

GRACE LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod 1212 West Jefferson Brenham, Texas 77833 (979)-836-3475

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Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz, Senior Pastor

www.gracebrenham.org

Rev. William H. Holzer, Associate Pastor Rev. Isaac S. Schuller, Associate Pastor

PASTOR'S PAGE

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Paul writes to Timothy with advice and instruction on how he is to conduct his ministry. He is to be approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed of his work. His work is the Word of truth, the tool that he is to use to work the works of God.

Many Christians are frustrated that the Church does not do more to influence the government. This month will see many elections that will determine the direction this country will take. The desire is that the Church should advance one candidate over another. We should, in effect, throw our weight around and take sides on the different issues that face our society.

But it should be clear to all that the church is bound to the Word of God in all things. Our tools are the same as Timothy's. The church's calling, along with her servants the pastors and teachers, is bound by the Word.

Sure, we can and do have opinions as individual Christians. Hopefully these conform to the Word. The Word is our life and our light. The Word is the source of our hope and peace. Apart from the Word we are powerless in the face of evil. Yet, the Word first must have its way with us. The Word calls us to repentance and forgiveness.

We divide the Bible into its two chief teachings: the Law and the Gospel. These are the most basic teaching in which God works His work in us. This is true for all Christians. The Law has its three uses. It is a curb, a mirror and a rule. As a curb it limits the evil in the world through the natural knowledge of right and wrong. I believe this is most simply understood in the word of the golden rule, "*Do unto others what you would have them do unto you.*" We all understand the most basic principle of reciprocity. What is fair for you is fair for me, what is foul for me is foul for you.

As a mirror the Law shows us our sins. We learn the 10 commandments in our youth. Even if we come to God as adults one of the first questions a Christian has is, "Lord, what do I do to please you?" This leads us to the commandments. And the more we learn them, the more we realize that we do not keep them. The mirror that shows us what we are to do and not to do and how to live points out our every failing.

As a guide (or rule) the law shows us what we are to do as God's people. Even though we fail to live up to the standard of perfection that God demands (*Be holy as the Lord your God is holy*), we don't abandon the call. We seek always to live the holy life that God has so graciously given to us.

So after the Law has shown us our sins and brought us down through the knowledge of our sin and the understanding that we deserve nothing but temporal death and eternal damnation, God in His grace offers, gives and seals to us the forgiveness of sin proclaimed in the Gospel.

We should have learned early on that proclamation of God's love because the Gospel shows us our Savior. We have the Gospel in a nutshell, *"For God so loved the world, that He* gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16. Our life is through Jesus Christ. I like to summarize the teaching of the Gospel in these words: "What God has done and is doing for our salvation through Jesus Christ." In the Old Testament we have God's promise of a Savior. He has chosen His people and through that people God fulfills the promise. In the New Testament God delivers to the world His Son and fulfills the word of promise found in the Old Testament.

The Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, tell the story of the incarnation of Jesus, His earthly ministry, and His suffering, death and glorious resurrection. God becomes man in Jesus Christ taking our flesh so that He can suffer the punishment we deserve for our sin. If Jesus is not true God then His death would be only for Himself, insufficient to pay for our sins, that is, the sins of the world. If Jesus is not true man, like us in every way but without sin, He would not be subject to death, and could not be our substitute under the law, fulfilling it in all things.

The Gospel is much more than any good news at any time. That belief cheapens the Gospel and makes little of the incarnation, suffering and death of Jesus. The punishment for sin is no small thing. The weight of the sins of the world are placed on Jesus. And our contribution to that terrible penalty is no small thing. That is no boasting about our sin but the recognition that every one of our sins, not matter how great or small that sin may be in our eyes, is paid for in the blood of Jesus. What comfort we have, when our conscience accuses us and the devil assaults us, know Jesus is for us.

And this work that Jesus works bridges time and space in the form of the Sacraments. Jesus lived, died, and rose again almost 20 centuries ago. The act of winning our salvation has long passed into time. But that work is now given to us through the means of grace established by Christ Himself while He was present among the disciples.

Jesus Himself went down to the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John. When He is washed to fulfill all righteousness, He is washed for us. That water of life washes us also through His word. So we are indeed buried with Christ in baptism to be raised with Christ to newness of life, just as Paul declares in Romans 6. Now if we are buried with Christ in baptism, we will certainly be raised in Him on the last day. This is the Gospel at work for us today. So the catechism teaches us to remember our baptism everyday. The sins of the day are washed away in that water of life and we can rest knowing that in Christ we are forgiven.

And knowing we have such a great gift we are compelled to live our lives for Jesus. The commandments that would convict us become a guide for us in this new life. We don't serve God as slaves, but as His sons and daughters, willing in our new selves to please Him in thought, word and deed. For us to live is to live in Christ Jesus.

We also have the great gift of the Sacrament of the Altar. In this gift we receive the true body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. This is much more than a ceremony to remember Jesus by, but a communion with God Himself. There should be no doubt that in this Sacrament we find communion with all those who are in Christ. So we rightly say, "And with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven..." because in Christ we are in communion with the great host of those who are in Jesus.

So we should not look upon the Sacrament as an ordinary thing, but as it is, the great treasure given by Christ to His church on earth. We know that those who reject the truth of this treasure, that doubt or deny that Jesus comes to us in His Body and Blood, should not be admitted to the Sacrament. That would cheapen the gift. That would also cheapen our confession of Jesus as true God and true man, even now as He sits at the right hand of the Father in His glory.

And in that confession we are bold to pray, knowing that we have an advocate before the throne of God. He pleads for us and for all believers in Him. And in Him we have the certainty that our prayers as acceptable and will be answered in His own time and to His glory. With this faith, we are able to live in this world that wars against Christ and His church. We have no fear because we are certain that all things work for our good. The troubled times that we live in cannot overcome us. For if the Lord is with us, who can be against us? To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor Holzer





Worship Opportunities – November 2024

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes – 10:30 a.m.



November Worship Opportunities

Date	Festival	First Reading	Epistle Reading	Gospel	Preacher	Liturgist	Hymns	Distribution Hymns	Order of Service LSB Pg #
Nov. 3 (observed) or (Prop. 26)	All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) <i>Cll Saints' Day</i> Twenty- fourth S. a. Pentecost	Rev. 7:(2– 8) 9– 17	1 John 3:1– 3	Matt. 5:1– 12	Schuller	Ogrodowicz	672 677 670	676 673	p. 184
		or Deut. 6:1–9	or Heb. 9:11– 14 (15–22)	or Mark 12:28–37					
Nov. 10 (Prop. 27)	Twenty–fifth S. a. Pentecost	1 Kings 17:8–16	Heb. 9:24– 28	Mark 12:38–44	Ogrodowi cz	Holzer	531 504 540	790 743	p. 151
Nov. 17 (Prop. 28)	Twenty-sixth S. a. Pentecost	Dan. 12:1– 3	Heb. 10:11–25	Mark 13:1–13	Ogrodowi cz	Holzer	904 514 516	508 783	p.203
Nov. 24 (Prop. 29)	Last S. of the Church Year	ls. 51:4–6	Jude 20-25	Mark 13:24–37	Ogrodowi cz	Holzer	577 663 336	664 666	p.184
Nov. 27 (Wed.)	Thanksgiving Eve 7:00pm	Deut. 8:1– 10	Phil. 4:6–20 <i>or</i> 1 Tim. 2:1–4	Luke 17:11–19	Ogrodowi cz	Holzer	785 774 770	763 554	

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

As of October Council Meeting

Baptism: None

Profession of Faith:

None

Death:

None

<u>Transfer In:</u> Kayla Wolfenden & Oliver (son) from William Penn Lutheran, Brenham, Tx 9/15/24

Transfer Out:

Brian & Lisa Sorrentino & Levi Barbisch (son) To Zion Lutheran, Tomball, Tx 9/16/24

Souls: 590

Communicants: 505

Poinsettia Orders

Members who wish to order poinsettias to be placed in church for Christmas are asked to fill out an envelope designated for this purpose. They are located on the counters in the Narthex. The cost per plant is \$13.00. Please make checks payable to <u>Grace Lutheran</u> <u>Altar Guild</u>. You may place the envelope in the offering plate or turn it in to the office. The deadline to order is December 8.



Raise Right News



RaiseRight gift cards for your Christmas shopping - save the date! If you'd like to buy gift cards before Christmas and generate some rebates for the school, give your order and payment (cash or check made out to Grace Lutheran School) to coordinator Sheila Green no later than Sunday, November 24th. You may see the full list of

retailers at https://www.raiseright.com/shop/ and there are two lists in the narthex. Please leave the lists in the narthex for others to review. If you have questions, you can contact Sheila Green at 713-494-6399 or sheilawgreen@gmail.com.

Meetings This Month





Ladies Afternoon Circle will NOT meet in November.

Ladies Evening Circle will meet on NOVEMBER 12 at 7:00 p.m. Hostesses are Linda McArthur & Dixie Voskamp.

Men's Bible Breakfast meets every Tuesday at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.

November 5 – George Breland

November 12 – Joe Green

November 19 – Ronnie Haevischer

November 26 – NO BREAKFAST



ALTAR FLOWERS

November 3 – Allan & Rebecca Moses November 10 – Jeff & Charli Rau November 17 – Lance & Ashley Jahnke November 24 –

RADIO MINISTRY

(30-minute program aired on KWHI 1280 AM each Sunday at 12:30 p.m.)

(Cost is \$85 per week.) November 3 – Charles & Jean Blake November 10 – November 17 – November 24 –



COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS



November 3 – Colanter Family November 10 – November 17 – November 24 –

<u>ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANTS</u>

Communion Ware: Bev Jaster Paraments: Barbara Maurer & Bev Jaster

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Raymond Klussmann, William Krueger, Sue Krueger, Ronnie Hinze

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Lutheran Women in Mission



Ladies Evening Circle will have their Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 1. It will be at the VFW Post at 1200 East Tom Green and will start at 11:30 a.m. with the meal starting at 12:00 p.m. noon. Just giving you a heads up since it is scheduled for December 1st and the December Newsletter will come out the Friday before that...





TURKEY SUPPER REMINDER

Don't forget the 38th Annual LWML Turkey Supper and Country Store will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024. We still have a lot of tickets available and if you want any, you can call

or text Nancy Joiner at 979-277-8162 or email her at nancyjoiner@sbcglobal.net. She will also have them available after service as well.

Donation Forms are available on counters in the Narthex today. Please bring the completed form with your donated items or you may put the information on your own paper if you wish. Thank you!





COUNTRY STORE

LWML will hold a "Country Store" during the Turkey Supper on Thursday, Nov. 7. All profit will go to fund LWML mission projects. Do you have items that you would like to donate to be sold in the Country Store? Typical items sold include handicrafts, gift items, home-canned goods and jellies, baked goods, plants, books, videos, home décor, yard décor,

kitchen gadgets, toys, etc.

Donated items for Country Store may be brought to the FAC

Wednesday 11/6 between 1-3 p.m. and Thursday 11/7, preferably before 1:00 p.m. If you need to bring items before 11/6, call or text Deb to arrange a time. 979-743-1501.

Please mark donated items with a sales price.

If not marked, we will have to set a price, and we may not know the value as well as you do.

<u>SPECIAL NOTE</u>: The Country Store will include two quilts that will be sold through a silent auction: One quilt made and donated by Bernice Gaskamp and another quilt made and donated by the Graceful Quilters sewing group.



Thank you! ~Country Store Committee - Linda Wellmann, Deb Kunkel, Linda Montgomery







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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Reformation Sunday Pastor Ogrodowicz - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	26:23 8:15am Chapel 7:00pm Council	27:1- 28:27 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast	30 2 Chronicles 29:1-36 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Voters' Assembly Meeting	- 31:21 8:15am Chapel	1 2 Chronicles 32:1-33 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 1:30pm GLS Track Meet in Warda (1st- 8th grades) Time TBD - youngest to oldest	
3 All Saints Day Pastor Schuller - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	35:27 8:15am Chapel	36:1-23 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 6:00pm PTL Meeting	6 Ezra 1:1 - 2:70 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Elders	8:15am Chapel 3:30 pm DAYCARE CLOSES 4:30pm 38th Annual Turkey Supper	Day Off 8:15am Chapel	9 Ezra 7:1 - 8:36
10 Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor O - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:15-11:15am GLS Bookfair 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	10:45am Veteran's Day Program GLS Bookfair	6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast <i>GLS Bookfair</i> 8:15am Chapel	13 Nehemiah 2:1 - 3:32 7-8:00am GLS Bookfair BREAKFAST 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice		15 Nehemiah 7:1 - 8:18 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off <i>GLS Bookfair</i> 8:15am Chapel 11:15am GLS Turkey Lunch all ages	16 Nehemiah 9:1 - 10:39
17 Twenty-sixth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor O - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:15-11:15am GLS Bookfair 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	13:31 Newsletter Deadline 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm JV Basketball Game -	Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel	8:15am Chapel 12:00pm Trustees 4:30pm Confirmation	8:15am Chapel	22 Esther 8:1 - 10:3 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel 12:00pm Noon Dismissal Daycare Open -Sack Lunch	23 Job 1:1-22
24 Last Sunday of the Church Year Pastor O - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	Break - School & Daycare closed Pastor O Day Off	Daycare closed	27 Job 6:1 - 7:21 Thanksgiving Break - School & Daycare closed 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	School, Daycare,	29 Job 11:1 - 12:25 Pastor O Day Off School, Daycare, Church & School Offices Closed Thanksgiving Break	30 Job 13:1 - 14:22





