

# Habits **NOT** Heroics

*Growing Faith*

*on Purpose*

## *Devotion to Prayer*

*Endurance grows one prayer at a time.*

**March 8**

**Grace Lutheran Church**

*Worship Services: 8:30 & 11:00 AM*

### Prelude & Confession & Affirmation of Forgiveness

*P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*Most holy and merciful God,*

**C: we confess to you and to one another,  
and before the whole company of heaven,  
that we have sinned by our fault,  
by our own fault,  
by our own most grievous fault,  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

*A: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.*

**C: We diminish our respect and awe of You by not putting our relationship with you on the top of our priority list. We relegate You to being our god of convenience and comfort rather than the Creator of the Cosmos, and, in this way, we limit the power you have in our lives. Have mercy on us, O God.**

*A: We let other voices speak to us of fulfillment, hope and peace.*

**C: We have been tempted to turn away from the truth you offer us. We have doubted your presence, your power and your promise. Have mercy on us, O God.**

*A: We have shut our ears to your call to love and serve others with the same compassionate love and service Christ offers us.*

**C: We have not been diligent in staying keenly aware of how we can be a source of comfort, hope and sustenance to those who suffer, or are in despair, or deprived of what they need to live. We have not shown hospitality to the sojourner. Instead, we find security in protecting and preserving our abundant blessings for ourselves. Have mercy on us, O God.**

*A: We misuse and abuse the role you have given us in and over creation.*

**C: We exploit and squander the earth's resources without inconveniencing ourselves with consideration for the sustainability of life in the future. We assume the power of gods, but fail to seek the wisdom of God in the use of our power, focusing too much on our satisfaction in this moment rather than comprehending the full scope of our actions. We privilege our lives over the lives of other creatures without respect for the depth of the interconnectedness of all life. Have mercy on us, O God.**

*A: We do not always own our own problems, nor do we take enough responsibility for working to solve them.*

**C: We scapegoat, we make excuses, we get distracted. We do not bring them to you and open ourselves to the Spirit's guidance through unexpected voices and resources. We become discontented because we resign to empty contentment. We default to following the norm rather than clinging to the distinction of being a Child of God. Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

*P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus, the Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us into eternal life.*

**C: Amen.**

## Entrance Hymn *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

742

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav-y - lad - en, cum-bere'd with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?  
 Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

## Greeting & Kyrie

page 156

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*A Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister and the assembly.*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



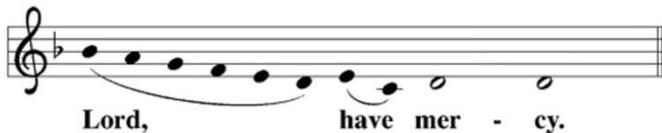
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



## Prayer of the Day

*P: The Lord be with you*

**C: And also with you**

*P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father,*

**C: you graciously bend your ear to our voices, promising that you not only listen to our prayers, but desire to hear them. Sustain our confidence in your care for our needs. Inspire us to offer our thanksgiving for the blessings you give. Encourage us to bring our laments. Affirm that all you ask of our prayers is that we bring the truth about ourselves. Give us the hope that though we may feel that our prayers seem unanswered, you are responding in ways that we may not comprehend in the moment. We ask this in the name of the one who taught us the power of prayer, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

## First Lesson

James 5

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

L: *The Word of the Lord!*  
C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm Hymn

751

*The congregation will sing the first verse 9 times.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.  
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.  
*The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.*

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5

But we exhort you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly! Encourage those who think they just can't do it! Be devoted to the weak! Be patient with all! See that none of you repays evil for evil but always pursue the good in one another and all! Always rejoice! Constantly pray! In all things give thanks, for this the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not extinguish the Spirit! Do not despise prophecy, but scrutinize everything! Cling to the good, but stay away from every appearance of evil!

The God of peace make you entirely holy and complete, that we will be made to keep the spirit and the soul and the body blameless into the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who is calling you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray about us.

L: *The Word of the Lord!*  
C: Thanks be to God!

# Children's Sermon

## Verse

S205b



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## Gospel Acclamation

*P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 6th Chapter.*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

## Gospel

Matthew 6

*During his Sermon on the Mount Jesus preached: "Watch out! Do not do your righteous acts in front of others just so that they may see what you are doing! For, if you do your righteous acts in this way, you do not receive what you are due – your wages - from your Father in the heavens. . . And whenever you may pray, you will not pray like those who are only playing a role - the hypocrites. For those who are only playing a role love to be standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the plazas to pray so that they may be dazzling people with their righteousness. Amen, I say to you, they are given their wages. But whenever you may pray, go into your inner room and closing your door, pray to your Father privately, and your Father, who sees into what is private will respond to you.*

But when you are praying, you may not babble just like the those who are not of your religion – those who think that it is because of their numerous words that they will be heard. You may not be like them. For your Father knows the need you have before you ask. Therefore, pray like this:

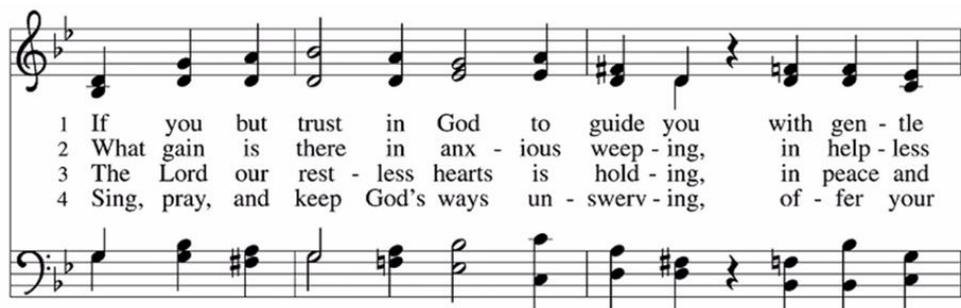
Our Father in the heavens -  
Sanctify your name!  
Bring your kingdom!  
Bring about your will - as in heaven, so on earth!  
The bread of the coming day, give us today!  
And release us from our debts as we also release our debtors.

And may you not bring us into temptation, but rescue us from the evil.

P: *The Gospel of our Lord!* C: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon

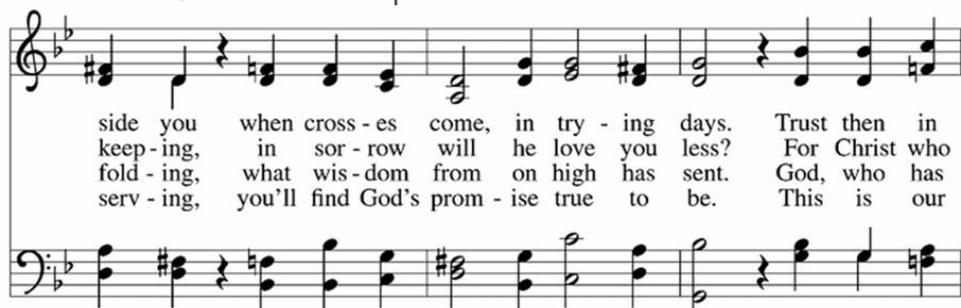
### Hymn of the Day *If you but Trust in God to Guide You* **769**



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

# Apostles Creed

*P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?*

**C: We do with the help of God.**

*P: Do you believe in God the Father?*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?*

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived of the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?*

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

## The Prayers of the Church & Passing of the Peace

Offertory

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

**679**

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

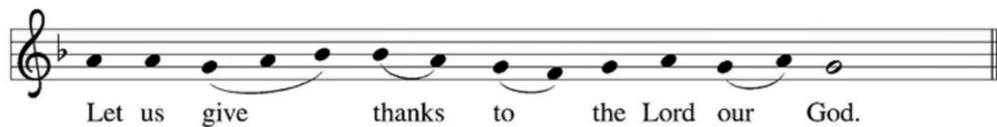
fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## Offertory Prayer

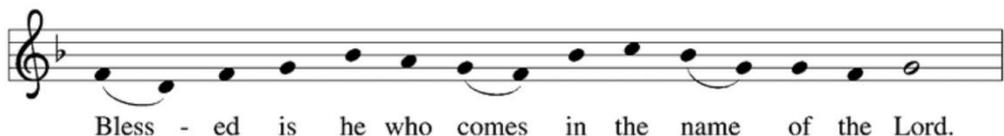
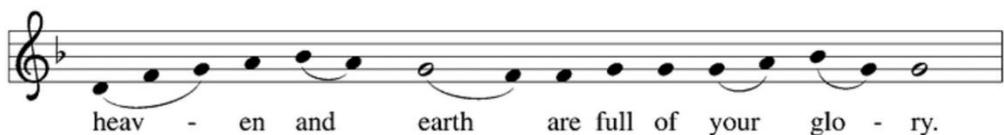
*A: Let us pray:*

**C: Accept, O Lord, these gifts that we bring in gratitude this day; offerings from the abundant blessings we have received. May they be pleasing in your sight, that you will continue to look kindly on us and our needs, and that they may serve the need of manifesting your Kingdom in this age. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

# Great Thanksgiving



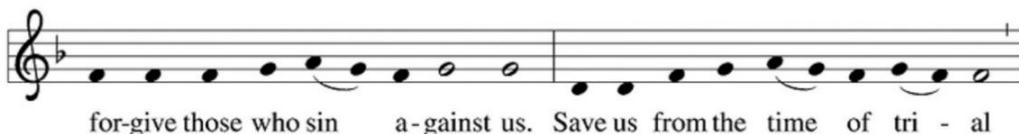
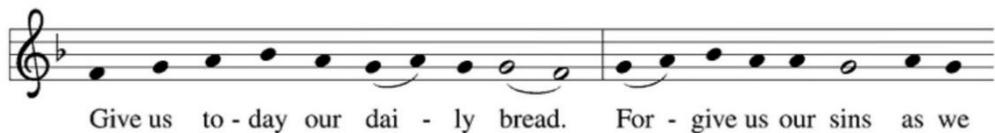
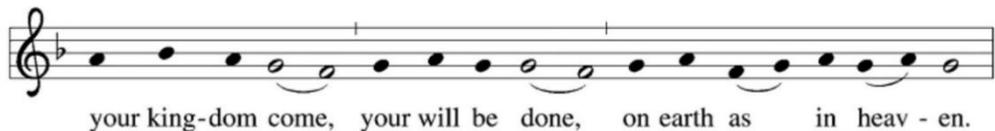
*P: It is right . . .*



*P: Holy God, we give you thanks and praise, for even in the midst of our turning away from you, you call to us . . .*

## The Lord's Prayer

S 163





Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy  
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

## Distribution Hymns

374, 338


1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign,  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.



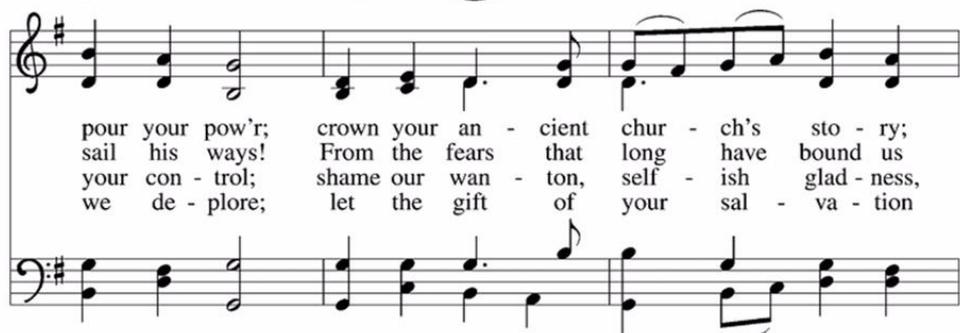
# Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

## Benediction

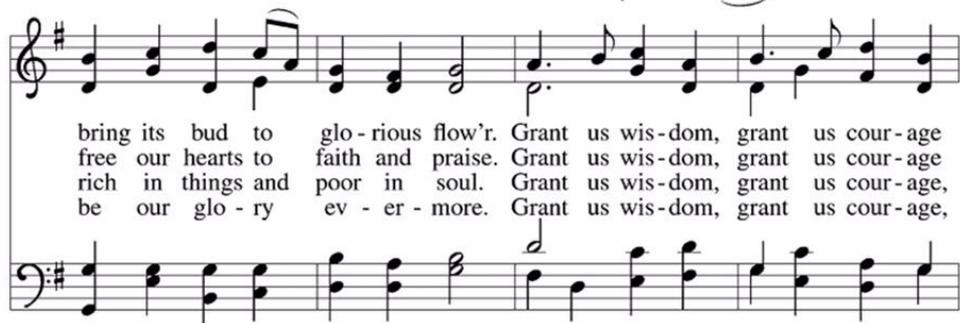
Recessional *God of Grace and God of Glory* 705



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

# Dismissal

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## **Sunday, March 8**

*Third Sunday of Lent*

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School &  
Confirmation Classes

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

## **Monday, March 9**

9:30 a.m. Widowed Support Group

7:00 p.m. Green Team/ Social Ministry Meeting

## **Tuesday, March 10**

6:30 a.m. Bible Study & Breakfast

11:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris - hybrid

3:00 p.m. Bible Study Lite - 101 w/ Pastor Chris

4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

7:00 p.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris - online

## **Wednesday, March 11**

*Anniversary of Pastor Chris' Installation*

9:00 a.m. Piecemakers Quilting Group

6:00 p.m. Bring-your-own dinner to the narthex

7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten prayer service

## **Thursday March 12**

7:30 p.m. Digital Committee Meeting

## **Sunday, March 15**

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

*Deadline to RSVP for March Dining Out @ Somers Prime Pub*

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Classes

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Music Director*

Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Samantha Calamera, *Sexton*

Doug Jenkins, *Dig. Ministry* • Rev. Dr. Timothy Kennedy, *Pastor Emeritus*

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