



**March 30, 2025**  
**9:30 AM Worship Service**

*- Pastor Doug Widger*

## Welcome and Opening Prayer

### Opening Song: How Great Is Our God

*Verse 1:* The splendor of the King clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice  
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice

*Chorus:* How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see how great,  
How great is our God

*Verse 2:* Age to age He stands and time is in His hands  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End  
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son  
The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb

### CHORUS

*Bridge:* Name above all names, worthy of our praise  
My heart will sing how great is our God

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## Confession and Absolution

*1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalm 96:2*

**Pastor:** Beloved in the Lord, Paul reassures us, saying, "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." Let us with confidence and gladness enter God's presence, confessing our sins and receiving His grace, assurance, and forgiveness.

**People:** Lord God, we are exceedingly glad to enter Your house this day, for we have heard and believe in the invitation of Your loving kindness and redemption through Jesus Christ, Your Son. In the trust and hope of the faith You have given us as Your baptized children, we confess to You all our sins and failures to share Your gifts of mercy with others. Grant us the forgiveness for which we ask and give us a renewed heart and spirit to sing Your praises in worship of You and to the joy of all.

Pastor: "Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day."  
Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I remind you that 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

Isaiah 12:1–6

("The LORD GOD is my strength and my song.")

- 1 You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.
- 2 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."
- 3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- 4 And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.
- 5 "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.
- 6 Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
- 7 for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16–21 (A new creation)

- 16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.
- 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
- 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
- 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
- 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

## Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32 (The Parable of the Waiting Father)

- 1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.  
2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."  
3 So he told them this parable:  
11 "There was a man who had two sons.  
12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them.  
13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.  
14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.  
15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs.  
16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.  
17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!  
18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.  
19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."'  
20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.  
21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'  
22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.  
23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.  
24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.  
25 "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.  
26 And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.  
27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.'  
28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,  
29 but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.  
30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!'  
31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.  
32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.' "

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

## Message Song: My Song Is Love Unknown

LSB #430  
vs. 1, 2, 5, 7

My song is love unknown,  
My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown  
That they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I  
That for my sake  
My Lord should take  
Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne  
Salvation to bestow;  
But men made strange, and none  
The longed-for Christ would know.  
But, oh, my friend,  
My friend indeed,  
Who at my need  
His life did spend!

They rise and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful He  
To suff'ring goes  
That He His foes  
From thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend!

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**Message: "The Waiting Father and His Two Sons"  
- 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

Christ Be My Leader

LSB #861  
vs. 1-3

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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## Communion

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

LSB #700  
vs. 1-4

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in Thee inherit;  
Let us find Thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text & Music: Public domain

## "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

LSB #843

vs. 1-4

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"  
You taught us, Lord, to pray;  
But You alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say.

How can Your pardon reach and bless  
The unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let  
Old bitterness depart?

In blazing light Your cross reveals  
The truth we dimly knew:  
What trivial debts are owed to us,  
How great our debt to You!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls  
And bid resentment cease;  
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,  
Our lives will spread Your peace.

## COMMUNION NOTES

A traveling tray will be available for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available. Grape juice is provided on the inner ring of the communion tray.

### **We ask ourselves questions of examination:**

- Do I believe that I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I believe that Jesus is my Savior and that through faith in Him my sins are forgiven?
- Do I believe that in this meal I receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus, for the forgiveness of my sins, not just a symbol of it?
- Do I intend, with the help of God, to live a Christian life?

***We welcome to the altar all who answer yes to these questions and believe as we do.***

Those who have never communed with us before are asked to speak to the Pastor or Elder before the service. If you're not ready to participate in the Lord's Supper with us, please feel free to come forward.

Folding of your arms will indicate to the Pastors your desire to receive a blessing.

Not all the blood of beasts  
On Jewish altars slain  
Could give the guilty conscience peace  
Or wash away the stain.

But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,  
Takes all our sins away;  
A sacrifice of nobler name  
And richer blood than they.

My faith would lay its hand  
On that dear head of Thine,  
While as a penitent I stand,  
And there confess my sin.

My soul looks back to see  
The burden Thou didst bear  
When hanging on the cursèd tree;  
I know my guilt was there.

Believing, we rejoice  
To see the curse remove;  
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice  
And sing His bleeding love.

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## 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:** In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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## BIBLE JOURNALING

Join us for a morning of learning, art and joy.  
No experience or artistic talent needed!



Every 2ND  
Saturday



10:00AM  
12:00PM

In person at Grace Lutheran Church  
and on Zoom!

## SUGGESTED SUPPLIES:

- MARKERS
- COLORED PENCILS
- BLACK SHARPIE
- GLUE STICK
- SCISSORS
- BIBLE
- NOTEBOOK ART PAD

**BRING YOUR OWN SNACK  
AND BOTTLE OF WATER.**

**PLEASE CHECK IN!**



[go.grace.lc/links](https://go.grace.lc/links)

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





# 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.**

*Lent services*  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
 March 5th - April 9th  
 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm  
 Sanctuary  
 Meals between services  
 in the Gym at 5:30 pm

**grace Youth**  
**AT GRACE**  
*Easter*  
**APRIL 20TH, 2025**  
 8am | *Egg Casserole Breakfast*  
 (Family Life Center)  
 \*FREE WILL donations - youth fundraiser\*  
 11:15am | *Egg Hunt*  
 (Back Field)  
 \*Bring your baskets\*  
 210 W. PARK ROW  
 ARLINGTON, TX 76010  
 817-274-1626  
**gracekids**

**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 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*

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

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

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025**

- 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, April 3, 2024**

- 9:00 AM Braille (Moretz Group) - *Braille Room: MR1*
- 6:30 PM Braille (Charity Group) - *Braille Room: MR1*

**Friday, April 4, 2024**

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

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

- 9:00 AM Altar Guild
- 8:00 - 11:30 AM Outdoor Work Day: Biggest projects - Laying down new sod and laying seeded wildflower blankets.

**Sunday, April 6, 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*



**GRACE LUTHERAN**  
**HOLY WEEK**  
*Schedule*

**THURSDAY**  
APRIL 17 @ 6:30PM  
*Maunder Thursday*

**FRIDAY**  
APRIL 18 @ 6:30PM  
*Good Friday*

**SUNDAY**  
APRIL 20 @ 9:30AM  
*Easter Sunday*

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