



**First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025**

**Grace Lutheran Church
40 N. Main St., Hatfield, PA 19440**

Rev. Nancy M. Raabe, Pastor
Susanna Faust, Minister of Music
Annette Dittman, Director of Youth Ministries
Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator
Jessica Moran, Stepping Stones Director

Lent is our time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares.

Prelude: Prelude for Piano

by **Julia Perry**

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **C. Amen.**

P. Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our
hearts, let us confess our sin.



Merciful God,

C. you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

**Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P. God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the
waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **C. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

GREETING

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.**

Cantor first, All repeat in harmony each time

1. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.
 2. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.
 3. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.
 Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.
 Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C. Amen**

WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried



to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

God will give the an - gels
charge o - ver you, to guard you in all your ways.

- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—
- ² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust.” R**
- ⁹ Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,
- ¹⁰ **no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**
- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.
- ¹² **Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. R**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.

¹⁴ **I will deliver those who | cling to me;**
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I | satisfy them,**
and show them | my salvation. R

Second Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b} “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message (10:30 a.m.)

Annette Dittman

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Unity Mass, Norah Duncan

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Lent: O glo - ry to you, O Word of God,

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Lord Je - sus Christ, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

P. The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the 4th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹ and

‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P. The gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Just Say No

Pastor Nancy Raabe



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
 2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
 3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
 trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
 trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Apostles' Creed

P. Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

**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

To the petition "God of grace," please respond, "Hear our prayer."



GREETING OF THE PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always. **C. And also with you.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING

The offering is collected at this time by the ushers, who will pass the offering plates. You may also use this QR code to give using your credit card, or text a gift to Grace at 844-613-0815. We rely on your gifts to sustain Grace and all its ministries. Forms for electronic giving are in the narthex or ask us for help.



Music at the Offering: De Colores

Spanish Folk Song

Grace Choir, Cathy Farrell, solo

OFFERTORY

Musical score for Offertory, featuring two systems of music. The first system includes the lyrics: "There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to make the wound - ed whole,". The second system includes the lyrics: "there is a balm in Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul." The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). Chords are indicated above the staff: F, Bb, F, C7 in the first system, and F, Bb, F/C, C7, F in the second system.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **C. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....and join their unending hymn:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Unity Mass, Norah Duncan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:...

In the night in which he was betrayed...

P. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C. Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C. Our Father, who art in heaven....

Invitation to Communion

P. All who are hungry, come!

The feast of grace is spread.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

Unity Mass, Norah Duncan



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: On Eagle's Wings

Please stand.

TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.

BENEDICTION

God our tender creator, God the crucified one, God the reconciling
Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **C. Amen.**



DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Go Down, Moses

**by W.C. Handy
(1873-1958)**

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Serving today - Thank you!!

Preacher and Presider: Pastor Nancy Raabe

Minister of Music: Susanna Faust

Lector: 8:00, Walter Family; 10:30, B. Hess

Ushers: 8:00, Walter Family;

10:30, J. Krout & K. Deussing

Communion Asst: 8:00, Seilers; 10:30, B. Hess

Altar Guild: 8:00, W. Walter; 10:30, E. Woltmann

Acolyte: 8:00, Usher; 10:30, Usher

Coffee Hour: Cathy Farrell

Council Offering & Lockup: 8:00, TBD;

10:30, T. Salter

Video Team: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

NEXT WEEK

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The covenant with Abram and his descendants

Psalm 27

In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior

Luke 13:31-35

I have desired to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood

Grace Lutheran Church

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