



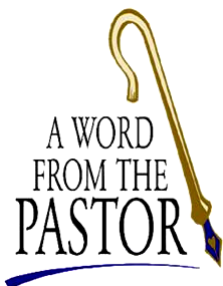
April  
2022

# GRACE MESSENGER

Grace Lutheran Church, an ELCA Congregation  
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Keith Voigts - Church Council President  
Sunday School - 9:00 am Adults & Youth  
Worship & Communion 10:00 a.m.  
Office Hours: Pastor Dave 9-12 Tues. - Friday  
Staff, Tues. All day - Wednesday 8-12,  
Thursday 12-4 & Friday 8-12  
Please call to make sure someone is in the office.



As we enter into **Holy Week** and continue our journey to the Cross with Jesus, may we intensify our prayers for the wellbeing of the Church of God and for the unity of all. We pray earnestly that the brutal murders and acts of oppression imposed on the **people of Ukraine** by Russia come to an immediate end. We pray that the senseless shootings and terror in our **own country** cease. We pray that all acts of hate and violence be replaced by expressions of love and kindness. We pray for the **healing of the nations**, including our own. Lord, in your mercy.... **Hear our Prayer!**

I have often thought about what it must have felt like for Jesus when, after a grand and triumphal entry into Jerusalem, a few days later he was crucified on a cross. On Palm Sunday he heard "Hosanna!" and on Good Friday he heard "Crucify him!" He entered the warm, friendly gate of the Holy City one day, and the cold foreboding gate of a tomb five days later. What a contrast! A first century "roller coaster" ride!

Sometimes I think life is like that in general for most of the us. Some days we experience joy and jubilation; other days we face sorrow and trepidation. The Roller Coaster of Life not only has steep hills and plunging depths; there are usually many curves and twists in between. However (and there is *always* a "however"), we are *not riding alone!* Jesus has promised to travel this life with us and bring us into the life to come. He knows every inch of the "Roller Coaster" because He has "been there; done that!" Even in the midst of all the savagery and inhumane actions occurring in the world, and even in the face of apathy and rejection of the love God has for all of us, God's Grace and Mercy still flows freely and abundantly!

So let us savor all the deep and wondrous mysteries and contrasts of Holy Week. And may we never forget or for a moment doubt just how much God loves us. All of us. Everywhere. For all time.

Amen!

*In Christ,  
Pastor Dave*



## Readings for April

| Date | Sundays                          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading                          | Psalm          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading | Gospel               |
|------|----------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 3    | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. in Lent     | Isa 43:16-21                                     | 126            | Phil 3:4b-14            | John 12:1-8          |
| 10   | Palm Sunday                      | Isa 50:4-9a                                      | 31:9-16        | Phil 2:5-11             | John 12:12-19        |
| 14   | Maundy Thursday                  | Ex 12:1-14                                       | 116:1-2, 12-19 | 1 Cor 11:23-26          | John 13:1-17, 31b-35 |
| 15   | Good Friday                      | <i>Tenebrae Service and Words from the Cross</i> |                |                         |                      |
| 17   | Res. of Our Lord                 | Isa 65:17-25                                     | 118:1-2, 14-24 | Acts 10:34-43           | Luke 24:1-12         |
| 2    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter | Acts 5:27-32                                     | 150            | Revelation 1:4-8        | John 20:19-31        |

## Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers for....

Kevin Baker, Gracie Blair, Jennifer Bonstaff, Jim Bryant, John Bull, Family of Charles Busby, Don Bridges, Jan Bruner, Lonnie Calvin, Margaret Cannon, Sharon Cates, Charissa, Cynthia Chadwyck, Meredith Clark, Vivian & Mike Collins, Alice Crandall, Cole Crane, Bill Creasy, Susan Cross, Stan Cross, Robert Crowley, Richard Cuevas, Alvin Culberson, Gina Dale, Timothy Davis, Toni Davis, Christie Deshotel, Amberly Favre, Azalee Fullmer, Gene Gaddy, Emily Galloway, Madelyn Gordon, Vickey Gordon, Joe & Jonathan Gray, John Guthans, Brandy Haydin, Devon/Emily Head, Steve Hiles, Brenda Hiles, Sherry Holbrook, Pat Holliday, Ann Holliday, Mike Hughes, Peggy Jefcoat, Mike Johnson, Carmela Jones, Sarah Koehn, Cheryl Lacey, Rachel Lacey, Breanna Ladner, Carrie Ladner, Patti Lastorka, Danny Leggett Patricia Lindsey, Lois Long, George Lorricks, Jr., Betty Marshall, Gloria Mays, Glen McElwee, Nancy Mills, Cindy Mitchell, Val Mueller, Johnney Odom, Mike/Kathy Pearson, Patience Poupart, Pat Pruitt, Lucy Puckett, Christopher Ryan, Karen/Bud Samuelson, Kim Schultz, Kay Shushan, Corky Sidell, Ryder Simoneaux, Rachel Singleton, Ruth Spera, Mike Spurlock, Larry Strohsack, Fred Tagge, John Thompson, Maggie Tirrell, Jeff Turner, Fred Turrentine, Juanita Vann, Brantley West, Janyce Westerman, Dolly Williams, Larry Wilson, Hope Wood

**Prayers of thanksgiving for assistance provided for others:** Richard and Linda Mueller and Pat Holiday to Emily Galloway  
**Deployed & Active Military ~ Victims of Domestic Abuse ~ All who have been furloughed. ~ All Medical Personnel and First Responders.**

## A Message from the President

*For those of you who were in church on March 27, as well as those who were not, I am again appealing to our members for volunteers to our Synod Assembly (not a "meeting") the first weekend in June. Expenses will be paid for the trip to Chattanooga, TN. for the long weekend. This annual get together of SE Synod Lutheran churches is to do the business of the Synod by electing officers and considering resolutions, but it is more than that. Lots of breakout meetings to discuss issues of our times are really interesting. The religious services are really moving, with great music, great speakers and the blessing of worshiping with a large crowd of like minded believers. The entire weekend is a really uplifting experience, and you will receive the satisfaction of helping lead the Synod. Please see Pastor or me with questions and discussions of how you might participate in the process.*

## Mutual Ministry ~ Art Speck



Grace Lutheran, Don't forget about your Mutual Ministry Committee we are here for YOU Comments/Suggestions/Complaints/Compliments come see or talk to one of us: Pastor Dave, Art Speck, Don West, Dolores Dupont, Danny Sween, Roy Puckett, and Barbara Gaines.

# Thank you for serving in April!

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christians welcoming and serving

The marks of discipleship are to:

- \*Pray daily \*Worship weekly
- \*Serve your church & community
- \*Relate to others in a small group
- \*Read the Bible
- \*Give a tithe and beyond

## READERS

- 3 Barb Gaines
- 10 Candis Raif
- 14 Candis Raif
- 15 Good Friday
- 24 Art Speck

## ASSISTING MINISTER

- 3 Mary West
- 10 Ron Schmidting
- 14 Kevin Schultz
- 15 Keith Voigts
- 17 Mary West
- 24 Jerry Luzadder

## COMMUNION ASST.

- 3 Babs
- 10 Pete Raif
- 14 Pete Raif
- 17 Carrie Carrubba
- 24 TBD

## ACOLYTES

Please Volunteer

## USHERS

- 3 Don/Diane Cross
- 10 Sweets
- 14 Roy Puckett
- 17 Raif/Puckett
- 24 Puckett/Raif

## TELLERS

- 3 Jarrell/Saglibene
- 10 Schultz/Seslar
- 17 Puckett/Gaines
- 24 Voigts/D. West

## ALTAR CARE

Candis Raif

## FLOWERS

- 3 No Flowers
- 10 No Flowers
- 17 Beth Romig
- 24 Dolores Dupont

## FELLOWSHIP

- 3 Birthday Celebration
- 10 Chris & Team
- 17 Easter Breakfast
- 24 Gayla Torguson



## Birthdays in April

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 5 Laura Wilson       | 19 Beth Romig     |
| 6 Dominick Miscavage | Emily Rush        |
| 8 Lucy Puckett       | MaKenzie Cross    |
| 12 Azalee Fullmer    | 20 Larry Wilson   |
| 16 Barbara Gaines    | 27 Judy Hierstein |
| 18 Richie Sween      | Barbara Kouba     |
|                      | 28 Daniel Sween   |
|                      | 30 Dylan Ladner   |



## Anniversaries in April

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 21 Mike/Carrie Carrubba | 23 Del/Colleen Budd   |
| 22 Larry/Sarah Koehn    | 30 Richie/Kayla Sween |

## Fellowship Ministry—Chris Jarrell

Join us for Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 10:00am. If you would like to bring a food item to share, such as – breakfast casserole, quiche, meat items, biscuits, muffins, etc. – there is an **EASTER BREAKFAST** sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. Let us know what you are bringing so that we can fill in where needed.

Reminder: Check the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board. Hosts are needed for fellowship time after worship. Thank you to all who provided, prepared, or served refreshments in March.



**Community Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 am at the  
Jim Simpson Pier**

## Sunday School

Sunday School will have an Easter Egg hunt for all ages on Easter Sunday. No Sunday School class Easter Sunday but we will meet in the Fellowship Hall right after church service to organize different level of ages to go outside and hunt. Please make plans to join us.

Lisa Speck





## Worship Committee - Candis Raif

Don't miss our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services this week at 7:00pm as we celebrate Holy Week.

Please join us on Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, as we worship our "Risen Savior"! Breakfast will begin at 8:30am, followed by the service at 10:00am. If you have purchased a lily or lilies, you may place your payment in your/an offering envelope and designate it "Easter Lily" on the line.

Thank you to Bishop Kevin Strickland for his inspirational message last Sunday!

**Please check the sign-up sheets in the Narthex!** We need Readers, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, Greeters, Altar Care Volunteers, Tellers and volunteers for Children's Sermons. Thanks to all who serve! **If you are interested in serving in one of these areas but are unsure what your duties would be, see me for more information!**

If you have signed up to assist in worship and are unable to serve, please find a replacement and notify me, Pastor Dave or Gloria as soon as possible by phone or email. Thank you to those who serve, all are welcome and appreciated! **Remember to arrive at least 15 minutes before the service begins if you are serving! Arriving late may mean someone else has been asked to serve in your place!**

### April Service / Liturgy Schedule

#### April 3, 2022 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (Purple)

**Gospel: John 12:1-8...** Jesus recognizes Mary's (Martha's sister) anointing of his feet with costly oil as both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial. Judas, however, sees only a waste of money.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

#### April 10, 2022 - Palm Sunday (Purple)

**Gospel: Luke 19:28-40** ... the beginning of Holy Week with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

#### April 14, 2022 – Maundy Thursday (Purple)

**Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35** ... what begins as a Passover observance becomes the basis for our Eucharist today.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 12:1-15 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

#### April 15, 2022 – Good Friday (no paraments)

Our Tenebrae service and Jesus' last words from the cross, beginning in light and ending in darkness, are a solemn remembrance, reflection, and preparation for the joy that is to come.

#### April 17, 2022 - Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday) (Gold)

**Gospel: Luke 24:1-12** ... some of the women venture to the tomb in the early morning expecting to observe burial rituals ... but instead encounter angelic visitors, an empty tomb, becoming the first witnesses to the resurrection and the first to proclaim it!

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Acts 10:34-43

#### April 24, 2022 ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter ... a/k/a "Holy Humor" Sunday

**Gospel: John 20:19-31** ... this Sunday always recounts the second appearance of Jesus to the disciples – this time with Thomas as part of the group.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 150 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

### Mid-week Worship Schedule

Shared Meal at 6 pm

Midweek Worship, with communion ... in person & on Zoom at 7 pm.

**Final Midweek Lenten Service: April 6 Midweek Services April 20 and 27**

