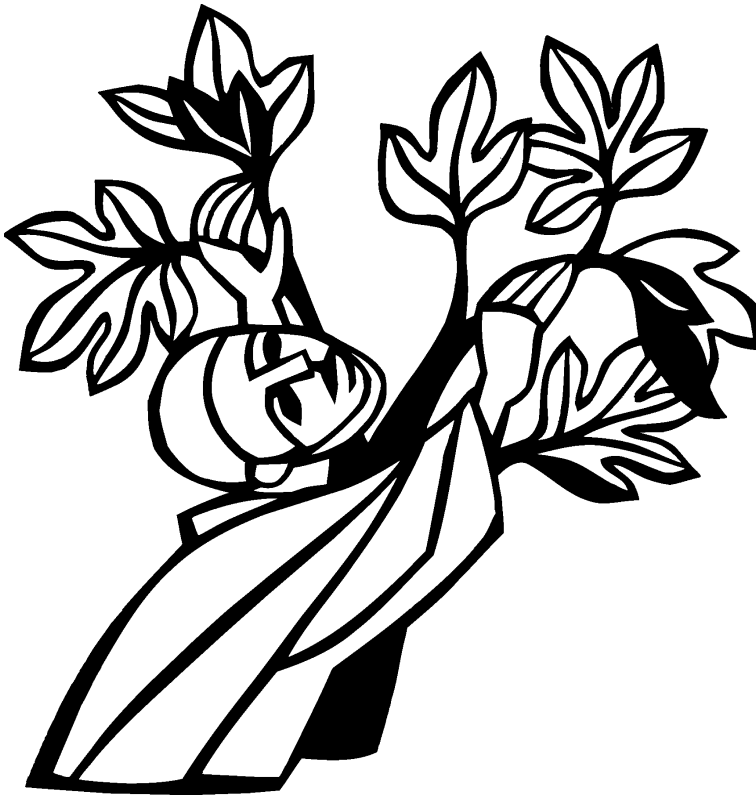


## Welcome to Worship

*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 23, 2025 - 8:30 AM**



### Grace Lutheran Pastors and Staff

**Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb:** Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Cole McCormick:** Associate Pastor  
**Nicole Kolbe:** Office Administrator

**Brad Anderson:** Maintenance  
**Jane Reiman:** Finance Director  
**Amber Hansen:** Open Door Meal Coordinator

~ 300 S. Grant Street, Fairmont, MN 56031 ~ [www.gracelutheranchurch.org](http://www.gracelutheranchurch.org) ~ 507-238-4418 ~

*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.*

## **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**

*Change My Heart, O God*

**Chancel Choir**

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: **Amen.**

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate One,

All: **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

All: **Amen.**

#### **Gathering Hymn**

*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

**#445**

**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**

*Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*  
v. 1-3 & Lent 3

#334

**Prayer of the Day**

Eternal God, **your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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: Isaiah 55:1-9**

- 1 Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters;  
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
- 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread  
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- 3 Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5 Now you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.
- 6 Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;
- 7 let the wicked forsake their way  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
 nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
 so are my ways higher than your ways  
 and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup> We must not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

**Children’s Message**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**p.151b**

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of Luke. **All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think

that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.<sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem?<sup>5</sup> No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did.”<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.<sup>7</sup> So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’<sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.’<sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Allison Cobb**

**Hymn of the Day**

*There in God's Garden*  
v. 1-4

**#342**

**Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## Prayers of the Church

P: God in your mercy...

C: ... receive our prayer.

## 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

**Chancel Choir**

### Offering Hymn

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

**#186**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew and right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

## Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider, **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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,  
 Lord God of pow'r 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.**

### **Lamb of God**

**p.154**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### **Communion Hymn**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

**#623**

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **Blessing**

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### **Sending Hymn**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

**#705**

### **Sending**

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### **Postlude**