,
tempted by Satan, with the wild beasts,
and the angels waited on him.

Mark 1:13



SUNDAY, February 21, 2021
1st Sunday in Lent

205 S. Garner St., State College, PA 16801

phone: 814-238-2478

email: churchoffice@glcpa.org

web address: www.glcpa.org

10:30 a.m. radio worship service
WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM

**A Video Edition will also be available by
7 am each Sunday at Grace's website,
Facebook page and YouTube channel.**



Our Mission Statement: *"Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to **gather, feed, and send** people in the name of Jesus Christ."*

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME... On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. 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.

A WORD ON THE READINGS... **The First Lesson:** Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures. **The Second Lesson:** As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ. **The Gospel Lesson:** The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

Forgot your checks? Not carrying cash? No worries! You can still make an offering. Go to www.glcpc.org and click the word "GIVE" on the far right to make an online credit card donation. Thank you!

MILESTONE MINISTRY AT GRACE

At Grace we celebrate milestones. Milestones are designed to connect significant occasions in people's lives with their ongoing journey of faith. A Milestone Moment brings family, friends, and congregations together to mark a special time in their lives and acknowledge and affirm God's presence in their midst. It is a tool to connect home and church in the child's and family's faith life. In addition to naming (the occasion), blessing (the person) and gifting (the gift), we send along an "At Home" sheet to reinforce the milestone with caring conversation.

Follow Grace on Social Media

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/glcstatecollege

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

YouTube:
Search for
"Grace Lutheran State College, PA"

**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church
State College, Pennsylvania**

PRELUDE *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*.....arr. Kenneth Kosche

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Congregation: Amen.

P: God Hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Kneel/Sit

P: Fountain of living water,

C: Pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleaning flood. Make us alive in the spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: Amen.

GATHER

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

GATHERING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*.....ELW # 504

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!



P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

ELW p. 156-157

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FEED

*God speaks to us in scripture reading,
and feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

MINISTRY MOMENT

FIRST LESSON.....Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

PSALM: PSALM 25— Please sing responsively from selected verses.



P: Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.

**C: Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I
trusted all | the day long.**

P: Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.

**C: Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the
sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.**

P: You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

**C: You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.**

SECOND LESSON..... 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

DISCUSSION OF THE LESSONS

HOLY GOSPEL.....Mark 1:9-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*spoken*)

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*spoken*)

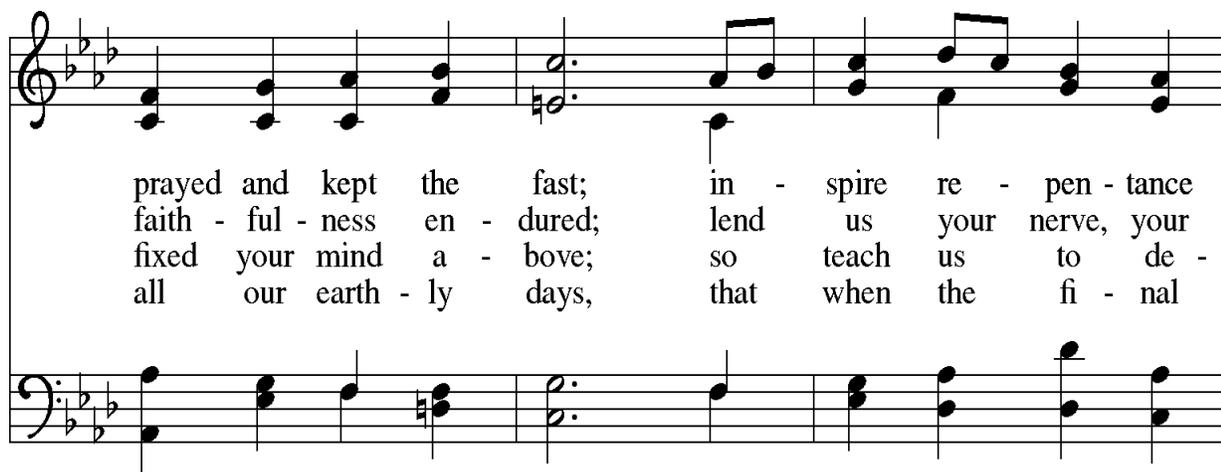
SERMON.....Pastor Hetrick

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*.....ELW # 319

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response after each petition:

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

WE SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Thy Holy Wings.....arr. Kristina Langlois

During the offertory, take a moment to thank God for all that God has provided to you. Ask God to reveal how God is calling you to share your time, treasures, and talents.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 trespass against us; 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.

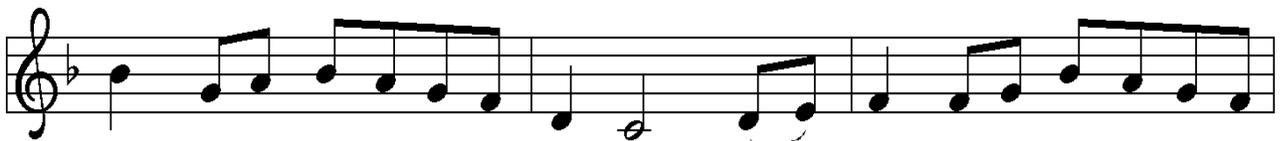
C: (ELW p. 135)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

SEND

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

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*.....Johann Pachelbel



Today's bulletin is sponsored by Spence and Vicki Garvin
Dedicated to the Glory of God

Today's radio broadcast on WRSC—1390 AM & 93.3 FM is sponsored
by Greg & Kathy Weimer
Dedicated in memory of their fathers Dalton Schrock & Ross Weimer

The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor.....pastorschul@glcpa.org
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate Pastor.pastorhetrick@glcpa.org
Cindy Fritz, Peter Horn, Faith Formation.....faithformation@glcpa.org
Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator..lsanders@glcpa.org
Nathan Glocke.....Adult Choir Director
Cynthia Mills.....Organist
Pat Lloyd & June Miller.....Pianists
Joan Kovalchik.....Flute
Karl Hosterman.....Sound Technician

The Rev. P. Stevens Lynn.....Pastor Emeritus

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20807.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved

ELW 504 – A Mighty Fortress is Our God - Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700989. All rights reserved.

ELW 319 – O Lord, throughout These Forty Days - Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700989. All rights reserved.

ELW 326 – Bless Now, O God, the Journey - Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. Used by permission. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700989. All rights reserved.

PRAYER CONCERNS for February 21, 2021

All Military & Nat'l Guard and all
serving in war-torn countries
Theresa Alves, friend of
Brenda Kim
Deb Baysinger's cousin
Sylvia Belanger, mother of
Joe Belanger
Debbie Bolthouse
Barbara Braun's niece
Mary & Phil Bucher
Andrew Campell, friend of
Pastor Schul
Ann Cathcart
Sandy Cassady
Denise Centini
Scott Cocolin
Carol Confer
Cathy Cutter
William Davies
Marie Dallery mother of
Sharon Shurgalla
Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of
Rachel Wolkenhauer
Patrick Dugan, grandson of
Paul & Kathryn Mackes
Steve Ellis
Craig Evanego
Jane Gamble, sister-in-law of
Holly Stoltzfus

Lyn Garling, friend of
Pastor Hetrick
Vicki Garvin
Mary Ann Hanelly and family,
friends of Betsy Will
Shawn Hintosh
Dick Houtz
Bob Igoe
Kate Kempf, daughter of
Pete And Angie Kempf &
granddaughter of Merle &
Kathy McCalips
June Krumrine
Paul & Sandy Larson
Linda Leslie mother of
Brianna Slane
Paul Lloyd, son of
Pat Lloyd
Shirley Lucas
Tom Lucas
Paul Mackes
Carol Major, friend of
Brenda Palmgren
Dennis McClure
Danielle McHenry
Kim Marsh
Anthony Middleton, friend of
Pastor Hetrick
Bob Miller, father of
Julie Miller
Amy Nevling

Dottie Niklos, mother of
Bob Igoe
Zach Pfeil, brother of
Megan Widener
Margie Prothro, sister of
Ed Jenkins
Sophia Reutzel
Dottie Roberts
Judy Rockey and family, upon the death
of Judy's mother Delores
Mel Rockey
Becky Rogers
Margaret Schrock, mother of
Kathy Weimer
Nancy Schuchert, mother of
Joe Schuchert
Ken Shultz
William D. Snape Sr., brother
of Phyllis Favorite
Emily & Charlotte Speary
Jack Sylves and family and
grandparents Tom and Marj Eakin
Karen Tupman, cousin of
Phyllis Favorite
Brenda & Ken Walsh
Greg Weimer

Members in the hospital



Prayer is a powerful gift and tool God gives to us. *Please pray for the request each day of the week during your daily prayer time. Just think how powerful it would be if all our members prayed for the same thing each day.*

A prayer for our own times of wilderness and temptation: "Stay at the centre of my soul, O God: be in my longing and my hurting; my hoping and my emptiness; in my eyes, and lips and heart, so that my desire to be true to you may prevail over everything else." (Angela Ashwin)

Lenten Worship Opportunities at Grace

Grace Lutheran offers a live radio broadcast of worship each Sunday morning at 10:30 am on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM and on smart devices. Grace also offers weekly prerecorded video worship services, which are available by 7:00 am every Sunday morning on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

In the “Pocketful Of Grace” podcast each Wednesday, Pastor Schul and Pastor Hetrick discuss the upcoming Sunday lessons. It is available on our website or through Spotify, Tune In/Alexa, and iTunes. Wherever you go, take along a Pocketful of Grace.



6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Lenten Prayer— Each Wednesday, beginning on February 24, 2021, the pastors will lead a 15 minute contemplative evening prayer service by candlelight. You can access the service by going to our website, www.glcpa.org and clicking on the blue triangle on the right hand side of the page. It will take you to our YouTube channel, “Grace Lutheran State College, PA.” At the top you will see Worship videos and the first category will say “Wednesday Evening Prayer.” The service is recorded for viewing at other times too.

Wednesday Audio Bible Studies Each Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. a new audio discussion of the upcoming Sunday’s Bible lessons is led by the pastors. You can tune in and listen by going to our website, www.glcpa.org and clicking on Sermons in the upper right hand corner. Just below the picture of the cross on that page you will see “Listen to Grace Podcasts here!” Click HEAR PODCASTS and catch up with prayers, questions and discussion.

Bright Spots



Many thanks to the Grace Church family for your inspirational stories of your [“Bright Spots”](#) for this year’s [Lenten Devotional booklet](#).

“Bright Spots” is now available for pickup in Grace’s main entrance. Pickup hours are Mon. – Thur. between 8 am and 2 pm, and Friday 8 am to noon or if you would like to have a book mailed to you please contact Sally Keiser-Bankert by email at sallykb@verizon.net. The devotional booklet is also available on our website at www.glcpa.org. Our Faith Formation website is offering a devotion each day at www.glcfaithformation.org and our Facebook page is offering a devotion a day.

Garden of Readin' March 16 - The March meeting of Garden of Read-in' (women's book club) will be Tuesday March 16 at 10:30 am remotely via Zoom. The next book is *The Address Book: What Street Addresses Reveal about Identity, Race, Wealth and Power* by Deirdre Mask (2021 selection for Centre County Reads). The discussion will be facilitated by Laura Pauley. Contact Laura Pauley (llp1@psu.edu) or Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net) for more info.



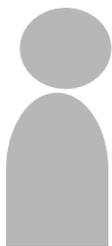
2021 Offering Envelopes are here

The 2021 offering envelopes are located in the Narthex in the coat rack area at the top of the stairs from the main entrance. They are available for pick up Monday thru Thursday from 8 am till 2 pm and Friday 8 am to noon. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. Please check that the envelope number on the top of the box matches the number located in the little window on the front of the box. If they do not match please contact the church office immediately. If you have signed up for ACH or are using Tithley and on longer using offering envelopes please let the church office know so we can re-assign the envelope number as needed.

Dear Fellow Grace Members, the Interfaith Human Services' Furniture Coordinator reports that furniture donations have been down lately and inventory at the warehouse is running low. If you have gently used furniture or large electric appliances to donate please contact the IHS office at 234-7731 to arrange a "COVID safe" pick-up. There is a desperate need for beds, dressers, sofas, and appliances.

Word in Season devotional booklets available – If you would like to receive a copy of the Word in Season devotional booklets for January, February and March, you can pick up a copy in a basket on the waiting area bench inside the main entrance at Grace. Alternatively, Sally Keiser-Bankert will be happy to mail you a copy upon request. Please contact her via email at sallykb@verizon.net .

Adult Forum Sundays 9:30-10:30 am via Zoom



Any adult is welcome to join us anytime—no preparation needed. Contact Dotty Delafield (readoooodles@me.com) for a zoom link to the class.

Join Us
as your schedule allows and
topics are of interest!





Grace will host Out of the Cold guests from the evening of March 8 to the morning of March 22.

OOTC now has staff to cover the overnights. Otherwise, our responsibilities as host are similar to what we did in the past.

Thanks to those of you that signed up to donate of the items we needed.

--WE STILL NEED

- people to unload and reload the truck
- breakfasts - "Grab and Go" style
- hospitality hosts to chat with our guests
- registration hosts
- dinners
- help with morning clean up

Please sign up via Signup Genius:

Volunteers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AEAF2EA4F5C52-outofthe>

Supply requests have been filled and can be dropped off before March 8th. Drop offs can be made Monday thru Thursday from 8am to 2pm and Fridays from 8am to noon at the cart and bin located inside the Main Entrance.

Support Grace's Ministry: Grace's church building may be closed, but Christ's Church remains vibrantly open! Grace needs your continued financial support in order to fund all of our ministries. You may continue to mail your offerings to Grace. Tithe.ly also provides a secure way to provide your offering via any major credit card. Visit www.glcpa.org and click on the GIVE button at the top of the page. If you set up an account with Tithe.ly using your Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, Discover, or Diners Club card, you can support our ministries even when you cannot be present. Finally, a form for Direct Debit giving (via your bank) is available on our website at <https://tinyurl.com/yx8andkj>; just mail it to **Grace Lutheran Church at 205 South Garner Street, State College, 16801**. That is the absolute best way to provide for the regular funding of all that we do here at Grace to the glory of God and the service of our neighbors. Thank you for your commitment to our ministries during this challenging time.



2021 sponsorships needed for bulletins – Radio sponsorship slots have all been filled. Thank you. The available dates that remain for the bulletin sponsorship are: May 30th, Nov. 7th, 21st, 28th, Dec. 5th and Dec. 25th. Bulletins can be sponsored in honor of, in memory of or to the Glory of God. The cost is \$25.00 for each sponsorship. For details, or to sign up, contact Sheri Rider, our Office Manager, at srider@glcpa.org or call the church office at 238-2478.

Just a note about the contribution statements: Due to a software error some 2020 giving statements show information regarding your building fund pledge. Please disregard this information because the building campaign has ended.



State College Food Bank I'm always amazed that I can be hungry again three hours after a satisfying meal. It's true for me just as it is for you and our many neighbors who are hungry. Please join us in donating to the State College Food Bank via Grace. Contributions may be made via postal mail to our church office with SC Food Bank on the memo line of your check, or electronically via Tithe.ly on the GIVE page of our website, www.glcpa.org.



February Bucket Collection recipient: Out of the Cold

OOTC is a local ministry caring for the homeless and has provided nightly shelter throughout the pandemic, found housing for some of the homeless particularly vulnerable to COVID, and kept the day shelter open. Thirteen local participating churches continue to provide shelter for up to twenty people each evening. Grace will host in March. Contributions for the Bucket Collection may be made via postal mail to our church office with OOTC on the memo line of your check, or electronically via Tithe.ly on the GIVE page of our website, www.glcpa.org.



Substitute Teacher Positions for 2020-2021

Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten (GLPK) is searching for substitute teacher's aides and teachers for the 2020-2021 school year. No experience is necessary for the substitute teacher's aides positions. Substitute teachers with a bachelor's degree in elementary education or early childhood education is beneficial, but not required. Send cover letter and resume to Cathy Smarkusky, GLPK Director, at csmarkusky@glcpa.org or call her at 238-8110 for more information.

Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten is now accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school-year.

If you would like more information about our school and programs please contact us at 238-8110 or glpk@glcpa.org.



Faith 5™

-  **SHARE** a "high" and a "low" – what's been the best part of your day, and what's been the hardest part of your day.
-  **READ** from God's Word. A Scripture verse or story will be provided and read by the glow of the fire.
-  **TALK** about the meaning of God's living Word and how it speaks to your life – maybe even your highs and lows – at this time.
-  **PRAY** with and for one another and the world, lifting one another in prayer and praising the God of life and love.
-  **BLESS** with simple words and a cross traced upon each others' foreheads, we remind one another that we belong to the living God.

FEBRUARY 21, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT



God's mercy conquers evil.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 1:9-15	Temptation of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 9:8-17	God's promise to Noah
Tuesday	1 Peter 3:18-22	Suffering for doing right
Wednesday	2 Samuel 24:10-17	Judgment on David's sin
Thursday	Titus 3:1-11	Maintain good deeds
Friday	Hebrews 4:14-16	Jesus is the great high priest
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	Prayer for guidance
Sunday	Mark 8:31-38	Jesus predicts his death

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Psalm 25:6 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, thank you for entering our lives and our world to confront all that is opposed to your reign of mercy through Christ, your Beloved Son. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this gift of food, let us remember your steadfast love and mercy that gives us life that we may live with hope. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God lead you in truth and teach you the way of Christ our Lord. (Psalm 25:5)



© 2020 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*O Lord, Throughout These
Forty Days*

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How would you describe evil?
- Tell or think about a time you felt tested or tempted to do something wrong.
- Jesus was tested by Satan. How is Jesus' confronting Satan in the wilderness a story of hope?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 1:9-15.

This text is a fitting beginning for the season of Lent. At Jesus' baptism God intervenes by opening up the heavens and speaking of Jesus as God's Beloved Son. Jesus is thrown into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to confront Satan, the personification of all that opposes God's reign. Jesus endures, and he is cared for by the angels of God. Jesus then begins his own public ministry following the arrest of John the Baptist. John's experience is a precursor to Jesus' own betrayal and arrest to fulfill all that God intends to do through the Beloved Son. And, then, Jesus goes out to do the work of the kingdom, the reign of God that has not been stopped by Satan and will not be stopped, ever. The preaching is simple: repent and believe in the good news of God's reign. Repentance is not about remorse but about turning around and going in another direction, toward God and what God can and will do. This Lent, we are reminded to trust the work of God that will defeat everything opposed to God's rule of steadfast love and mercy. How will you repent and focus on the reign of God in your life and in the world?

Pray: Almighty and merciful God, help us to trust your reign present now and forevermore through Jesus, your Beloved Son and our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

The story of Noah and the flood is a difficult story to grasp. The point of the story is that God's demand for justice (the flood) is finally outdone by God's mercy (a new beginning for creation for those on the ark). Justice does not stand alone. It needs mercy, especially in our world where no human has the wisdom of God to judge. Do you know someone who needs a word of mercy? Write a note to that person and pray for them this week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent is a season filled with traditions that focus on discipline and discipleship. Choose a devotional space in your home. Consider laying out a purple cloth (the color for repentance and Lent) and place a candle and Bible on it. Read the *Daily Bible Readings*. Use the *Prayer for the Week* and add your own prayers. End the time by saying: Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org