

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 31, 2019**  
**8:30 A.M.**



## **WELCOME TO GRACE**

**Prelude**

**Word of Welcome**

**Crossways Temple Talk**

*stand as you are able*

**Lois Hilger**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**C Amen**

P In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

*silence for reflection and self-examination*

P God at the margins,

**C We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen**

P Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the

sake of † Christ, leading you from death into life.

**C Amen**

### **Gathering Hymn**

'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing'

**807**

### **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.**

*please be seated*

### **Lenten Litany**

A God of forgiveness, while the son who had been lost was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. God of forgiveness, draw us into your arms and call us  
**C to self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament.**

A Holy God, lead us and gather us. Cultivate, embrace and call us. Renew us in this holy season through your Son, Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**Kyrie** 'Have Mercy on us, Lord'

p. 203

### **Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray  
God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**First Reading**

Joshua 5:9-12

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. <sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**

II Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation**

'We are Turning, Lord'

p. 205

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the  
15th chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Holy Gospel**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father

saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

**Sermon**

## Hymn of the Day

'Our Father, We Have Wandered'

606

*stand as you are able*

## Apostles' Creed

p. 105

## Prayers of Intercession

*Petitions end:*

A Here us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Reveal your will as you receive our prayers,  
and conform our ways to your ways; through  
the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**Peace** *The people greet one another saying:  
"Peace be with you".*

*please be seated*

## Offering

*stand as you are able*

**Offertory** 'Create in Me a Clean Heart'

188

## Offering Prayer

A Generous God,

**C you feed us with the harvest of the land,  
and you provide for our every need.  
Receive our gifts of money, imagination,  
and labor, and transform them into a feast  
that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our  
host and our guest. Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

pp. 206-207

**Lord's Prayer**

p. 208

*please be seated*

## Distribution of Holy Communion

*Come to the communion rail by the center aisle  
and return by the side aisle. You may kneel or stand.*

*Wine is in the common cup and tray of individual cups. If you prefer grape juice, ask the server. Children are invited for a blessing. All are welcome who believe Christ is present in this meal for the forgiveness of sins.*

### **Hymns at the Distribution**

'Lamb of God'	p. 208
'Softly and Tenderly'	<b>608</b>
'Precious Lord, Take My Hand'	<b>773</b>

*stand as you are able*

### **Table Blessing**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

A Tender and merciful one,  
C **at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen**

#### **Benediction**

P God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, † bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

C **Amen**

#### **Closing Hymn**

'My Life Flows On in Endless Song' **763**

#### **Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Postlude**

#### **Prayer Huddle**

**Worship Assistants: March 31**

**Greeters:** Mason – Phyllis & Gary Schroeder  
East – Bonne Planner

**Assisting Minister:** Mandie Klauer

**Lector:** Cheryl Muggenthaler

**Communion 8:30:** Gene Krull

**Communion 10:30:** Deb Werth

**Ushers:** Joe Wilharms, Lindsey Wilharms, Dave Wiese, Jon Seidl

**Organist:** Diane Bailey

**Attendance 03/24/19:** 8:30 - 43    10:30 - 15

**Grilled Cheese Lunch: 03/21/19** – 95

**Grace Lutheran Church**

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**Pastor Dan Luett**

920-594-2015 [pastordanluett@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanluett@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary:** Carey Mackesy

***Welcome to Grace***

*Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today.*

*There is a guest book to sign in the gathering area.*

*If you are looking for a church home,  
you are welcome here.*

## ***In Prayer this Week***

***For members on the Care List especially Marie Mueller.***

***For Healing*** Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law; Rev. Jennie Johnson Wrege; Valerie Sieg; Marvin Wrege; Sharon Meier; Margaret Congdon; Mike VerKuilen; Rylene Houterman; Lloyd Learman; Charlotte Endorf; Marian Breitenfeldt; Bev; Jim Marks; Darlene, Linda Grebe's mom; Judy Cross; Debra Ragen; Tom Muggenthaler; Jim Deckert.

***For those with cancer especially Ellie; Mark Catlin; Kenny Verdegan; Carol Baumbach; Dottie Frankie; Kristi Meier; Karen Krull.***

**“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”** Romans 12:12



*If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (731-1428) or Susan Pringnitz (733-7591). Call the church office with requests for prayer to be put in the bulletin and/or to ask for a prayer to be relayed to the Prayer Chain.*

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## **Announcements**

Thank you for **signing the card** each week on the table in the Narthex that are mailed out to the homebound members.

**Fox Valley Lutheran Homes:** Apartments for rent: 1 BR & 2 BR; Call Becky or Katie at 734-7225.

Sandy Yerxa is starting a branch of **Quilts of Valor (QOV)** at Grace. She needs the names of those that have served and during what years and what war. If you could let the office know or Sandy directly at 716-7728 as we gather this information.

### **Lenten Adult Forums**

During Lent we will be having Adult Forums around 9:30 AM each Sunday during Lent. We will be using the five lessons in the Lenten Study Guide from the ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving.

The invitation to Lent is an invitation to journey with Chris to the cross, to remember our dependence on God and to gaze with faith toward the resurrection to come. May God bless your Lenten journey and may your practice of the discipline of Lent enrich your faith. You are welcome to take one of the Lenten Study Guides whether or not you are planning on attending the Adult Forum. Please come and join us!

**THE ALTAR GUILD** will be ordering Easter flowers to decorate the chancel area for the Easter season. You are invited to help with the cost of the flowers by giving a suggested gift of \$10 or any amount you choose. Checks are payable to Grace Lutheran Church and mark your gift "Easter Flowers". Use the order form in the Newsletter or sign up sheet on the desk. Order deadline is Sunday April 14.

## **Lent 2019**

Our congregational Lenten journey includes an opportunity to raise awareness and money to support world hunger. Our goal: \$1000.00 to date we have raised \$658.85.

### **'Til all have a piece of the pie:**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** Smell the bacon? Smell the sausage? Smell the coffee? It's Breakfast Pizza morning served up between worship services. Enjoy a slice or two while supporting the work of World Hunger.

Don't forget as you clean out your closets to save items for Grace annual **Rummage Sale** May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>. Additional information will be available in the April Newsletter.

Sat April 13<sup>th</sup> 8:00am -1:00pm is the **Women of the ELCA Appleton Conference 2019** Spring event at St. Mark's in Neenah. Details are posted on [ecsw.org](http://ecsw.org) website. Flyers and registration forms are also on the table in the narthex.

Grace is having **mid-week Lenten services**. We will worship at 6:30 pm on Maundy Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup> and Good Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> with special services. Maundy Thursday will include Holy Communion. Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm there is also worship at Grace lead by Trinity Lutheran Church. Come and join us!

**Easter** is April 21<sup>st</sup> with worship service at 8:30 am and 10:30 am. **Easter Breakfast** will be at 9:30 am. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.

**Kairos Prison Ministry** is having a Meet and Greet Saturday, April 13, 2019... 1:00-3:00pm Valley Baptist Church, 3600 N Chippewa, Appleton (Intersection Hwy. 41 and 47/Richmond Street)

