

Sunday Worship 9:00AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30AM

Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz Senior Pastor pastoro@glcsbren.org

Rev. Isaac S. Schuller
Associate Pastor
Headmaster
pastorschuller@glsbrenham.com

Rev. William H. Holzer
Associate Pastor
Visitation
pastorholzer@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 30, 2025 THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

... this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.



Grace Lutheran Church and School

1212 West Jefferson Brenham, Texas 77833 www.glcsbren.org

Church: (979)-836-3475 School: (979)-836-2030 "Caring For People By Connecting Them With Christ Jesus"

WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN as we gather for worship of our loving God, who spared not His own Son, but put Him upon the cross in payment for our sins. May all that we give and receive this day resound to His honor and glory. Members and especially GUESTS are urged to complete the registration card located in the pew rack. If you are visiting with us, we cordially invite your return. Our Pastors will be happy to speak with you.

THE ORDER OF MATINS + In Nomine Jesu +

THE PRELUDE

THE HYMN OF PRAISE "God Loved the World So That He Gave" # 571
THE VERSICLES AND RESPONSES (Common) page 219
The Venite pages 220-221
The Psalm 90

THE OFFICE HYMN
The Lessons

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

430

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 12:1-6

12 And in that day you will say:

"O Lord, I will praise You;

Though You were angry with me,

Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.

² Behold, God is my salvation,

I will trust and not be afraid;

'For Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song;

He also has become my salvation.' "

³ Therefore with joy you will draw water

From the wells of salvation.

⁴ And in that day you will say:

"Praise the Lord, call upon His name;

Declare His deeds among the peoples,

Make mention that His name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the Lord,

For He has done excellent things;

This is known in all the earth.

⁶ Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion,

For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!"

THE ANTHEM

"O Sacred Head" arr. Sandra Eithum

GLS Presto Handbells

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

THE EPISTLE LESSON

¹⁶ Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

15 Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. 17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ' 20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. ²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' 28 "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have

been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' ³¹ "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

The Lent Responsory
THE SERMON

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

"Lost to Found" - Pastor Ogrodowicz

The Canticle (The Te Deum Laudamas)
The Prayers and Collects
The Benedicamus and Benediction

page 223-225 page 227-228

page 228

THE CLOSING HYMN THE POSTLUDE

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

609

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Elders - David Dahmann, Darrell Meier

Acolyte - Jackson Havers

Usher Team – Steve Malek

Organist - Rev. Lee Kunkel

Altar Guild Assistants – Dorothy Holle (Communion Ware)

Susie Thaler (Paraments)

Every Pastor worth his salt seeks to know the condition of his flock. Please make sure to inform the church office of any health-related issues in need of Pastoral care.

It is a blessed opportunity and privilege to serve the true Body and Blood of Christ to those saints unable to approach the altar. God continues to bring such saints to Grace. Therefore, we humbly ask worshipers to consider leaving the back row open for those needing Holy Communion brought to them in the Divine Service.

We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to the family of Bill Miller, Johnnie Schroeder's brother-in-law. Bill passed away on Friday March 28. Funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Newsletters are Available in the Narthex

Thrivent Member Reminder: Choice Dollars for 2024 need to be directed by March 31st

Choir Loft Piano Replacement - Thanksgiving goes to all who contributed to the purchase of the new Clavinova. Our goal has been met thanks to the gracious provision of our Lord Who always works through His people. This fine instrument will be an excellent addition to our liturgy and the hymnody so boldly testifying to Christ our Lord.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: Luke 15:12 – "And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them." This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth. "Give me my inheritance now!" he says, which is really to say, "You are better off dead in my eyes." This is the sin at the heart of all greed: valuing things over people. This parable calls us to come to our senses as well, and to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world.



It's time to reserve your Easter Lily to be placed in Church on Easter Sunday. Envelopes for that purpose are in the Narthex and you may designate "in honor of someone" or "in memory of loved ones" or "just because". The cost is \$13.00 per plant. Please make

checks payable to <u>Grace Lutheran Altar Guild.</u> You may place the envelope in the offering plate or turn into the office. The deadline for ordering plants is April 7, 2025.

Thanks be to God, I am back home! Thank you for all the prayers and cards. To Pastor Holzer, thanks for all his visits and calls. To Pastor Ogrodowicz, thanks for his phone calls. ~~ Diane Merkel



GLHS Information Night will be TOMORROW, Monday, March 31st, at 6:00pm. Grace Lutheran School is committed to developing a complete, well-rounded student with exceptional critical thinking skills and a firm belief in Jesus Christ. Please see the flyer on the school website for details.

Men's Bible Breakfast is held on Tuesdays at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. David Dahmann is responsible for breakfast this week. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.



WEDNESDAY Mid-Week Lenten Services will be at 10:00am and 7:00pm, April 2nd.

Ladies Afternoon LWML will meet on Thursday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are Ruth Swonke-Ho, Linda Montgomery and Jean Blake. Linda Montgomery will give the topic.



Please Note: The Elders meeting is Thursday, April 3 at 7:00pm. (not Wednesday)



CHURCH FOOD DRIVE – March 16 through April 6:

The LWML Afternoon and Evening Circles invite all church members to help with collecting food for the Washington County "Bread Partners". Some suggested items are cereals, oatmeal, beans, rice, peanut butter, canned tuna or chicken, soups, crackers or canned vegetables. Place your items in the box located in the church hallway.



Grace Lutheran Music Fund/Piano

- ➤ In Memory of Lucille Mieth given by Fred & Gladys Hein
- > In Memory of Robert Dickerson given by Kathryn Martinez

Grace Lutheran Building Fund

- In Memory of Laura Raitz given by Jacklyn Marak Bartosh
- In Memory of Shirley Paetz given by Ronnie & Dorothy Holle
- ➤ In Memory of Walter Schlabach given by Ronnie & Dorothy Holle
- ➤ In Memory of Lavonne Woods given by Donald & Florence Ahrens

Birthdays This Week:

Today 3/30 – Marjorie Barton, Nathan Hoppens Wed. 4/2 – Lance Weatherby Thurs. 4/3 – Marcus Babb, Andrew Jacobs

Sat. 4/5 – Butch Goldberg





Anniversaries This Week:

Today 3/30 – Steve & Jackie Malek, (46th) Sat. 4/5 – Ross & Jan Gonzales, (22nd)







Coffee and Doughnuts:

Today – David & Lynette Dahmann

Next Sunday – Randal & Gloria Hoppens

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS THIS SUMMER

Be sure to mark your calendars for VBS as you make your summer plans.

Vacation Bible School is set for June 16-20, 2025 - 8:30am-11:30am



All children of Grace Lutheran Sunday School and Day School are invited to attend the weeklong event. It will be a great time for kids to grow in faith as they explore God's Word.

We are asking for volunteers to help us make this VBS a wonderful experience for the children. If you feel you can help, please contact Bev Jaster 979-277-5824 or Linda McArthur (979) 525-3806. We will be ordering supplies shortly. Any monetary gift such as Visa Gift cards or cash will help with expenses. More information will follow.

May God bless our partnership in the Gospel as we lead children to Jesus.



Substitute Teachers Needed: Do you love the little faces at GLS? Do you want to occasionally make some extra money? We NEED SUBSTITUTE Teachers. We would NORMALLY call the day before or even several days beforehand. There are times

we need a sub for several days and sometimes just one day. Once in a while you might be needed for only an hour or two. You do not have to be a teacher or even a retired teacher – just someone willing to come in and help in the classroom. Our teachers do a great job of preparing lessons when they know they will be needing a sub. Sometimes when it is just a short time needed, then the job might just be taking roll and asking the children about their lunches. If you love our little children and have a desire to help, please call Mimi at 836-2030. God Bless you as you bless our children and our school.

ATTENDANCE

March 23: 240

Mid-Week Service 3/26/25: 10:00 a.m. – 179 7:00 p.m. - 40

Sunday School: 27 Teachers/Staff: 6 YABC: 4 ABC: 80 Visitors: 0

OFFERING

General Fund - \$6,862.00 Radio Ministry - \$ Missions - \$ Building Fund - \$115.00 Memorials - \$1,100.00 Other - \$1,400.00

You Have a Place at Grace

"...for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found..."

Luke 15:24

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is a story of one who wanders from faith only to return before the 11th hour. A young man demands his inheritance (thus his father's death), squanders it in reckless living, hits rock bottom and returns in abject humility seeking to be a hired worker. The father's love for his son manifests itself in the way he receives his son, running towards him and kissing a child now back from the dead in unbridled joy overlooking the past. His son was home, and that's all that mattered.

The older son, of course, had a problem with all this, thinking the father's joy over the prodigal son was unwarranted and unfair. "I never transgressed your commandment at any time" he says. This is hyperbolic at best but makes the point that the older son never did anything this bad, this egregious, this reckless: "squander an entire inheritance in sinful living and now you're back and receiving all the fanfare and praise!"—it just didn't make sense. Whether or not he entered the feast at the father's behest is unknown.

Parables are like prisms. You can see them in different ways depending on how you look. Some may identify with the prodigal. You know exactly what he did and what it feels like to return to open arms. Others identify with the father. You've been there scouring the horizon for the return, hoping any moment for a child coming for grace. What about the older son? He's angry over grace extended to his sinful brother. Still, when it comes to sin, the law levels the playing field. On the surface, outwardly, the younger brother looks to be the worse sinner, just like tax collectors may have seemed worse than Pharisees. But Jesus isn't interested in the outward righteousness of man, but a righteousness of the heart worn by faith. He calls everyone to repentance and faith that relies on God, not man to save.

Looking at this Parable should bring all of us to repentance, for it strikes us one way or the other. We've wasted things, lived as God didn't matter, and judged our neighbor whom we thought didn't deserve God's grace. But we still find the open arms of our Heavenly Father, the One always seeking to save, Who says "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from his way and live" (Ezekiel 33:11).

Lent is a season to do just that: turn from wickedness and live in Christ led to the slaughter so that with the joyful father we would "make merry and be glad" (Luke 15:32).

-By Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz You Have a Place at Grace – March 30, 2025

Grace Lutheran Prayer Concerns For Church and Home



Members are encouraged to pray for each of the individuals on this list both in the times we gather together for worship and in our daily prayers.

"I urge first of all that, requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.... This is good and pleases God our Savior." – I Timothy 2:1&3

Members of Grace who are hospitalized, ill, or have on-going needs

<u>Prayers for Healing:</u> Linda Tarver, Ruth Duvall, Pastor Jacobs, Nancy Boecker, Freddie Wellmann, Charlie Blake, Bonnie Wellmann, Gary Finke, August Degner, Marilyn Schroeder

On-going Needs: Shirley Boeker, Glenn Brenner, Russell Chambers, Onis Finke, Clarence Gaskamp, Butch & Ann Goldberg, Donald Hendrickson, Richard Jacobs, Karen Markwardt, Diane Merkel, Benjamin Moerbe, Kenneth Muchow, Blake Sacre, Lisa Steck, Vernell Thane

Members of Grace in Nursing Homes or Homebound



Florence Boehnemann, B.Y. Boeker, Russell Chambers, David Diver, Kurt Duvall, Ruth Duvall, Geraldine Gloyna, Reuben & Darlene Grassl, Al Novosad, Harold Rietz, Lee Rogge, Sonny Schulte, Dorine Stoelke, Linda Tarver, Clarence & Bernice Gaskamp



Those Who are Serving our Country in the Armed Forces

Lt. Col. Matthew Moerbe – son of Mark & Anita Moerbe;

U.S. Air Force, stationed at the Pentagon

LTC Erich Roberts – son of David & Rose Roberts;

U. S. Army, stationed at Ft. Moore, GA

Senior Airman Trenton Rylee Rutledge – grandson of Freddie & Linda Wellmann;

U.S. Air Force; now in North Dakota

SP4 Riley Baugh – grandson of Pastor & Tina Holzer;

U. S. Army, stationed at Ft. Bliss, TX

SSGT Terrell Felder – son of Larry Felder;

U. S. Air Force, stationed at Goodfellow AFB, TX

Cole Frazier – grandson of Tom & Doris Magee;

Offutt AFB, Nebraska

1LT Ivan R. Degner – grandson of August & Jo Ann Degner;

is serving in the 11th ACR at Ft. Irwin, CA.

Sloan Snead – granddaughter of Allan & Colleen Symmank, Navy Medic, stationed in Jacksonville, Florida (right now)

SN Dylan James Hicks – grandson of James & Karen Studhalter Just finished boot camp for Navy, stationed in Great Lakes, IL

Those Serving in the Mission Field Abroad

Rev. Charles St-Onge & Family

Rev. Samuel Bobby & Family serving in Latvia

Rev. Micah Wildauer & Family

Pastor James May & Family serving in Kenya with Lutherans in Africa

Rev. Dr. David Preus & Family, serving in Romania, LCMS Eurasia Regional Dir.

Friends of our Congregation

Elaine King – niece of Billie Rogas

Harris Kubos, Jr. and Toni Navarre – friends of Eunice Drews

Blanche McMullen - sister-in-law of Billie Rogas

Tim Andrews – neighbor of Knodt's & Roberts'

Regan, Lesley & Beckett Adams – cousins of Joe Green

Marjorie Schroeder, sister; Janis Stayton, sister-in-law; Rick Hammitt, nephew (ALS);

Travis Bartay, grandson (Diabetes I) – relative of Shirley Boeker

Brynley Frazier - great-granddaughter of Magee's

Carolyn Zibilski, Mark Marburger, Dean Winkelmann, Scott Hodde

- friends of Johnnie & Marilyn Schroeder

Betty Maltby – aunt of Mike McArthur, sister of Mildred McArthur

Janice Eckhardt – daughter-in-law of Jimmie Eckhardt

Marcie Brighton – mother of Elizabeth Schuller

Kathy Hudson – mother of Tim Hudson

Rebecca Dahmann – sister-in-law of the David and Michael Dahmann families

Delano Klausmeyer - very good friend of Judy Rudloff

Gloria Hanath – sister of Eunice Drews – prayers for healing

Deonna Moses – daughter-in-law of Dorothy Moses – diagnosed with cancer

Tom Insley - friend of Michael & Kimberly Parks, cancer

Hank Voelter – grandson of Don & Karen Voelter, battling leukemia

Sherree Pence - niece of Delphine & Sandra Addicks, diagnosed with cancer

Donnie Eckhardt - son of Jimmie Eckhardt, Kimberly Parks' brother

Tricia Kelm – friend of Richard & Diane Merkel

Edna Parks – mother of Michael Parks

Caleb Reid – grandson of Alan & Linda Reid, still has issues, please pray for him and family

Tammy Hill - daughter of Elroy & Bonnie Wellmann - diagnosed with cancer

Peggy Miller – Johnnie Schroeder's sister (prayers for healing);

Troy & Kathleen Schroeder - Johnnie & Marilyn Schroeder's son & daughter-in-law (prayers for healing)

Stacie Erickson – daughter of Charles & Jean Blake

Coy Goodwin – friend of Lance & Ashley Jahnke

Matthew Merritt – nephew of August & JoAnn Degner - stroke on 12/5 – is in Rehab in Colorado

Delores Guthman - mother of Diana Stephens - prayers for healing, cancer

Terry Morrison – brother of R.D. Morrison – battling cancer

Bill Odom - friend of Brian Wawarosky - healing

Anita Meyers – sister of Martha Jander – recovering from broken hip

Blake Moeller, Ernest Ware – friends of Cristine Weige and family

Please review this Prayer List

Please notify the Church office of any changes. We would like this list to be as up-to-date & accurate as possible.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

This Week at Grace...

Today, March 30 The Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 31 (Jeremiah 29:1-32) Chapel 8:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m. High School Information Night Tuesday, April 1 (Jeremiah 30:1 - 32:44) Men's Bible Breakfast 6:00 a.m. 8:15 a.m. Chapel 6:00 p.m. PTL Meeting Wednesday, April 2 (Jeremiah 33:1-26) Mid-Week Lenten Worship IV/Presto 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice Mid-Week Lenten Worship IV 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3 (Jeremiah 34:1 – 35:19) Chapel 8:15 a.m. 2:00 p.m. Ladies Afternoon Circle 7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting Friday, April 4 (Jeremiah 36:1 – 37:21) Pastor Ogrodowicz's Day Off 8:15 a.m. Chapel 3:00 p.m. Vespers Saturday, April 5 (Jeremiah 38:1 - 40:16) Sunday, April 6 The Fifth Sunday in Lent Worship w/Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Ryan Ogrodowicz - 530-2260

Rev. Isaac Schuller – 408-817-0358 Rev. William H. Holzer – 251-7036

Mr. John Young (Congregational President) – 661-0596

Mr. Aubrey Jaster (Elder's Chair) 421-2748

Mr. Casey Voskamp (S. S. Superintendent) – 251-2498 Mrs. Debbie Hintz (Caring Ministry Contact) – 203-3470