



**Welcome to
Grace Lutheran Church
April 3rd, 2026
Founded 1924**



~HYMN - THE LAMB

The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price!

Worthy is the Lamb
whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heaven His praise to sing.

Worthy is the Lamb
whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

**~IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON,
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AMEN~**

~THE INVITATION

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us. God the Father
in heaven, have mercy on us. God the Son, Redeemer of
the world, have mercy on us. God the Holy Spirit, have
mercy on us. Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.
Amen.

By Thy Suffering and Death, By the hurt of Judas'
treachery, By the pain of Peter's denial, By the sweat of
blood, By the agony of soul, By the robe of purple and
crown of thorns, By the bit of the whip and the lash of the
scourge, By the way of the Cross, By the nails and your
thirst, By the blood that stained the Holy Road, by the
travail of Thy soul!

By Thy expiring cry, By Thy triumph in death, O dying Redeemer, hear us. From the hardness of heart and darkness of soul, From coldness of mind, From trampling thy blood on the way of sin, From driving the nails again, From crucifying Thee anew, From forgetfulness of Thy great sorrow, From the loneliness of life without Thee, From greed and ambition, From lust of the eye and the pride of life, From the burden of remembered sin, From the cunning of men, From hate, From a jealous heart, From the sin of unbelief, O living Redeemer, deliver us for the heart of man today that is afraid, For the sick of body to ease their pain, For the sick of mind to lighten their gloom, For the sick of soul to bring them forgiveness, For them who weep alone, For the soul that knows not Thee, For all who make known Thy way upon earth, For all who love Thy Holy Name, For all Thy Church in all the world.

Thou King of Principalities and Powers Dominions, of Thrones, Thou Lord of Cherubim and Seraphim, of Angels and Archangels, Thou Prince of Peace and Glory of Kingdoms and Empires; Oh, dying and living Redeemer, hear us we pray. Amen.

~ABSOLUTION

~HYMN - BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land,
A home within a wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat
And burdens of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus,
My eye at times can see
The very dying form of one
Who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
Two wonders I confess:
The wonder of His glorious love
And my unworthiness.

++ THE WORDS OF GATHERING ++

~Lamentations 1:12

P: All you who pass this way,

C: Look and see the shadow of sin.

P: All you who pass this way,

C: Look and see the weight of the world.

P: All you who pass this way,

C: Look and see the suffering of our Savior.

P: All you who pass this way,

C: Look and see the sorrow of Jesus Christ. Behold the
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world..

P: The Lord be with you

C: and also with you.

~HYMN - GLORY BE TO JESUS

Glory be to Jesus,
Who, in bitter pains,
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem.

++ THE SHADOW OF HATRED ++

~Luke 23: 32-44

“Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.”

~PRAYER -

All: Forgiving Christ, when the world condemns us, when wrong is done to us, when we carry the weight of things that are too much to forgive, come alongside us in the darkness, and give us the grace to be forgiven and forgiving. Amen.

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~HYMN - CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love!
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity.
Love that found me – wondrous thought –
Found me when I sought Him not.

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE SHADOW OF REPENTANCE ++

~Luke 23: 35-43

And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

~PRAYER -

All: Reconciling Christ, we are weighed down by sin and separation, a world that is not at peace, people who are not whole. You reached out to the thief, you welcomed him to God's side. Come alongside us in the darkness, and bring grace and peace to everything that is broken. Remember me in Your mercy as You remembered the thief beside You. Amen.

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE SHADOW OF SORROW ++

~John 19: 23-27

“When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, “They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.” So this is what the soldiers did. Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her “Woman, here is your son” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.”

~THE HOMILY

~PRAYER -

All: Loving Jesus, we carry the weight of the people we love, concern for their sorrows and suffering. Our care for them is deep, and sometimes there is not much we can do. Come alongside us in the darkness, and cradle the ones we love in your strong hands. Amen.

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~HYMN - WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE SHADOW OF DESPAIR ++

~Mark 15: 33-34

“And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~PRAYER -

All: Lord Jesus Christ, you know what it is to feel that God is far away. You know what it is to call out for God's presence. You know what it is to live in the shadow of forsakenness. Come alongside us in the darkness, and help us call out in faith. Reassure us that never, ever will we be forsaken as You were. Amen.

~THE LORD'S PRAYER -

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.

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE SHADOW OF SUFFERING ++

~John 19: 28-29

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said to fulfill the Scripture, "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth."

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~HYMN - THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

In the old rugged cross,
stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross
Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

To the old rugged cross, I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

~PRAYER -

All: Suffering Savior, in all our thirst, in all our sickness, in all our longing, in all our pain, you are there. Come alongside us in the darkness and walk with us through all our suffering. My soul thirsts for you in this dry and weary place.

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE SHADOW OF SURRENDER ++

~John 19:30

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

~PRAYER -

Jesus, You hung upon a cross and died for us so that we might live for You. Your body was pierced and Your blood shed so that we might be healed and made whole. You were faithful unto death so that we might be faithful in life. Your last command was that we might love one another. One family together from every tribe and nation. A new creation united through Your sacrifice, redeemed by Your blood, healed by Your love, united by Your covenant of peace. In Your death may we find life. Amen.

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

~HYMN - O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED

O sacred head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory,
What bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call Thee mine.

What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
Oh, make me Thine forever,
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
Outlive my love to Thee.

++ THE SHADOW OF DEATH ++

~Luke 23: 44-49

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~PRAYER -

All: Father, into whose hands Your Son Jesus commended His spirit, grant that we, too, following His example, may in all of life and at the moment of our death entrust our lives into Your faithful and fatherly hands of love. In the name of Jesus who gave His life for me. Amen.

++ THE LIGHT DEPARTS THE SHADOW DEEPENS ++

++ THE BURIAL ++

~Matthew 27: 57-60

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.

~THE TIME FOR SILENCE~

~HYMN - WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble,

tremble, tremble,

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

++ A MOMENT FOR MEDITATION ++

O come and mourn with me awhile; O come ye to the Savior's side; O come, together let us mourn; Jesus, our love, is crucified. Have we no tears to shed for him, while soldiers scoff and foes deride? Ah! Look how patiently he hangs; Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

How fast his hands and feet are nailed; his blessed tongue with thirst is tied, his failing eyes are blind with blood; Jesus, our Love, is crucified. Seven times seven he spoke, seven words of love; and all three hours his silence cried for mercy on the souls of men; Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

O break, O break, hard heart of mine! Thy weak self-love and guilty pride his Pilate and his Judas were: Jesus, our Love, is crucified. A broken heart, a fount of tears, ask, and they will not be denied; a broken heart love's cradle is: Jesus, our Love, is crucified. O love of God! O sin of man! In this dread act your strength is tried; and victory remains with love; for he, our Love, is crucified.

**++ When all have spoken a silent prayer,
let them depart in silence ++**

Join us for worship again:

Easter Sunday – Celebration Service at 10am;

Breakfast begins at 8:30am

