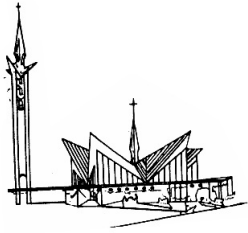


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)



March 30, 2025

Church Office Phone # 616-534-0805

Reverend Zachary Marklevitz

Pastor's Email: zmarklevitz@gmail.com

Website Address: www.gracelc.net

Office email: gracelc.office@gmail.com

Office Hrs: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Weekly Schedule

Our hymn "Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow" was written by William J. Sparrow-Simpson (1860–1952) as part of John Stainer's oratorio *The Crucifixion* (1887). Sparrow-Simpson, an English Anglican priest and theologian, served as chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital in London. His text for this hymn reflects the sorrow and redemption found in Christ's suffering, drawing inspiration from Isaiah 53:10-11, where Jesus, the Suffering Servant, bore the punishment for sin in place of all humanity; a reminder of Christ's sacrifice and the deep love shown through the cross.

MIDWEEK SERVICES...Join us for Lenten Midweek Services as we focus on some of the Minor Prophets. This Wednesday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m., we will visit the prophet Habakkuk, with the theme "The Righteous Shall Live by Faith" (Habakkuk 2:4b). Midweek services, with Holy Communion, continue each Wednesday evening during Lent at 6:30, as we hear God's Word in this penitential season that prepares us for the coming Holy Week.

BAPTISM TODAY...Rosie Annabelle Jager will be made a child of God through the Word and waters of Holy Baptism this morning in the Divine Service. Her older sister, Eliza June, was baptized here at Grace in 2023. While her parents (though they currently live in Ann Arbor) were married here in 2018. Praise be to God!

LENTEN DEVOTIONS...Daily Devotions for Lent and Easter - *The Hand of the Lord*, are available on the devotional table (next to the *Portals of Prayer* basket). Please help yourself.

EASTER EGG HUNT...We are collecting candy for the Easter Egg Hunt (in the bin that is outside the Sanctuary in the Narthex). The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, **April 12** at noon.

EASTER BREAKFAST We are looking for volunteers to help with the breakfast (April 20) as well as food and beverage donations. Please sign up at the showcase. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE! May 10 will be the WinCS annual silent auction and dinner. **NEW** this year is a live dessert auction. Tickets on sale now.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY...Meets Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. This Tuesday, April 1, we'll begin a 10 week study of *Ephesians*. There's room for you at the table and we hope you will join us! For a study book see Barb Quist.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH...Grace's second Church plant, gathers Sundays at 8:00 a.m. for Divine Service. They meet in the building of United Lutheran Church, 15424 Lake Michigan Dr, West Olive, MI 49460. Website: <https://christevangelicallutheran.org>

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND...If you are looking for a place to keep your money safe and you are a member of the LCMS, check out the LCEF information and rates on the bulletin board just outside the church office. Feel free to contact John Hoover with any questions or for further assistance. John.Hoover@lcef.org.

SCRIP/RAISERIGHT...If you would like to order Scrip you can find order slips as well as a list of all of the RaiseRight retailers on the showcase. Please be sure to turn in payment at the time you place your order. Make checks payable to Grace Beginnings Preschool. Orders are due on the first Monday of each month (next due is April 7) with delivery Wednesday or Thursday of that week.

PORTALS OF PRAYER, APR–JUN '25...*Portals of Prayer* for April through June 2025 is available on the devotional table (to the right of the mailboxes). Please help yourself.

LIBERTAS CHORALE...Will be singing the national anthem at the White Caps game April 15 at 6:35 p.m. All are welcome to come and cheer for the Caps as well as for Libertas.

NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY...It's time for a new directory! Dates for taking pictures will be April / and 6 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sign up for an appointment **TODAY** (or next Sunday) after service in the fellowship hall (see Tom Hoffman), or contact the church office.

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSON OPPORTUNITIES WITH OSLC!...Our Savior Lutheran Church is connecting families in the Grand Rapids community with quality music education for their children. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board outside the office. If you have any questions please contact Kantor Roberts at croberts@oursavior-gr.org or call the OSLC Office at 616-949-0710.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TO CATECHISM - "RECITE" AND "RECEIVE"...Any child who has yet to start the Catechism can recite one of these categories to the Pastor at the beginning of Bible Study hour & receive a gift. The goal is for each entering Catechism student to have already received all four gifts. Recitation can be done in any order. Please contact Pastor with any questions.

1. Recite the Lord's Prayer and receive Luther's Small Catechism for Kids.
2. Recite the Apostles' Creed and receive Lutheranism 101 for Kids.
3. Recite the Ten Commandments and receive Luther's Small Catechism.
4. Recite Old and New Testament books (all at once or separated by Testaments) and receive a Faith Alive Student Bible ESV.

QUILTERS WORKSHOP...The next work session is planned for THIS Wednesday, April 2 and then on Wednesday, April 16 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. We welcome any and all help of those who can tie knots, layer and/or design Quilts. It's a great way to get to know your fellow Grace members while working on a worthy mission.



The Grace Lutheran Church WinGS (Women in God's Service) group is in the Western Michigan zone of the LWML. As Lutheran women in mission we invite everyone to get involved and help us to support missions in God's name.

Some of the activities WinGS offers follows:

- Each year, Wings provides the funds to support and feed a Haitian Orphan through the Caribbean Children's Foundation.
- We serve others during times of grief by hosting funeral luncheons, with help from the caring congregation of Grace Lutheran.
- We host fellowship events such as the annual Christmas Party and the Ladies Tea to get women together in fellowship.
- We host fundraisers that allow us to offer financial support to our chosen missions. Our Dinner/Auction fundraiser is scheduled for May 10.
- We collect mites from the congregation on the last Sunday of the even numbered months. These allow us to fund missions at the local, zone, district and national levels.
- The men and women of the Quilters group provide warmth and show our love to those in nursing homes and throughout the world through World Relief. If you have a couple hours a month and are willing to design, build, or tie a knot you can serve to keep someone warm.

We invite each of you to donate your time, talents and/or treasures by joining us in honoring God by Serving others.

Estate Planning:

Did you know that the LWML offers free estate plan counseling? Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith. Have you ever endeavored to express your faith and desire for your family to remain in the faith, in a short, succinctly written piece that you can share as a lasting testimony even after the Lord calls you home? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you to initiate this project, including sharing some examples.

It takes only an email to Linda Gage (linda.gage@lfnd.org) or a call to 1-800-741-4138 to receive help thinking through the process. They offer tools that help you have everything you need ready when you meet with an attorney, saving time and legal fees.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we Joyfully proclaim Christ, Support Missions, and Equip women to honor God by serving others.

GRACE LIFE COMMITTEE

T “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10 T

The Poor and Neglected

Almighty and merciful
God, we call to mind
before You all those
whom it would be easy
to forget:
the homeless,
the destitute,
the unborn,
the sick,
the aged,
and all who have none
to care for them.

Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit and to turn their sorrow into joy.

Tracts and donation envelopes are available on the tract table next to the mailboxes



WEST MICHIGAN LUTHERAN

Serving Grades 7 - 12

Christ Centered - Student Focused

Academics.....Activities.....Achievement

† Individual attention so **each student** can achieve their goals;

† Integration of the **Faith in every class** throughout the day!

ENROLL TODAY!...Looking for an affordable and exemplary Christ-centered education? Then check out West Michigan Lutheran High School. Contact the WML office at 616-455-2200 or email office@wmlhs.org to get the simple and easy enrollment paperwork.

WEST MICHIGAN LUTHERAN CELEBRATE FUNDRAISER...West Michigan Lutheran will be accepting donations for the Celebrate Fundraiser through the end of March (TOMORROW). To donate go to bit.ly/wmlcelebrate or call the WML school office at 616-455-2200.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS & OTHER NEEDS:

Anna Barber; Debra Barber; Rev. Ryan Beffrey; Mae Conkright; Hailey Cutler; Jeanne DeMeester; Jeffrey (Jeff) DeYoung; Michael (Mike) Dykstra; Willis (Jack) Edwards; Hubert (Hugh) and Virginia Eisen; Marilyn Franks; Ronald (Ron) Hansen; Barbara (Barb) Hoffman; Iris Kamradt; Vicki Kik; Lois Klooster; Elfriede (Elfie) Koehler; Norman (Norm) Long; Sandra (Sandy) Melville; Allen (Al) Miiller; Margaret (Marge) Morgan; Carol Pellerito; James (Jim) Pellerito; Mark Schrader; Albert (Al) TePastte; Joseph (Joe) Theuerkauf; Sharon Theuerkauf.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN NEED:

Dawsyn Bates (Schrader); Barb Castle (Franks); Shannon Crisman (Larson); Margaret (Peg) Eastland (Eastland); Phil Edgerton (Cutler); Brian Hague (Larson); Bruce & Ruth Harder (Kik); Jim Hoard (Larson); Newell Hoback (Gorman); Theresa Holzhausen; Ginny Huizenga (Klooster family); John Hume (Quist); Donald Karel (DeYoung); Bridget Kimmel (Gorman); Brian & Dawn Klein (Larson); Laura Kooienga (Zwar); Cathy Kutschinski; Kelly LaHaine (Gorman); Tom Murrphy (Larson); Richard Ohse (former member); Carrie Pattok (Hoffman); Dalton Palmer (Kutschinski); Violet Redner (Marklevitz); Gary Reinking (father of Ashley Beffrey); Carissa Richmond (Pellerito); Megan Rockrohr (Marklevitz); **Hudson Rockrohr** (Marklevitz); Julie Rop (Long); Bonnie Seher (Kamradt); Aaron Spratling (Hoffman); Katie Stevenson (Schrader); Ty Tanis (Kutschinski); Donna TePastte (TePastte); Vicky Thompson (Hoffman); Gary Weber (Reynolds); Maggie and Josiah Whitley (Helak).

PRAYERS FOR THOSE MOURNING A LOSS:

Family & friends of **Douglas Harder** who died last Sunday (brother of Vicki Kik).

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR:

Jim Hoard for thanks and praise to God that Jim (Terry and Carol Larson) had a successful lung transplant!

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES:

Robert Barber (Barber); Klorissa Brown, Katie Collins & Nick Payne (Gorman); Skylar Eriks (Kamradt); Christopher Ferguson & Alex Gaunt (Schrader); Blake Hoffman & Austin Spratling (Hoffman).

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES.

Nora Leon; Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlburg.

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED SEMINARIANS:

Nathan Bublitz; Noah Dunsmore.

THE PRAYER FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL **BE CELEBRATING** birthdays and anniversaries this coming week that their celebrations would lead to rejoicing in God’s goodness once again this year and to give Him thanksgiving for all His blessings.

Happy Birthday this week to:

Sunday, March 30 - Barb Quist

Wednesday, April 2 - Jack Helak

Thursday, April 3 - Kathy Helak

Friday, April 4 - Gary Doss

Happy Anniversary this week to:

Monday, March 31 - Dave & Kathy Helak - 48 years

Tuesday, April 1 - Mark & Dawn Schrader - 36 years

TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP


Sunday, March 23, 2025 9:00 a.m. Worship Attendance: 86 Communion: 74

Sunday, March 23, 2025 Offering & Joyful Response: \$3,960.00

Midweek, March 26, 2025 6:30 p.m. Worship Attendance: 54 Communion: 49

Midweek, March 26, 2025 Offering: \$600.00

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

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|  | Fourth Sunday in Lent 3/30/2025 9:00 a.m. | Midweek Lenten Worship 4/2/2025 6:30 p.m. | Fifth Sunday in Lent 4/6/2025 9:00 a.m. |
| Communion Assistants: | Dan DenBraber | Ed Gorman | Tom Hoffman |
| Deaconess/Deacon: | Kathy Helak | Dave Helak | Norm Long |
| Altar Guild: | Jeff & Paula DeYoung | Diane Long Linda Franks | Jeff & Paula Deyoung |
| Acolytes: | Molly DenBraber John Gottschall | Connor Reynolds Molly DenBraber | James Gottschall Elizabeth Reynolds |
| Sound: | Gray Ferguson | Any Available | Scott Christensen |
| Fellowship: | Gorman | X | Kendall |

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Ensemble Director: Diane Long
Organist: Charles Gottschall

Finance Team March: Cindy Johnston & ANY available count team members
Altar Flowers: No flowers during Lent

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, 30, 2025 (Fourth Sunday in Lent)
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Holy Baptism
Handbell Ensemble
Noisy Offering (Mission Committee)
Directory Picture Appointment Sign-Up (following Worship)
Fellowship (following Worship)
Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Monday, March 31, 2025

Tuesday, April 1, 2025
Women’s Bible Study 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, April 2, 2025
Quilters Workshop 9:00-11:30 a.m.
Handbell Ensemble 5:30 p.m.
Midweek Lenten Divine Service 6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 3, 2025
Pastoral Care 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Friday, April 4, 2025

Saturday, April 5, 2025
Fill Easter Eggs 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 6, 2025 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Youth Choir
Directory Picture Appointment Sign-Up (following Worship)
Fellowship (following Worship)
Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Elder’s Meeting 12:00 p.m.