

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Parker, South Dakota

Rev. Don Reiffenberger, Pastor

Music Leaders: Shirley Oswald, Deone Christensen, Grace Reiffenberger, Michele Reiffenberger

Church Office: 297-4417 Pastor's Cell: 605-759-6065

[graceluth@iw.net](mailto:graceluth@iw.net) [pastordongraceluth@gmail.com](mailto:pastordongraceluth@gmail.com) [www.gracelutheranparker.com](http://www.gracelutheranparker.com)



First Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2019

PRELUDE, VISUAL PRAYERS (Reconnecting with an Unhurried God) AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Psalms" LENTEN JOURNEY VIDEO:

*"Psalm 51"* (Luther House of Study)  
(First in a series of five during the Season of Lent)

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY/CONFESSION

Leader: When we prepare for Christmas, we light a new candle each Sunday in Advent. As we prepare for Good Friday, we extinguish a candle each Sunday in Lent to remind us of the approaching darkness of betrayal and death.

All: **Lent is a season of reflection and repentance. It invites us to look inside our hearts, seeing ourselves with compassion and truth – to see both our brokenness and our beauty, our failings and our faithfulness.**

Leader: In this season, we're all invited to enter into a deeper commitment to the way of Jesus. We extinguish the first candle, confessing our own failure to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received.

*~ The first candle is extinguished ~*

Leader: Let us this day commit together to keep this Lenten Season holy. May we set it apart from other times and make of ourselves – our very lives – an offering to our gracious and loving God.

Let us pray...

Merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that we fall far short of being all that you created us to be.

All: **Walk with us, Loving God, on the path to Easter. Take us slowly through this season so we may truly feel, clearly see, and tenderly know the depths of your love that you shared with us in the life of Jesus. Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe the Good News we have in Jesus Christ: our sins are forgiven, and we are made new!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and granted peace. Thanks Be to God!**

OPENING HYMN

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

ELW 338

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Merciful God, we embrace this Season of Lent as we prepare again to walk with Jesus to the cross. Speak to us, we pray, the solemn truth of Christ's passion.

All: **Remind us that there is no life without death, no communion without separation, no glory without suffering. Give us courage and faith to receive these difficult truths and to align our hearts and lives with them. May we choose to lose our lives so that we may gain them; to endure the pain of separation that we might enjoy the fellowship of all your saints; to enter Christ's suffering by entering the suffering of your children on earth that we may one day share in your eternal glory. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

THE READING RESPONSE

**"Thanks Be to God!"** (After each reading)

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

THE SECOND READING

Romans 10:8b-13

SPECIAL MUSIC

*"Come, Now is the Time to Worship"*

CHOIR

KID TALK

**"The Sign of the Cross"**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Please remain **standing** for The Gospel)

THE GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

(Pew Bible p. 46 – New Testament)

GOSPEL RESPONSES

**"Glory to You, O Lord"** (After The Gospel is announced)

**"Praise to You, O Christ"** (After The Gospel is read)

SERMON

**"Filled with the Holy Spirit"**

HYMN OF THE DAY

*"The Glory of These Forty Days"*

ELW 320

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Together, let us proclaim our shared faith:

All: **We are not alone. We live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus to reconcile and to make all things new. We trust God, who calls us to be the church; to love and serve others, to seek justice and to resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified, dead and risen; our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Congregational response after each petition of "Lord, in your mercy:" "Hear our prayer.")

## RETURNING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*"No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great." ~John Chrysostom~*

**Music Video – "Ocean Deep" (Building 429)**

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**"We Are Called"**

**ELW 720 (vs. 1 & Refrain)**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Jesus' witness to the power of your Spirit, guiding and strengthening him in times of testing.

All: **We offer these gifts and the service of our lives as tangible signs of our thanksgiving. As we begin our Lenten Journey, guide and strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus wherever he leads us. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Leader: Almighty God, whose Son fasted 40 days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet did not sin:

All: **Give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your will, that, as you know our weakness, so we may know your power to save;**

Leader: through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,

All: **who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

**"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

**ELW 632**

## DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving one another!

All: **Thanks Be to God!**

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**Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church on this first Sunday in Lent. "The word is near you," said the apostle Paul. "[It is] on your lips and in your heart" (Romans 10:8). Let us proclaim and sing God's word, that we may carry it always in our hearts.**

## This Week at GRACE

Wed: 5:30 pm: Lenten Supper (served until 6:15)

6:30 pm: Worship (Holy Communion)

7:00 pm: Choir

7:00 pm: Luther League

Thurs: 12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon @ St. Christina's

Sun: 9:00 am: Worship (Communion by Intinction)

10:00 am: Sunday School

10:00 am: Church Council meeting

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## Attendance 3/3/2019: 88

Last week's offering total was \$2,332.00. This includes Sunday's and Wednesday's offerings, Simply Giving, and direct EFT through First Savings Bank Our weekly offering goal is \$2,600.00. We were \$268.00 under goal. Remember - to ensure all bills and salaries of the church are paid, we need to meet our weekly goal!

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*Thank you to the following people for helping with our Worship service this morning: ushers Cam Becker & Ron Nelson, reader Tyrone Bialas, greeters Darin & Char Hay, and A/V assistant Lexi Even.*

## Announcement:

**Please join us for this week's Lenten activities:**

### **Wednesday, March 13**

5:30 – 6:15 pm: Supper by our chefs of the week: Chris Wirt, Kerri Meyer, & the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation students. Marinated hot ham sandwiches, chips, and bars are on the menu.

6:30 pm: Worship with Holy Communion. This week's speaker will be Erin Patten.

### **Thursday, March 14**

12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon at St. Christina's.

## Additional Announcements:

"Christ in our Home" devotionals for April, May, and June are here. You can pick up a copy from the shelf in the narthex.



Volunteers are still needed to help prepare and serve our Lenten suppers. Lenten Suppers will be served every Wednesday during Lent from 5:30-6:15 pm beginning March 13. If you would like to help serve, please sign up on the bulletin board.

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*New Member*



## **Lyla Johnson**

Grace Lutheran Church is happy to welcome Lyla Johnson! Lyla was born and raised on a farm about 15 miles southwest of where she and her husband Denny live. Lyla attended Augustana Academy in Canton and then went on and graduated from Northern.

Lyla and her first husband, Paul, were married for 42 years. Those years were spent in Nebraska, Iowa, and SD since 2007. Her work life was mainly spent in financial services working as an agent for AAL and Thrivent Financial. Lyla has 3 daughters and 7 grandchildren...plus the blessing of Denny's grandchildren. Between Lyla and Denny, they have 17 grandchildren, and count all of them "theirs"!

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