

# First Sunday in Lent

*Our Mission: Love Jesus and help others love Him through word and actions.*

## Grace Lutheran Church *Contemporary Worship*



February 22, 2026  
9:00 a.m.



## ***Welcome in the name of Jesus!***

We are happy you're here. We pray that the Lord will bless your time of worship with us and give you peace in the week ahead. Newcomers are our special guests and we ask that you sign the register at the entrance to help us get to know you and be sure to pick up a gift bag from our welcome desk at each entrance.

### **Introduction**

*Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*

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*\*Please stand as you are able.*

# GATHERING

## Welcome

### Gathering Songs

#### *Refiner's Fire*

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver;  
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

#### **Chorus:**

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy,  
set apart for You, Lord.

I choose to be holy, set apart for You, my Master,  
ready to do Your will.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy;  
Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin deep within.

**(sing Chorus twice)**

#### *You Raise Me Up*

#### **Verse 1**

When I am down and oh my soul's so  
weary  
When troubles come and my heart bur-  
dened be  
Then I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until You come and sit a while with me

#### **Verse 2**

There is no life no life without its hunger  
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly  
But when You come and I am filled with  
wonder  
Sometimes I think I glimpse eternity

#### **(Chorus)**

#### **Chorus**

You raise me up  
So I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up  
To walk on stormy seas  
I am strong when I am on Your shoulders  
You raise me up to more than I can be

#### **Ending**

I am strong when I am on Your shoulders  
You raise me up to more than I can be  
You raise me up to more than I can be

## Announcements, God and Me Moments, Greeting each other

### \*We Gather To Worship

**C: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.**

L: Happy are those to whom God attributes no wrong, those in whose heart there is no deceit.

**C: When we keep silent about our wrongdoings, our lives disintegrate with worry and guilt;**

L: when we struggle to hide from God, the heaviness in our hearts consumes our strength.

**C: But when we seek your truth, O God, and acknowledge our sin, we experience your forgiveness.**

### \*Opening Prayer

L: God of revelation, unveil your Kingdom in our midst. Show us who we truly are in you: expose the illusions that distort our vision, deliver us from temptations that contort our living, open our eyes in this time of trial – that resistance may be the secret of our joy and our joy a sign of your shalom.

**C: Amen.**

**Young Person's Song:** *Rejoice in the Lord always*

**Young People's Message**

## WORD

**New Testament Reading: Romans 5:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one

man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

### **\*Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup> But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'  
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Word of God for the People of God

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Song**

***We Believe***

**Verse 1**

In this time of desperation  
When all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only one foundation  
We believe we believe  
In this broken generation  
When all is dark You help us see  
There is only one salvation  
We believe we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father  
We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion  
We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection  
And He's coming back again  
We believe

**Verse 2**

So let our faith be more than anthems  
Greater than the songs we sing  
In our weakness and temptations  
We believe we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father  
We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion  
We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection  
And He's coming back again

**Bridge**

Let the lost be found and the dead be  
raised  
In the here and now let love invade  
Let the church live loud our God will save  
We believe we believe  
And the gates of hell will not prevail  
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil  
Now we know Your love will never fail  
We believe we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father  
We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion  
We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection  
And He's coming back, He's coming back  
again!

**Ending**

He's coming back again  
We believe we believe

**Time of Offering** *If you would like to give electronically please scan the PayPal QR code in the front of the bulletin.*

**Offering Response Song**                      *Instrumental*

**Prayer of thanks for our offering**

L: God of the wilderness,

L: We give these offerings in gratitude,

**C: rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.**

L: We give these offerings in faith,

**C: trusting that you will provide for our needs.**

L: We give these offerings in hope,

**C: knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.**

L: And with these offerings, we give ourselves;

**C: May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen.**

**Prayers for the Community and the World**

L: Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus: .....Hear us, O God,

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**\*Confession**

**C: How happy are those whose wrongs are forgiven, whose sin is no longer held against them! How happy are those who no longer lie—to themselves or to anyone else. When we refuse to admit our sin, it eats away at us, little by little, weakening us in body and soul. So, let's come before God with our prayers of confession. Let's lay before God the sin that is weighing us down, so that we can be freed from its burden and receive God's mercy and love.**

**Words of Assurance**

L: God, you are our hiding place! Your unfailing love surrounds us, and you fill our hearts with songs of joy! Continue to guide us in the way we should go, and watch over us, so that our lives may bring honor to your name.

**C: Amen.**

# MEAL

## \*Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## \*Words of Institution

### *\*Lords Prayer (Its Yours)*

#### Verse

Father let your kingdom come (holy holy)  
Father let your will be done  
On Earth as in Heaven (let it be done)  
Right here in my heart

#### Chorus

Give us this day our daily bread  
Forgive us forgive us  
As we forgive the ones who sinned  
Against us forgive them  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from the evil one  
Let your kingdom come

#### Verse

#### Bridge

It's yours it's yours  
All yours all yours  
The kingdom the power  
The glory are yours  
It's yours it's yours  
All yours all yours  
Forever and ever  
The kingdom is yours

#### Verse

#### Tag

On Earth as in Heaven  
Right here in my heart

## Communion

We will commune beginning with those people on the right side of the sanctuary, facing the altar. We will serve communion via intinction; meaning, you will receive a piece of gluten free bread and then dip the bread either in the wine or grape juice. Pastor will serve the wine. The worship leader will serve the grape juice. When the last person in the row in front of you has vacated their pew, please follow behind them. Once all on the right side has communed, the left side begins. All who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome to commune. If you prefer a prepackaged communion, it is located on the left side, first pew in a bowl. All wafers are low gluten and are approved for celiacs disease with less than 20 PPM gluten. They meet the FDA standard for "gluten free".

## **Communion Invitation**

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

## **Communion Song**

### ***People, Turn to God***

#### **Refrain**

People people hear the words i say  
People people bow your heads and pray  
He gave his son for us!  
He died upon the cross!  
So people people turn to god today.

#### **Verse 1**

From bethlehem god's son came to earth  
as just a babe  
From child to man he grew into our king.  
He died upon the cross taking all our sins  
from us  
He rose from death that we may live with  
him!

#### **Refrain**

#### **Verse 2**

I'm thankful most to god for the gift he  
gave to us  
His only son who died upon the cross.  
Let's praise god's holy name as we wor-  
ship him today  
Rise up people rise up and live for him!

#### **Refrain**

## **Communion Blessing**

P: ... strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING

## Sending message

### Verse 1

Lord I come I confess  
Bowing here I find my rest  
And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart

### Chorus

Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

### Verse 2

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me  
Where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me *(Chorus)*

### Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay *(Chorus)*

### Tag

My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

## \*Sending Song

*Lord, I Need You*

## Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Remember Fellowship after each service in the Fellowship Hall. Come and have some snacks and chat a bit.

## PSALM: Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions <sup>1</sup> are forgiven, and whose sin is <sup>1</sup> put away! <sup>2</sup> Happy are they to whom the LORD im- <sup>1</sup> puts no guilt, and in whose spirit there <sup>1</sup> is no guile! <sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones with- <sup>1</sup> ered away, because of my groaning <sup>1</sup> all day long. <sup>4</sup> For your hand was heavy upon me <sup>1</sup> day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the <sup>1</sup> heat of summer. <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- <sup>1</sup> ceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you for- gave me the guilt <sup>1</sup> of my sin. <sup>6</sup> Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in <sup>1</sup> time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they <sup>1</sup> shall not reach them. <sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve <sup>1</sup> me from trouble; you surround me with shouts <sup>1</sup> of deliverance. <sup>8</sup> "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that <sup>1</sup> you should go; I will guide you <sup>1</sup> with my eye. <sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no <sup>1</sup> understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will <sup>1</sup> not stay near you."  
<sup>10</sup> Great are the tribulations <sup>1</sup> of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD. <sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice <sup>1</sup> in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are <sup>1</sup> true of heart.

## FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the gar- den, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the wom- an, "You will not die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

## Remember in Your Prayers and Visits

Viva Senior Care: June Peishel

The Groves: Evelyn Lorenz

Homebound: Julia Stockstill, Sy Moua, Kris Brenner, Pam Williams, Caryl Thompson, Penny Frew, Annie Long, Dawn Pennington.

If you have a minute — Please send a card to one of our members who is homebound or in assisted living. They've been isolated from family and friends for months, and are struggling with loneliness.

**Members:** Terry Domm, Vickie Kitts, Stan & Annie Long, James Bauman, Julia and Scott Stockstill, Lois Szluha, Brittany Moua, June Peishel, Valerie Hansen and her mother Grace, Anne Douglas, Pam Williams, Caryl Thompson, Sy Moua, Penny Frew, Kris Brenner.

**Friends and Family:** Saylor Lopez, David Ensley, Bernice Moore, Jim Crumley III, Betty Dreyer, Zoe Moore, Pat Ryan, Rafael Rivera, Elizabeth Stone.

**Missionaries:** David and Alicia Brondos, and all members of Grace Church.

**Our Guatemalan Companion Synod Partners:** Pastor Karen Castillo, her sister Ms. Beatriz Castillo and son Diego.

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Vicki Quraishi passed away on Friday, February 6, 2026.

Please keep the family in prayer; sisters Carolyn Urban, Lyndah Juneman and Christy Nason, daughter Atiya Zach and their families as they mourn her death.

***God in your mercy, hear our prayers.***

# This Week at Grace

## **Monday, February 23**

10:00 -12:00pm	ESOL Beginners Class	Room 210
7:00-9:00pm	Dixieland Band rehearsal	Choir Room
7:00-8:00pm	Poetry Pie	Online

## **Tuesday, February 24**

9:00- 11:00am	ESOL Intermediate	Room 101
9:30 -11:30am	ESOL Beginners Class	Room 210
9:30-11:30am	ESOL Early Intermediate	Room 213
6:00 -8:00pm	ESOL Beginners Class	Room 210

## **Wednesday, February 25**

9:30-11:30am	ESOL Early Intermediate	Room 213
5:00pm	Ringspiration	Sanctuary
6:00-8:00pm	ESOL Intermediate Class	Room 210
6:15pm	Lenten service	Sanctuary
7:15pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

## **Thursday, February 26**

9:00- 11:00am	ESOL Intermediate	Room 101
9:30-11:30am	ESOL Early Intermediate	Room 213

## **Friday, February 27**

9:00am	Russian Class	Online
9:30-11:30am	ESOL Advanced	Room 101
10:00-12:00pm	Food Pantry	

## **Saturday, February 28**

11:30am	Damos family will receive friends	
2:00pm	Service for Pr. Damos	Sanctuary

## **Sunday, March 1**

9:00am	Contemporary Worship	Sanctuary
10:00am	New Creation Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00am	Adult Sunday School	Room 101
10:05am	Sunday School	JL, Room 254
11:15am	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary
12:30pm	Visit from Synod- Justin Eller	
3:00pm	ORICL Class w/ Ruth Smiley	

## Grace's Purpose Statement

Grace Lutheran is a Christian church dedicated to  
proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to a diverse community  
by loving our neighbors as ourselves,  
developing vibrant ministries to meet current and emerging needs,  
and helping people know Jesus.

### Serving Today

**Preaching and Presiding Pastor:** Rev. Rosalina Rivera

**Reader:** Rick Rawl

**Worship Leader:** Janet Rawl

**Young People's Message:** Rick Rawl

**Offering Stewards:** Betty Anne Domm, Joanne Daly

**Altar Guild:** Ruth Smiley, Julie Longoria

**Flower Guild:** Dried Arrangement

**Greeters:** Saylor Hummel, Christy Gipson



### Grace Lutheran Church

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Rev. Rosalina Rivera, Pastor

Slade Trammell, Director of Music

David Ensley, Organist

Pam Woodard, Secretary

Ingrid Busch, Sound Technician

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