

Grace Lutheran Church
 2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140
 262-654-9143 + gracekenosha.com
Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024
 1:00 and 6:30 p.m.
 Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Barker
 Musicians: Gracie, Samuel & David Underwood
 Lay readers: 1:00 Judy Gregory
 Communion assistants: 1:00 Judy Gregory
 6:30 Paula Pierce
 ASL interpreter: Dottie Watts
 Projectionist: Jarlene Kriehn



GATHERING

GATHERING SONG: "Oh the Deep Deep Love of Jesus"

- 1: *Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Vast unmeasured, boundless, free
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me
Underneath me, all around me
Is the current of His love
Leading onward, leading homeward to
Thy glorious rest above*
- 2: *Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me
And it lifts me up to glory
For it lifts me up to Thee*
- 3: *Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Spread His praise from shore to shore
How He loveth, ever loveth
Changeth never, nevermore*

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GREETING

- ☐ The Lord be with you.
☑ And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 251)

- ☐ Let us pray.
Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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.

WORD

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

📖 A reading from Joel.

- B**low the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is
near—
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them in ages to
come.
Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,

- with fasting, with weeping, and with
mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD, your God,
for the LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast
love,
and relents from punishing.
Who knows whether the LORD will not turn and
relent,
and leave behind a blessing,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD, your God?
Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD,
weep.

Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a
mockery,
a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 51:1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your
steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my
offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my
wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what
is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and
right in your judgment.**

Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom
deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may
rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a 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 sustain me with your bountiful
Spirit.**

Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my
salvation,**

**and my tongue shall sing of your
righteousness.**

O LORD, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your
praise.

**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would
give it.**

You are not pleased with burnt offering.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you
will not despise.

SERMON — Rev. Jonathan Barker

HYMN OF THE DAY: "DRAW ME IN"

*1: In the hunger of the desert
Let your fast renew my senses
Feed me with the words of heaven
Oh my savior, draw me in*

*2: When my days are endless taking
Anything to fill the aching
Show me all the good you're making
Oh my savior, draw me in*


Refrain: *Draw me in with your tenderness
Speak abundance to my emptiness
Set your table in this wilderness
With the feast I long to taste*

*3: Christ you know my deepest longing
Seeds you planted now are forming
Let me hear the still voice calling
Oh my savior, draw me in*

*4: As I stumble through this journey
Restless in my endless searching
Fill me with your love each morning
Oh my savior, draw me in*

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INVITATION TO LENT (ELW p. 252)

 Friends in Christ, today with the whole
church we enter the time of remembering
Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life
in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging
our need for repentance and for God's mercy.
We are created to experience joy in
communion with God, to love one another,
and to live in harmony with creation. But our
sinful rebellion separates us from God, our
neighbors, and creation, so that we do not
enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a
discipline that contends against evil and
resists whatever leads us away from love of
God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to
the discipline of Lent—self-examination and

repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

- [P]** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most holy and merciful God,
- [C]** **we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**
- [P]** We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.
- [C]** **Have mercy on us, O God.**
- [P]** Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

- [C]** **Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

SONG: "FROM THE DUST WE CAME"

Refrain: *From the dust we came
To the dust we shall return*

1: *God everlasting,
age unto age the same
We are a moment
then like a breath we fade*

2: *God everlasting,
We are cut down like grass
Seeds in the morning
And by the night we pass*

Ending: *O Lord have mercy
O Lord have mercy
O Lord have mercy*

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IMPOSITION OF ASHES (ELW p. 254)

- [P]** Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- [C]** **Amen.**
- [P]** Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
- [C]** **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**
- [P]** By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
- [C]** **bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**
- [P]** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
- Amen.**

VERSE: "LORD HAVE MERCY"

Chorus: *Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy*

1: *Holy Spirit rest upon us
Lead us in the way of your justice
Holy Spirit rest upon us
Teach us how to serve in our weakness*

2: *Holy Spirit rest upon us
Teach us how to tend to creation*

*Holy Spirit rest upon us
Guide us from our path of destruction*

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. You call us to return to you, steadfast God. Renew a right spirit within the church and cleanse the hearts of your people. Strengthen those who proclaim your gospel in word and deed. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P You sustain your creation, generous God. Supply all that is needful for life to flourish. Protect endangered species and fragile habitats. Teach us to live lightly upon the earth and to honor it as our home. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P You seek justice and peace, righteous God. Rebuild cities and homelands devastated by war (*regions in conflict may be named*). Provide welcome, help, and safety to refugees. Prosper negotiations that lead to lasting peace among the nations. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P You care for all people, loving God. Heal any who are scarred by violence, addiction, or trauma of any kind. Comfort those who grieve and bring relief to any in pain. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P You gather this assembly, abiding God. Unite us in serving our neighbors and working for justice. We pray for caregivers and people who are hospitalized, in treatment, or recovering from illness especially:

- Darlene Bard
- Kate Barker
- Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
- Doug Becker (Marlene's son)
- Eric Berge (Paul's brother)
- Pat Bernacchi
- Jackie Brichacek (Nancy's sister-in-law)
- Andrew Calvert

- Cameron Carr (Karen Cassiday's nephew)
- Holly Cummings
- Eric Dangerfield
- Jan Dugdale
- Barb Ehlen
- Gregory Foster
- Judy Gregory
- Shirleen Gulick
- Cogan Holly Hall
- Aggie Hartnell (Bert's mother)
- Christine Hill
- Sydney & Skyler Houston
- Dick Kauffman
- Norma Larson
- Rubel Pierce (Randy's father)
- Mary Jean Preston
- Rex Reeve
- Carolyn Reynold's children Eddie, Santino, and Lytoshia
- Martha, Joel, and Jeanette Sanchez
- Cynthia Schwartz (Norma's daughter)
- Patti Shields
- Jill Swails
- Marcia Swanson
- Joyce Swift
- Andrew Tate
- Ron and Linda Wadham
- Steve & Heather Waldron
- Henry, Florence, and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn's brother and sisters)
- Charles and Timothy Walker
- Dottie Watts
- Chris Webb (Bert's sister)
- Pam Wisse
- Kristi Weiss.
Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P You redeem us from death, faithful God. We give thanks for those who served you in the church (*especially Cyril and Methodius, missionaries, whom we commemorate today*). Bring us with all the saints into everlasting joy. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them

into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

C Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

*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
The power and the glory forever
And ever. Amen*

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

COMMUNION

P The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

R7 Amen.

COMMUNION SONG: "Come to Me"

1: *You weighed down you are worried
Child I see you child I know you
Bring your burdens bring your labor
Come to me*

Chorus: *Come to me come to me
Come to me if you are weary
I will give you I will give you my rest*

2: *I am gentle I am humble
Let me teach you let me show you
Trade your burden mine is easy
Come to me*

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COMMUNION SONG: Precious Lord, Take My Hand (ELW #773)

1: *Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,*

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

2: *When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,*

When my life is almost gone.

Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

3: *When the darkness appears and the night draws near,*

*And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

Repeat verse 1

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PRAYER (ELW p. 254)

P Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING

SENDING SONG: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Chorus: *Create in me a clean heart, O Lord
Create in me a clean heart, O Lord*

1: *Against you only I have sinned
Done evil in your sight
But you have shown me what I've done
With mercy in your eyes
Then wash my shame and guilt away
My weary soul renew
From all my sinning turn your face
Let me return to you*

2: *So I will give you what you ask
A humble, broken heart
A spirit burning down to ash
With in your flame, O God
And this will be your mercy, Lord
Transforming all of me
'Til every act and every word
Your love and glory speak*

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New members class continues Sunday, March 10. Please see Pastor Barker if you are interested in joining the Grace family.

We invite everyone to sit in the first eight pews on each side of the sanctuary—this will make the acoustics of our congregational singing much stronger.

Receipts last week:

General offering.....	\$ 2,271.00
Benevolence.....	\$ 15.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$ 30.00
Compressor.....	\$ 250.00
Fish bake.....	\$ 600.00
Infant Moses Ministry.....	\$ 1,000.00
From non-members:	
General offering.....	\$ 300.00
Compressor.....	\$ 300.00
Outreach for Hope grant.....	\$ 6,375.00
<u>Minus internet transaction fees.....</u>	<u>\$ (14.25)</u>
Total.....	\$ 11,126.75

Coda: *Have mercy, on me
according to your endless love* (Repeat four times)
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BLESSING (ELW p. 255)

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 255)

P Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

Karen Kempinen will lead "Why Native Plants" at 6:00 p.m. Monday, February 19 at Grace. Learn about the role of native plants in habitat creation, native species preservation, and climate change mitigation.

Attendance February 11: ≥31

Men's Group will meet after worship on March 3 to plan a chili fund raiser.

Our compressor went out on the upstairs part of our HVAC system. This is an essential part of the system and must be repaired. The repair cost is \$4,100. We appreciate everyone who has generously donated towards this repair already, and we hope those who have not donated will consider making a donation—every donation helps get this paid for.

Breaking the Chains, a synodically authorized worshiping community inside the Felmers Chaney and Kenosha Correctional Centers will hold its annual

meeting this Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Greendale. All Greater Milwaukee Synod members are invited; RSVP Steering Council President Pamela Gustafson at pamelag1972@gmail.com.

A heartfelt thanks to all of you who have used Thrivent's generosity programs to support our church. Once again you showed us how, together, we can make a difference by helping to strengthen communities and change lives. Go to [Thrivent.com/generosity](https://thrivent.com/generosity) to learn more.

Outreach for Hope's much-beloved annual Lenten Devotion series featuring our OFH Ministry Partners is available soon!

The theme this year is "Bridges of Hope: Reflections on the Power of Partnership." New devotion videos will be released Monday through Friday, from Ash Wednesday through Holy Week. On Saturday, OFH will email their entire email list with a digest of the past week's devotions, and a PDF of transcripts for the following week.

You can sign up at <https://outreachforhope.org/lenten-devotions/>. If you've gotten their emails in the past, you do not need to sign up again.



**OUTREACH
FOR HOPE**

Bridges of Hope:
Reflections on the Power of Partnership
2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Ash Wednesday - Good Friday

     outreachforhope.org/lenten-devotions

