

# A SERVICE OF THE WORD

## Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Grant us, I beg you, merciful God, to desire ardently the things that please you,  
To investigate them prudently, to understand them truly, and to fulfill them perfectly,  
For the praise and glory of your name. Amen.

St. Thomas Aquinas

### PRE-SERVICE

Beverly Mark, organ

"Early American Folk Hymns", arr. Don Hustad

### OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Eden Seminary Offering Envelope

Jean Wakefield, Director of Habitat for Humanity

Mark Schmitt

Jeanne Wilcox

### TOLLING OF THE BELL

The tolling of the bells is an opportunity for you to transition your thoughts towards God as we begin worship.

### PRELUDE

Don Lewellen, vocal

"Be Unto Your Name", DeShazo & Sadler

### SYMBOLIC ENTRY OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT

Rachel Guex and Hallie Schroeter

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The church's season of Lent is a forty-day journey between Ash Wednesday and Easter.

Our journey is full of memory and hope.

**We remember Jesus' time in the wilderness; we hope for a day when evil will be conquered.**

**We remember Jesus' tears; we hope for a day when tears will be no more.**

**We remember Jesus' suffering; we hope for a day of redemption.**

I invite you to join your voice with mine as we confess those things, we know to be true.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary,

He 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, and is seated at the Right Hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one, holy, universal Christian Church,

The Communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

## HYMN

## “All Creatures of Our God and King”

(If you are worshipping in the sanctuary, please do not sing.)

All creatures of our God and King  
Lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam,  
and silver moon with softer gleam!  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O rushing wind that art so strong  
You clouds that sail in Heaven along,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
O rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
O lights of evening, find a voice!  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All you who are of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
Sing praises, Alleluia!  
All you who pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The prophet writes, “In repentance and rest is your salvation,  
In quietness and trust is your strength.” Pray with me,

Merciful God, all around we see broken and beaten human beings. We know of some who are addicted to harmful drugs, others to hurtful words. We know of some who are fighting cancer, others shame. We know of some who inwardly battle demons, others who feel powerless over their own lives. God of mercy, hear us as we pray.

Our hearts are broken by our sin that is ever-so-real. We sometimes love our possessions more than we love people. We sometimes forget that all of us carry burdens from the past that can be overbearing. We sometimes become so self-obsessed with ourselves, that we literally do not see or hear the pain of others around us. Grant us, O God, a knowledge of your saving grace and lead us toward that day when Christ will be all in all. We pray in his name. Amen.

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The good news of the Gospel is that Jesus embraced the way of the cross. He endured suffering. He spoke forgiveness. He offered without conditions, the gift of love. Praise be to God. Amen.

#### **RESPONSE**

#### **"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

(If you are worshipping in the sanctuary, please do not sing.)

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I gladly take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land  
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way  
from the burning of the noon tide heat, and the burden of the day.**

**Upon that cross of Jesus my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One Who suffered there for me;  
and from my smitten heart with tears two wonders I confess  
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.**

#### **PSALM 127**

**Aubry DeRosier**

Life is challenging. Whether we are young or old, each of us knows something about how difficult life can be. Throughout the psalm that we are about to pray, we hear about our Lord's dependable strength and love.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—  
my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

**One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

**Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;**

**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,  
be gracious to me and answer me!

**"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"**

**Your face, Lord, do I seek.**

Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

**If my father and mother forsake me,  
the Lord will take me up.**

Teach me your way, O Lord,  
and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they are breathing out violence.**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the Lord!**

## **THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**2 Corinthians 1:1-7**

(The Christian church exists to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The church is also called to support, encourage, and befriend one another as we practice our faith in Christ. I am about to read the opening of a letter that Paul wrote to the church in Corinth.)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,  
To the church of God that is in Corinth, including all the saints throughout Achaia:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

## **SERMON ON THE STEPS**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**"You are My King (Amazing Love)", Foote**

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:10-21

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

He said therefore, 'What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.'

And again he said, 'To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

## SERMON

### "A WOMAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE"

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## A TESTIMONY OF FAITH

Merritt Wilcox

## THE OFFERING

Person by person, the church has stories to tell of human lives that have been made more beautiful because of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We are about to sing a piece that is often heard at Thanksgiving, but in truth the message of this hymn is timeless for those who are in and of Jesus Christ.

## CHORAL RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Please pray with me,

We give you thanks, O God, for the ministry of Jesus Christ. We are grateful for Jesus' selfless love; for his healing power; and for his message of hope and redemption. Guide us, we pray, as we seek to give honor to this one who was not only crucified but resurrected. Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

**"O Christ, the Healer, We have Come"**

(If you are worshiping in the sanctuary, please do not sing.)

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health to plead for friends.  
How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed;  
yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

In conflicts that destroy our health we recognize the world's disease;  
our common life declares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find  
the wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.

## COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

\*\*\*\*\*

### GRACE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**"We are a Christian Community Committed to Love, Service and Growth."**

2801 Garfield Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241 (920) 553-1222

Website <http://www.graceucc.org>

**Missionaries:** Mark Knowles and Danielle Murry-Knowles, Serving in Lesotho, Africa

**Ministers:** All the People of the Congregation

**Pastor:** Kim M. Henning

**Associate Pastor:** Colie Bettivia

**Moderator:** Betty Becker

**Administrative Assistants:** Debbie Augustine and Jean Schwalbe

**Organist/Choir Director:** Andrea Allington

**Organist:** Beverly Barnes Mark

**Maintenance:** Michael Timm

**Sound Board:** Bruce Suettinger

**Worship Technology:** Bill Heinsohn, Bob Randerson, Cal MacAuley

*Song Leader: Don Lewellen*

*Liturgist: Randy Wilson*

### **Hospitalized**

Jim Schleif has been released from the care of Aurora Hospital in Grafton, Wisconsin.

Keith Diedrich is at a rehabilitation center after his hospitalization in Phoenix, AZ. (Keith and Susan Diedrich, 12626 West Limewood Drive, Sun City West, Arizona 85375)

Donna Anderson was hospitalized at Bellin Hospital. She is now being cared for at home.

Clare Schuette was a patient at Aurora Hospital this week.

Bill Gruetzmacher was a patient at Aurora Medical Center and is now recovering at home.

### **Our Sympathy**

We offer our sympathy to Jeff and Robin Stoeger as they grieve the death of Jeff's father, Karl. Karl died on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, and his funeral will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church on Monday.

We offer our sympathy to the Lacroix family as they grieve the death of Dorothy. Dorothy died on December 16, 2020 where she was being cared for in a nursing facility. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to her brother and sister-in-law, Melvin and Judith Hagedorn (2712 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Two Rivers), or to her daughters, Sharon and Paul Cameron (Briarwood Dr. Apt. 6, Biddeford, ME 04005) of Susanne and George Langle (1506 Loretta Court, Brandon, FL 33511)

### **A Child is Born**

A baby girl, Blair Margaret, was born on February 19, 2021 in Madison to April and Nic Harding. Grandparents are Cheryl and Charlie Philipps of Mishicot and Ruth and Jeff Harding.

### **Monday Study Class**

Our Monday Adult Study Class will not meet on Monday, March 1).

### **Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive**

Donate personal care items for local crisis programs in Manitowoc and Two Rivers (cleaning supplies, bathroom tissue, diapers, feminine needs, hair care, face soap, bath soap, deodorant, body lotion, laundry soap, kitchen trash bags, paper towels)

Two options for giving: 1) bring your items to Grace Congregational Church or 2) bring your items to our parking lot (Drive-through, Drop Off) on Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 3-4 p.m.

### **Zoom Kid's Sunday School**

Pastor Colie is hosting a Zoom Sunday School Class from 10:15-10:45, for children preschool age through 6th grade. We will be learning together the Beatitudes (Jesus's statements of Blessings from Matthew 5). Children need not attend every lesson! Sign up at [graceucc.org/sundayschool2021](https://graceucc.org/sundayschool2021) or contact Pastor Colie ([pastorcolie@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcolie@gmail.com), or call cell - 920-973-5775 / the church office - 920-553-1222).

### Lenten Worship Services: Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

You may worship with us in the parking lot or you may live-stream these worship services.

“Yearning for Easter”

March 3: Mark 14:53-65 (Jesus and the High Priest)

March 10: Mark 14:66-72 (Peter’s Denial)

March 17: Mark 15:1-15 (Jesus before Pilate)

March 24: Mark 15:16-20 (Humiliation of Jesus)

April 1: Mark 14:12-27 (The Last Supper)

April 2: Mark 15:25-39 (The Crucifixion of Jesus)

### An Evening with Dr. Karl Kuhn

On Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Karl Kuhn from Lakeland University will join our Adult Study Class from six to seven o’clock in the evening. His presentation will focus on, “What Does the Cross Mean?”

Here is the explanation he offers:

“The cross is the most pervasive and powerful of Christian symbols. But as the case with most powerful symbols, the cross doesn’t mean just one thing. The meaning of the cross within the Christian tradition, and among Christians today, is richly textured and variable. This study will explore the transformation of the cross—from a symbol of death and subjugation to a symbol of victory and liberation—and its multiple resonances within the New Testament. The goal of the study is to encourage thoughtful reflection and use of this powerful symbol in the church today.”

### Devotionals---All Three Are Available!

We offer you three devotional options: "Our Daily Bread" (small print); "Our Daily Bread" (large print) and "Daily Bible Study". If you would like a copy of any of these delivered or sent to you, please notify the church office or Pastor Kim Henning.

### PEOPLE WE WANT TO HOLD IN PRAYER...

Bob Stephens is a resident at Hamilton Home/Northland Lodge. Ruth Hauboldt is a resident at River House Apartments. Lesley Huffer is at Rivers Bend, & Bruce Huffer is at his home. Marian Duescher is a resident at Harbor View. Jean Sutter is with her daughter, Heidi Bender: 880 S. Madison Ave. Pasadena, CA 91106. Nicole Kellner is a resident at Arborview Manor at 1520 Arboretum Drive, Apt. 1120, Oshkosh, WI 54901. Bill Monka is a resident at Tender Reflections. Bonnie Burmeister is living at 2790 Elm Tree Hill, Room 301, Howard, WI; Ginny Posny is at her home.

### OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Bracken Tadych (PFC4 107-1 Lilac Lane, Minot AFB, ND 58704); Jacob Hearley (5350 Berger Street, Stop 1330, Moody AFB GA 31699); MSgt Kevin Allie (PSC37, 19 Naomi Street Magnolie, DE 19962); Gavin and Emily LeGreve (1344 N Lafayette Avenue; Bremerton WA 98312); Hunter Hayes (Air Force, Tucson, AZ); Kaity Pietenpol (Pietenpol-Prueter, Kaitlynn, 4540 Carswell Ave Unit C-9 Nellis AFB NV 89191); Alec Dewane (PVT Dewane, Alec J. B Btry 2-6 ADA BN 2750 Miner Rd. Fort Sill OK 73503); Jimmi & Alex Anderson, (164B Lower Brick Rd., Fort Riley, KS 66442)

Please notify the office of additions, changes or corrections to the above lists.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY today to Daniel Grant, Casey Rennert and Krystle Zich and this week to Bridget Brennen, Hannah Sosnosky, Kathryn Hirvela, Elizabeth Price, Mary Sosnosky, Helen Ertman, Taylor MacAuley, Nancee Rysticken, Sally Jo Grant and Alyssa Mainwaring.

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

**All meetings via Zoom unless noted below**

<b>Monday</b>	Handbell Choir practice (FH)	11:00 am
	Diaconate meeting	6:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Women's Bible study	4:00 pm
	Confirmation class (Sanctuary/Zoom)	6:00 pm
	Lenten service (parking lot)	7:00 pm
	Generation G	7:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Grace Notes practice (FH)	1:30 pm