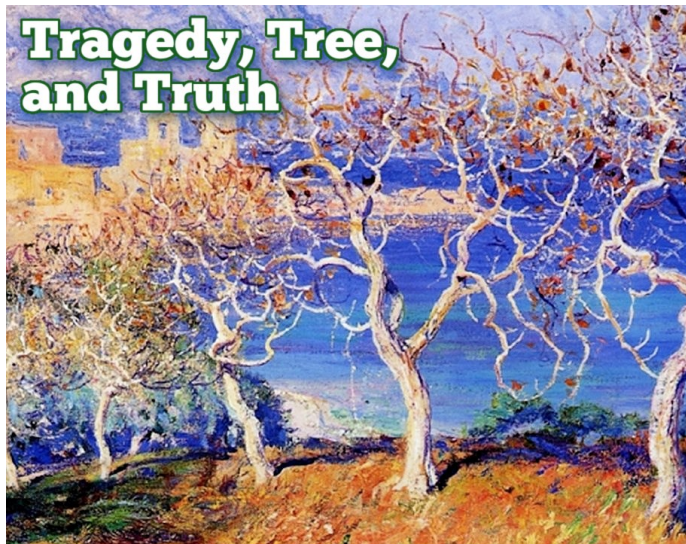




March 23, 2025
9:30 AM Worship Service



- Pastor Doug Widger

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Opening Song: Goodness Love And Mercy

Verse: Oh Lord You're my Shepherd
You make me lie in fields of green
You lead me by the still waters
You restore righteousness to me
Though I walk through the valley
I will fear no evil thing
For You are with me and You comfort me

Chorus: Surely goodness love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go

Bridge: I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever

Bear Rinehart | Bo Rinehart | Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash - © 2018 Alletrop Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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Confession and Absolution

Pastor: God has made us His people by our Baptism into Christ. He graciously provides us with all we need to live in true faith, confidence, and hope. Let us present ourselves before Him, confessing our sins and need for His mercy, and receive His promised help.

People: Almighty God, our Father in heaven, we come to You seeking Your forgiveness and the strengthening of our faith that we may live and serve You faithfully. We confess all our sins against You and against those whom we have hurt or failed to help. Even our very thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. In true sorrow, we ask for Your grace, Your forgiveness, and that You strengthen our faith, all for the sake and in the praise of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful." Upon this, your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and remind you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Share Grace

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 33:7-20 (Ezekiel is Israel's Watchman.)

- 7 "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.
- 8 If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.
- 9 But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.
- 10 "And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?'
- 11 Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?
- 12 "And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins.
- 13 Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die.
- 14 Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right,
- 15 if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die.
- 16 None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.
- 17 "Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just,' when it is their own way that is not just.
- 18 When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it.
- 19 And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this.
- 20 Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (Warning Against Idolatry)

- 1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,
- 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,
- 3 and all ate the same spiritual food,
- 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.
- 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
- 6 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.
- 7 Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play."
- 8 We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.
- 9 We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents,
- 10 nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.
- 11 Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.
- 12 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.
- 13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9 (Repentance which leads to fruitfulness)

- 1 There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
- 2 And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way?"
- 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
- 4 Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem?"
- 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."
- 6 And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.
- 7 And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?'
- 8 And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure.

9 Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Message Song: Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB #423

vs. 1-3

Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessèd Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

Text & Music: Public domain

Message: "Tragedy, Tree, and Truth" - Pastor Doug Widger

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Connection Points

Offering

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.
(3x)

Prayers of the Church / Lord's Prayer

Ways to Follow Jesus

Benediction: *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord make his countenance to shine upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB #437
vs. 1-5

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures' sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
'Tis all that I can do.

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Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®),
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Lent Services
Wednesdays • Mar. 5th - Apr. 9th
4:30 pm & 6:30 pm • Sanctuary
Meals between services • Gym • 5:30 pm

PLEASE CHECK IN!



go.grace.lc/links

Scan the QR
code or type
the link above
to check in,
submit prayer
requests, and
more!

During Lent (Wednesday nights through April 9th) we will focus on each one of these Penitential Psalms: 6, 32, 102, 51, 130, 143. They have provided Christians with a powerful source of prayer and reflection during Lent for centuries. Together, they invite us to recognize our sins, express our sorrow to God and ask His forgiveness, and experience the healing touch of His merciful grace.



CELEBRATING EASTER

**THE HOLY SMOKERS ARE READY TO TAKE ORDERS
FOR EASTER HAMS, SAUSAGE AND PORK LOINS.**

The average weight of a whole loin is between 8-10 pounds uncooked. If a whole loin is too large for you, you can order a half loin for half price.

Orders must be PRE-PAID.

ORDER DEADLINE: Sunday, April 13 at 12PM

Make checks out to **Grace Lutheran Church: (memo to) Holy Smokers.**

Place all checks in the envelope or cash can be given to Cynthia

HAMS & PORK LOINS \$40

SAUSAGE (mild or spicy):

\$8 per ring

\$15 for 2 rings

HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER:

- Sign-up sheet in the Narthex (starting March 23rd)
- Call **Brian Rukavina** (817-229-9703)
- Call **Ernie Owens** (817-247-0747)

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE HOLY SMOKERS PLEASE JOIN US SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 19 AROUND 7:00AM.



FIESTA & FUN

Family Fellowship & Game Night

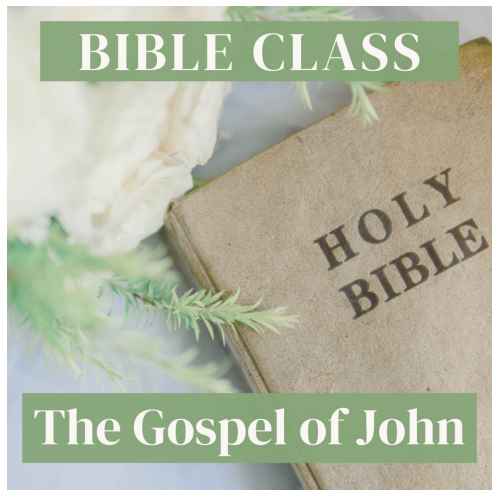
gracekids graceYouth

Sat., March 29, 5-7PM

Family Life Center

Bring a Tex-Mex themed main or side dish, or dessert to share. All ages welcome!

Contact Serena for info: space@grace.lc
817-274-1626, x 1002



BIBLE CLASS

The Gospel of John

Pastor Widge's Bible Class has resumed and he will be teaching on the Gospel of John in Meeting Room 2. Please join us as we journey with Jesus through this unique Gospel account.



glee
Grace Lutheran Early Education

Fall 2025 Enrollment
NOW OPEN

Puzzle Exchange

Bring a puzzle and exchange it for another! If you don't have a puzzle, just take one and return when completed. Located in the NARTHEX.



glee

ICE CREAM FUNRAISER

APRIL 24

5:00PM-9:00PM

MAD MIKE'S ICE CREAM
2304 W. PARK ROW
ARLINGTON, TX 76013



BIBLE STUDY for ... Parents ... of Young Children

Each Sunday
Beginning March 23

10:45am- 11:45am

Grace Lutheran Church
Glee Wing

A Bible-based group geared to the unique needs to parents-to-be and parents of infants and small children.

Older children are welcome to attend the PreK/K, Elementary, and Youth Sunday School. Infants and Toddlers are welcome to come with you or attend the nursery.



For more information, contact the church office at (817) 274 - 1626
Leaders: Jessica and Miguel Nieves

~ Sundays @ 10:45 a.m. ~

- ♦ Jim Runzheimer's Bible Class - *Fireside Room*
- ♦ Pastor Doug Widger's Class: Book of John - *MR 2*
- ♦ Biblical Parenting Group - *Library*
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 9-12) - *Youth Shed*
- ♦ Grace Youth (Grades 7-8) - *Meeting Room 4*
- ♦ Grace Kids (Preschool 4's/Kinder, Grades 1-6) - *Preschool Wing Classrooms*
- ♦ Babies - 3 year olds - *Nursery*

ELDERS AND THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Joe Masterson	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
Keith Mangels	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Brian Bassett	S
Jim Schmidt	T-Z

Head Elder:
Joe Masterson



210 W. Park Row Dr., Arlington, TX 76010
817.274.1626 online @ grace.lc

Pastor Doug Widger, Lead Shepherd
Pastor Steve Roth, Community Care
Dr. Serena Pace, DCE, Director of Ministries
Mr. William Land, Worship Director
Mrs. Laura Scott, Director of Early Education

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 23, 2025

- 8:40 - 9:20 AM Handbells Rehearsal - *Sanctuary*
- 9:30 AM Worship Service - *Sanctuary*
- 10:45 AM Bible Classes for all ages
- 12:00 PM Spanish Worship Service - *Fireside Room*
- 12:15 PM Young Adult Lunch at Panera & Putt-Putt



MEET AT PANERA (4000 S. COOPER ST.)
AT 12:15 FOR LUNCH, FOLLOWED BY PUTT-
PUTT AT ALLEY CATS (2008 W. PLEASANT
RIDGE RD.). BRING \$ FOR LUNCH AND
INVITE A FRIEND. MINI GOLF IS COVERED!

RSVP to Keith & Lyn or Serena

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

- 6:00 PM Grace FC Soccer Ministry - *Joeckel Field*
- 7:30 PM Community Basketball - *Gym*

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

- 9:30 AM Braille (Cross of Christ) - *Braille Room: MR1*
- 10:30 AM JOY: Philippians Book Study - *Library*
- 4:30 PM LENT EARLY SERVICE - *Sanctuary*
- 5:30 PM Lenten Meal - *Gym*
- 6:30 PM LENT LATE SERVICE - *Sanctuary*
- 6:30 PM Embrace Grace - *Meeting Room 2*
- 6:30 PM ESL Classes
- 6:30 PM Youth Leadership Class (ages 9 - 14) - *MR 4*
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - *Music Room*

Thursday, March 27, 2024

- 3:00 PM Braille (WWFF Braille Group) - *Braille Room: MR1*
- 6:00 PM Braille (Thumbprint Group) - *Braille Room: MR1*

Friday, March 28, 2024

- 6:00 PM Grace FC Soccer Ministry - *Joeckel Field*
- 6:30 PM Spanish Bible Study - *Fireside Room*

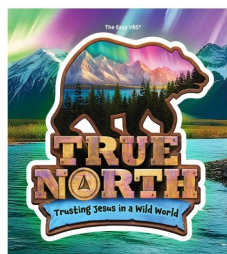
Saturday, March 29, 2025

- 9:00 AM Altar Guild
- 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM Embrace Grace Princess Day - *Fireside Room*
- 5:00 - 7:00 PM Fiesta & Fellowship Night: Bring a Tex-Mex
themed main or side dish, or dessert to share. All ages welcome!
Contact Serena for info: space@grace.lc (817-274-1626, x 1002).

Sunday, March 30, 2025

- 8:40 - 9:20 AM Handbells Rehearsal - *Sanctuary*
- 9:30 AM Worship Service - *Sanctuary*
- 10:45 AM Bible Classes for all ages
- 12:00 PM Spanish Worship Service - *Fireside Room*

VACATION BIBLE CAMP JUNE 23-26, 2025; 9AM-12PM



- FUN & FREE!
- FOR INCOMING GRADES 1-6 (FALL '25)
- ALL STAFF IS SAFETY TRAINED & BACKGROUND CHECKED.
- FAMILY PICNIC ON THURSDAY!
- PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS REGISTER AT VBS.GRACE.LC MARCH 15 THROUGH JUNE 18.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
210 W. PARK ROW, ARLINGTON
817-274-1626; SPACE@GRACE.LC



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Grace Lutheran - Arlington



APRIL 20, 2025

Easter

grace Youth

8 AM EGG CASSEROLE BREAKFAST
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
FREE-WILL DONATION, YOUTH FUNDRAISER

11:15 AM EGG HUNT ON BACK FIELD

gracekids

NOW ACCEPTING
PLASTIC EGGS &
CANDY/TRINKETS

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 — EGG STUFFING @ 10:45 AM
(& APRIL 16 @ 10:00 AM: TBA)
SATURDAY, APRIL 19 — SET UP @ 9:00 AM