

Graceline

A publication of Grace Lutheran Church



Holy Week

“Lent, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week shall be retained, not to force anyone to fast, but to preserve the Passion history and the Gospels appointed for that season.”

Martin Luther – from his explanation of the German Mass.

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GRACELINE is a newsletter published by:

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Pastor David’s Message

Death and Resurrection more to it than you think?

Why does it say, in the Apostles Creed, that Jesus descended into hell?

It is true, that our Lord and Saviour went to hell and back for you! After His painful and grueling death on the cross, we are told in the Apostle’s Creed that He descended into hell. This is an interesting point in the creed, and has brought many to explain why Jesus had to go there in the first place. I have heard different theories: One is that he went to preach to the lost and to save them, the other is that not even death and the impenetrable gates of hell could defeat our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

First of all, the "hell" that is referred to in the Creed is not the burning place of punishment. The place that He descends to is a place of the dead. In the Old Testament this place is called "Shaol." "Hades" is another word that describes this place in our New Testament. Both of these places are the same realm. It is this place where the dead dwell. The "hell" that most talk about, and were Hollywood movies like to portray, is the place called "Gehenna," the bible calls this place the place of punishment. "Gehenna," was also a name of a burning garbage pit near Jerusalem to describe this realm. So, when we talk about the journey of Jesus, one should not think that He went to dance with the devil in the pits of destruction. He went to the place of the dead. When he had gave his last breath on the cross, the devil thought he had won, and victory was his. Yet Jesus proved that not even death or the gates that surrounds it, will not defeat the power of Jesus. Thus, as Christian’s we should not fear death and suffering. We who follow Jesus, and believe in his power, will know, that we will share in a death and resurrection like his.

This action by Jesus to descend into the place of the dead, breaks the chains of death. It reveals that we can live in a sure confidence that we will not be defeated by death. The question is, did Jesus do even more here? Did he free others who were already there? I believe he did. It does say in Ephesians 4:8-10: When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.

To the unbeliever who reads my posting, you may think this is not real? You may think this heaven and hell thing was a made-up duality. As humans we want to reason and to have proof. We want science to explain all things. Science is a useful tool, but has its limits. It can only explain data that it measures. Science tells us that death is real and it happens when the heart stops and the brain cease to work. Yet science has no instrument to probe or to measure beyond death to its different realms. Science is an earthly endeavor, and is limited to explain the mysteries of faith.

The Apostles Creed also has its rightful place in the core of our Christian beliefs. Out of all the major religions in the world. Christianity is the only faith where we have a God who is incarnate in Jesus who journeys through the pain and suffering of this life. We have a God that is willing to go to hell and back for us. To the faithful it says to us: "Do not fear, God has walked where one day you will walk." Shaol, the place of the dead will not be a final place that will have a hold on us, but we will rise out of His likeness. Praise be to God!

For more biblical reading please consider these passages:

1 Peter 3:18-20 New International Version (NIV)

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. 19 After being made alive, [a] he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—20 to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water.

Ephesians 4:9-10 New International Version (NIV)

9 (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

Matthew 12:40 New International Version (NIV)

40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Matthew 27:52-53 New International Version (NIV)

and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

In Christ,

Pastor David



Congregational Life

Christian Education

Sundays

10:15AM: Sunday School. Our Sunday School meets every Sunday except during school holidays.

Tuesdays

4:00PM: Pastor David's holds a Youth Zoom Bible Study from January 29th to March 5th.

Wednesdays

9:30AM: Ladies Bible Study led by Liliias Statham on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00AM. If you want more information, please call Liliias at 250.767.0153.

Thursdays

Pastor Davids Bible Study TBA

Confirmation: Contact Pastor David for more information at 250.317.6502

Sundays

10:30AM: Rev Jim Stathem gathers inside the room adjacent to the Church Office after Coffee. The second service people are ok to leave early at 11 for our Traditional service.

Serving Others

Volunteer at the Kelowna Gospel Mission

251 Leon Ave, Kelowna, BC

Looking for volunteers

On the 4th Tuesday of every month a team from Grace Lutheran was going to the Kelowna Gospel Mission. They help in the kitchen with lunch and dinner preparation. If you would like to serve in this way, please contact Corinn Lutz at 250.869.8092 or by email: timcorlutz@gmail.com

Unfortunately, we had to stop doing this important work in 2025. As we were unable to get volunteers to help so were unable to go. If you are interested please call Corinn Lutz or the office for more information.

Rides to Church

Do you **need a ride** to Sunday services or special congregational events? Would you be **willing to give someone a ride** to Sunday services or special events?

Call the office at 250.769.5685 and we will match those who need a ride and those willing to give a ride.



Serving in Worship

Praise Band:

Praise Band leads the congregation in song at the 9:00AM Contemporary service.

Full Of Grace:

Full Of Grace leads the congregation in song at the 11:00AM traditional service.



Grace Choir

Grace Choir provides a special musical offering during worship on the first and third Sunday of each month. We sing from September through May. We welcome anyone who has a voice and wants to sing to the Lord. We practice on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30PM. If you have any questions, please speak to Deni Skutshek 250.862.9098 or the Church Office 250.769.5685 for information.

Fellowship

Men's Breakfast: Grace men gather at 8:30AM for breakfast at Grace Lutheran in the Fellowship Hall the second Saturday of the month. **Our next breakfast Saturday, March 14th, and April 11th, 2026.**

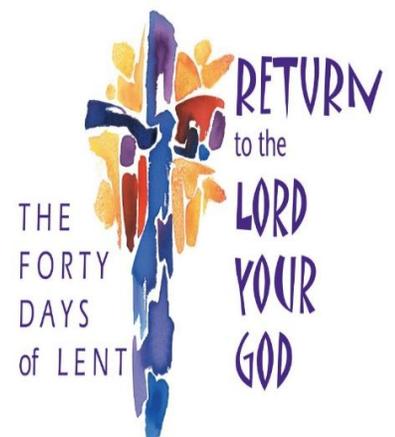
Secret Sister Events: For information on the next secret sister event please see our weekly bulletin for updates

Council Meetings

Next Church Council meeting will be held on March 24th, and April 21st, in the Fireside Room at 7:00 PM.

HEALING & PRAYER SERVICE

will be held on Tuesday March 27th, and Tuesday April 14th, and April 28th, at 7:00PM.





Ash Wednesday/Shrove Tuesday was held on Wednesday February 18th

This year we once again combined the observance of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday on Wednesday February 18th. About 30 enjoyed a festive pancake supper, with all the trimmings at 6:00 PM. Following supper, at 7:00PM, we made our way to the sanctuary for our annual Ash Wednesday service. The liturgy for Ash Wednesday invited us to consider our fallen state and confess our sins to God our Father, ashes were then imposed, by Pastor Emeritus Ed Skutshek.



Wednesday from March 4th to March 25th,

This year our Midweek Lenten services will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM. They will last about 45 minutes each. The schedule of services is as follows:

Wednesday March 4th at 6:00 PM

Wednesday March 11th at 6:00 PM

Wednesday March 18th at 6:00PM

Wednesday March 25th, at 6:00PM



Sunday March 29th

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday. This year's Palm Sunday Services:

9:00AM Contemporary Service

11:00AM Traditional Service



Thursday April 2nd,

Our annual Maundy Thursday Service begins at 7:00 PM. We remember that on the night Jesus was betrayed he instituted Holy Communion and washed the disciple's feet. We will receive Holy Communion. We will strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday. Grace Choir will perform "The Upper Room"



Friday April 3rd

Our annual Good Friday Service begins at 10:00 AM. We remember the day that changed human history forever. Service will be led by Full Of Grace and Grace choir will perform "Wounded Dove".



Sunday April 5th – Easter Sunday

9:00AM ~ Contemporary Service

11:00AM ~ Traditional Service

Join us for our Easter services of Holy Communion in our main sanctuary at Grace. Easter Breakfast will be served after the 9:00AM service in our Fellowship Hall.



Youth EVENTS

Youth Event- Bowling at the Capri Center Friday March .27th 7:00PM - 8:00PM. Located at the Capri Center Mall at the corner of Hwy 97 & Gordon Drive. Questions? Please contact Pastor David Wunderlich by text or phone: 250.317.6502 or email. It is free.

Upcoming Events for April:

On April 3rd, after the 10:00 AM Good Friday service, the youth and Sunday School students will be coloring Easter eggs For More information about Youth activities please call Pastor David at 250.769.5685.

CONFIRMATION NOTICE:

Youth /Confirmation Zoom Bible Study

Please contact Pastor David for more information at 250.317.6502

Pray for everyone in our church family who mourns including the Grub, McLennan, Pagenkopf, Gniewotta and Hardy families. Pray for those healing including Vera Hess, Bill Logan, Bev Mettlewsky's brother Rob Schultz , Jim & Marline Pope's granddaughter Kala, Alma Pasker, Brandon Howe, Marian Ruff, Don Chapman, Richard Shalogam, Marissa Hutchison, Nedra Schuler, Ellen Spielman, Kris Gering, Maria Heise, Jim Szabo, Louise Shopland, Gerald Schuler, Emily Hughes, Fran Schmidt, Joan Ulmer, Coco Heebner and Lorraine Wentland.

For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. Isaiah 49:13b



Summary Report of Grace Lutheran's 2026 Annual General Meeting



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held Sunday February 22nd, after our 10:30 AM traditional combined service.

Everley Lutz, our council chair, called the meeting to order after the combined service. Pastor David opened the meeting with prayer. Jack Spielman, our Secretary, certified that 53 voting members were present. The first order of business was to approve the agenda for the meeting and thereafter the minutes of our 2025 AGM.

MARCH 2026 Grace Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Lent 2 9:00AM Contemporary w/Holy Communion 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham 7:00PM	2:00PM Lakeview Lodge PD	9:30AM Ladies Bible Study 2:00PM Brookhaven PD Lenten Service 6PM	7:00PM Choir Practice 4:00PM 6-week Youth Zoom Bible Study with Pastor David		Karen Emmond Private Spring Concert 1:30-4:30
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Lent 3 9:00 AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Choir Anthem Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham 7:00PM	7:00PM Healing/Prayer Service	9:30AM Ladies Bible Study Lenten Service 6PM	7:00PM Choir Practice 4:00PM 6-week Youth Zoom Bible Study with Pastor David		8:30AM Men's Breakfast 1:00PM Emmaus Finnish Service
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Lent 4 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	Spectrum Singers 7PM 7:00PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham		9:30AM Ladies Bible Study 2:00PM Brookhaven FOG Lenten Service 6PM	7:00PM Choir Practice 4:00PM 6-week Youth Zoom Bible Study with Pastor David		1:00PM Emmaus Finnish Service
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Lent 5 9:00 AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Choir Anthem Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	Spectrum Singers 7PM 7:00PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham	7:00PM Council Meeting	9:30AM Ladies Bible Study Lenten Service 6:00PM	7:00PM Choir Practice 4:00PM 6-week Youth Zoom Bible Study with Pastor David	Youth Event Bowling capri center 7PM CW Away till April 1st	
Holy Week 29	30	31				
Palm Sunday 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 11:00AM Traditional Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham 7:00PM	7:00PM Healing and Prayer meeting CW Away				

APRIL 2026 – Grace Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30AM Ladies Bible Study 2:00PM Brookhaven PD CW back	2 7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service Choir Anthem	3 office closed 10:00AM Good Friday Service Choir Anthem 11:00AM Youth Event Egg Colouring	4 1:00PM Emmaus Finnish Service
5 Lent 5 Easter Sunday 9:00AM Contemporary w/Holy Communion 10:00AM Easter Breakfast 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion Choir Anthem Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	6 Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham7:00PM	7	8 9:00AM Ladies Bible Study	9 1:00PM Choir Practice	10	11 8:30AM Men's Breakfast
12 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	13 Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham7:00PM	14 Healing/Prayer Service 7:00PM	15 9:00AM Ladies Bible Study 2:00PM Brookhaven FOG	16	17	18 1:00PM Emmaus Finnish Service
19 Resurrection of Our LORD (Easter) 9:00AM Contemporary w/Holy Communion 10:00AM Easter Breakfast 11:00AM Traditional w/Holy Communion Choir Anthem Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	20 Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham7:00PM	21 7:00PM Council Meeting Bible study 2PM	22 9:00AM Ladies Bible Study	23 1:00PM Choir Practice	24	25 Fellowship Hall Booked for Private Event
26 Easter 2 9:00AM Contemporary 10:10AM Coffee Social 10:15AM Sunday School 11:00AM Traditional Bible study Jim Statham 1030am back office	27 Spectrum Singers 7PM Zoom Study with Jim Statham7:00PM	28 7:00PM Healing and Prayer meeting Bible study 2PM	29 9:00AM Ladies Bible Study	30		