

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

gracelutheranparkersd@gmail.com

pastordongraceluth@gmail.com

www.gracelutheranparker.com

First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

PRELUDE, VISUAL PRAYERS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT

“Church on the Street”

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

Leader: Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

All: Let us follow him, giving up what we want to focus on what we need.

Leader: *“It is written: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”*

All: Surrendering our self-sufficiency, our opinions and our pride, to God’s truth.

Leader: *“It is also written: Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”*

All: Yielding our rights, preferences and desires to God’s will. Yielding our fear and pain to God’s plan.

Leader: *“For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”* In this holy season, we’re all invited to enter into a deeper commitment to the way of Jesus.

~ *The first candle is extinguished* ~

Leader: Together, we pray: Heavenly Father,

All: prepare our hearts to live a life of giving up to receive. Prepare our hearts to honor Jesus’ death and celebrate his resurrection. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Eternal God, your love for us is without end,

All: yet our love for you and for one another is weak,

Leader: often interrupted by self-centeredness, distrust, and vindictiveness.

All: Whenever we come together to pray to you, we have to acknowledge that much of our life deserves your displeasure,

Leader: that our life together is too often disfigured by our selfishness and self-love.

All: Forgive us, we pray, and restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. For Jesus’ sake. Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: When we are too weak to say so, Jesus intercedes and says, “Away!” Away with the powers of sin and death! Away with the forces of temptation and destruction! His words make it so. His sacrifice makes it real. Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

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

OPENING HYMN

“Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus”

Blue Hymnal #621

(Led by a music video as a time of peaceful prayer...please join in singing the chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises.

All: Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

THE READING RESPONSE

“Thanks Be to God!” (After each reading)

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 32

THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

KID TALK

“40 Days”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

(Pew Bible p. 2 – 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

“Lent with Jesus in the Desert”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

ELW 320

APOSTLES' CREED

pg 127

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

RETURNING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

"Never measure your generosity by what you give, but rather by what you have left."

~Bishop Fulton J. Sheen~

Music Video – "Your Name Is Power" (Rend Collective)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 182

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT *(Special music during Communion)*

BENEDICTION/DISSMISSAL

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.

DISMISSAL

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

All: Thanks Be to God!

Lent has begun: a time for both walking with Jesus toward the cross and being strengthened in our faith and knowledge of God. Welcome to worship and to the Lenten journey. As we celebrate Holy Communion this morning, we invite all baptized Christians who seek forgiveness and who believe in Christ's real presence in the Sacrament to join us at the altar. *** If you want Pastor Don to come to you with Communion, please let an usher know.***



Please join us for coffee and fellowship following the service.

This Week at GRACE

- Today: 10:00 am: Sunday School
- Wed: 5:30 pm: Supper
- 6:30 pm: Worship (Holy Communion)
- 7:00 pm: Luther League
- 7:00 pm: Choir
- Thurs: 12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon @ Grace
- Sun: 9:00 am: Worship
- 10:00 am: Sunday School
- 10:00 am: Women's Bible Study

Attendance 2/23/2020: 116

This week's offering total was \$2,095.00. This includes Sunday's and Wednesday's offerings, and direct EFT through First Savings Bank. Our weekly offering goal is \$2,900.00. We were \$805.00 under goal. Remember - to ensure all bills and salaries of the church are paid, we need to meet our weekly goal!!!!

Thank you to the following people for helping with our Worship service this morning: ushers Jim White & Julie Andersonl, reader Byron Nogelmeier, greeters Bill & Joan Aeschlimann, Communion Assistants Roger & Sue Deutsch, and A/V assistant Grace Reiffenberger.

Please join us for this week's Lenten activities:

Wednesday, March 4

5:30 – 6:15 pm: Supper by our chefs of the week: Denny & Lyla Johnson and Ordell & Shirley Oswald..

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

Thursday, March 5

12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon at Grace.

Announcements:



The March newsletter is in your mailbox. Please take your copy home with you today. Extra copies of the newsletter can be found on the shelf in the narthex.

FINAL CALL: Updates are being made to our military section of the bulletin board. Current and past members of the military and their photos are requested so the bulletin board can be updated. Please submit to the church office. Thank you!



Christ in Our Home devotionals for April, May, and June are here. Please pick up a copy from the shelf in the narthex.

Due to spam issues, Grace Lutheran has a new general email address. The new email address replaces the old graceluth@iw.net address. Pastor Don's and Emily's email addresses have not changed:

New general email address: gracelutheranparkersd@gmail.com
Pastor Don's email address: pastordongraceluth@gmail.com
Emily's email address: emilygraceluth@iw.net



Our building improvements continue with ceiling tear-down in preparation for the new ceiling tile. The date for tear-down has been set for Saturday March 7 at 9:00 am. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS TEAR-DOWN!!! If you can help, please sign up on the bulletin board. It's going to be dirty and dusty, so please dress accordingly.

We are also looking for volunteers to prepare and serve a meal for everyone working on March 7. If you would like to help with food, please contact the church office.



The FROGS (7th & 8th graders) are sponsoring a "Church on the Street" ministry event on

Saturday, March 14.

A bus will leave Grace at **9:00am** for the Sioux Falls Ministry Center Downtown (225 E. 11th St.). We will help set up for Worship and a meal, participate in Worship (Pastor Don is preaching and presiding over Communion), serve a meal, and help with clean-up. We will leave Sioux Falls around **1:30pm**. Help us get an accurate count of the number of people joining us on the bus by signing up out in the narthex (beginning this Sunday). If you can help by providing **plates, napkins, cups** (for coffee) and **water bottles**, a collection container will be out in the narthex.

Desserts are needed for that Saturday (*to be delivered to Grace on Friday, March 13*).

We are to plan for approximately **200** people!!