

## Welcome to Worship

*Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith in Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbor, here and around the world.*

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**Sunday, March 8, 2026 - 8:30 AM**



### Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

**Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb:** Senior Pastor  
**Nicole Kolbe:** Office Administrator  
**Brad Anderson:** Maintenance  
**Jaime Core:** Youth Coordinator  
**Organist:** Sandy Ettesvold, Carol Madsen  
**Chancel Choir Director:** Joyce Jorgenson

**Rev. Cole McCormick:** Associate Pastor  
**Jane Reiman:** Finance Director  
**Travis Anderson:** Maintenance  
**Amber Hansen:** Open Door Meal Coordinator  
**Pianist:** Molly Bless  
**Praise Band:** Jen Kahler and Musicians

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*Please Note: Worship services are broadcast on local TV and online. Being in the Sanctuary implies consent to be on camera. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the back rows or balcony. Communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

At Grace Lutheran, we believe in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality with an open table. **All persons**, whether visiting or a member, are welcome to meet Jesus at the table. Please ask your communion server if you prefer grape juice or a gluten free communion kit. The ushers will direct you to the front for communion or you may receive communion in your pew. Jesus invites all to come and be fed, forgiven, and free!

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## Prelude and Bell Ringing

### Welcome and Offering of Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

P: Welcome to Worship!

## Announcements

### Call to Worship

**Chancel Choir**

#### ‡ Confession & Forgiveness

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

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

#### ‡ Gathering Hymn

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

#338

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‡ *The congregation is invited to stand as you are able.*

**Greeting**

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

**All:** **And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

p. 147

**Hymn of Praise**

p. 148

**Prayer of the Day**

Merciful God, **the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions,

knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Message (Sing)**

*Deep and Wide*

Deep and wide, deep and wide  
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide  
Deep and wide, deep and wide  
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

✠ **Gospel Acclamation**

**#151b**

P: A reading from the Gospel of John.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

✠ **Gospel: John 4:5-42**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is

deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for

which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Cole McCormick**

† **Hymn of the Day**

*Lamb of God*

**#336**

† **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the Church**

**P:** Hear us, O God...

**C:** ... your mercy is great.

### **Offering**

**Chancel Choir**

### **Loaves and Fishes Offering**

*Youth are invited to walk forward and place their offering into the basket. Just like the little boy who gave his 2 fish and 5 loaves to Jesus, who multiplied them to feed thousands, the youth offering will go to The Grace Food Pantry. Adults are welcome to give a child an offering to bring up too.*

### **Offering Hymn Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (v. 1) #712**

Lord, whose love in humble service, bore the weight of human need,  
 who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
 we, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart;  
 consecrating to your purpose, ev'ry gift which you impart.

### **Offering Prayer**

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces  
 all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and  
 bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
 draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear  
 witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Holy Communion**

### **Great Thanksgiving (sung)**

**p.152**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (sung in unison)

**p.153**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### † **Thanksgiving at the Table**

*Children of all ages may receive communion or a blessing. They are also invited to take an instrument to praise God during the sending song. All are welcome at Christ's table.*

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
 we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your  
 love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and  
 the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ **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**

**First Communion Milestone**

Julia Borchardt

Jace Busiahn

Jack Busiahn

Brielle Core

Madison Hill

Lincoln Kettner

Lincoln Maday

Owen Survis

Joseph Tate

P: At this time, I invite forward all first communion students and their families to kneel at the communion rail.

First communion is a milestone to be celebrated in the life of a child, regardless of the age in which the child first began taking communion. Some children begin taking communion as soon as they are physically able to while others wait until later in their faith education. Either way, celebrating being a part of the body of Christ and sharing this meal of God's grace together is a

wonderful way to emphasize the importance of this holy sacrament in our faith lives.

Parents, at your child's baptism, you agreed to raise them in the faith, share with them God's Holy Word, and bring them to the Lord's Supper. Today, we celebrate this day as a community of faith. Do you promise to continue to raise your child in the faith, encourage them with love and support, and surround them with brothers and sisters in the faith in the body of Christ? If so, please say "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

**Parents: I do and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: Congregation, do you promise to continue to share in the faith formation of these children, sharing with them the love of Christ, witnessing to your faith in Jesus through participation in the body of Christ and serving your neighbor, and by sharing the good news of Jesus with them? If so, please say "We do and we ask God to help and guide us."

**C: "We do and we ask God to help and guide us."**

P: During our instruction for first communion, our students learned that as Lutherans, our understanding of what it means to be a sacrament is to contain three parts.

### **Reader 1:**

It is like a holy equation. A sacrament equals a command from God + a common element + a promise of God. In communion, Jesus tells us to take and eat and remember him, through a meal that uses the common elements of bread and wine, which includes the promise of God's forgiveness, grace, and love.

### **Reader 2:**

We also learned that Martin Luther, in his explanation of the Sacrament of the Altar, highly emphasized two of Jesus's words. "For you." We hear that his body and blood are given "for you." No matter what. Because Jesus loves us.

**Reader 3:**

And finally, we learned that we are one body together based on these words from the Apostle Paul from 1 Corinthians 10:16-17  
 “<sup>16</sup>The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup>Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”

P: Congregation, please join me in these words of welcome.

**C: With joy, we celebrate Holy Communion together at Christ’s table. Together, we share in receiving the mystery of Christ’s presence in the breaking of the bread and the promise of forgiveness and new life that He brings.**

P: Let us pray. Loving God, open our hearts and minds to your presence in this holy meal as we receive your grace in bread and wine, your body and blood. May we celebrate this sacred meal as one body, trusting in your promises now and always. **Amen.**

**Lamb of God**

p.154

**Communion Hymn***All Are Welcome*

#641

**† Prayer after Communion**

P: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**† Blessing**

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, bless you now and always.

**All: Amen.**

† **Sending Hymn***I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

#325

† **Sending**

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

All: **Thanks be to God.****Postlude**