

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

October 2024									
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Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz, Senior Pastor Rev. William H. Holzer, Associate Pastor Rev. Isaac S. Schuller, Associate Pastor

PASTOR'S PAGE

1 Corinthains 15 teaches the resurrection of the body in a culture heavily influenced by philosophical ideas rejecting physical existence beyond death. The notion of resurrected matter was ridiculous to many. But for Paul it's only consistent with the contours and structures of the created world, wherein we see blossoming, lush garden plants erupt from tiny seeds. We notice the heavens' declaration of glory in celestial bodies created by God, things we can't explain brough forth by He Who creates from nothing. We see variety and distinction between heavenly and earthly bodies, man and beast, fish and birds that finds no reasonable explanation in a godless world mutating by chance and randomness. Paul's argument (1 Cor.15: 35-41) leads up to this line: "so also is the resurrection of the dead" (1 Cor. 15: 42). As there exist varying degrees of glory in creation, the body differs between the natural world and life following the Resurrection. It's not illogical to conclude that an omnipotent God responsible for creation would raise the dead.

Christians immersed in liturgical worship are accustomed to the historic creeds and those powerful words "I believe in the resurrection of the body." This is sufficient, but curiosity leads us to questions like what kind of body will I have? What will I do in heaven? How is eternity void of boredom? There's no end to speculation. Analogies are helpful literary devices but impossible at fully conveying heavenly realities, as even Paul acknowledges: "eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor. 2:9). We suffer in this life, but Paul reminds us "this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison" (2 Cor.4:18). 1 Corinthians 15 teaches bodies raised in incorruption, glory, and power; a "spiritual body" unencumbered by the burdens of sin marking this fallen world. No sickness, suffering, and death is

promise enough to rejoice and be glad. What we don't know is vastly outweighed by what we do know regarding that eternal life for His Church.

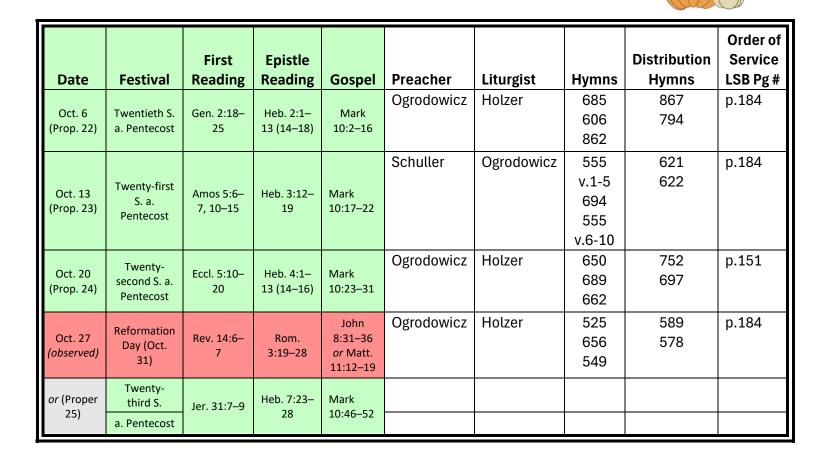
A quick note on the intermediate state between death and the Last Day take sus to Francis Pieper, who still sets the gold standard for Lutheran dogmatics. His exhaustive three-volume work covers a wide range of theological topics and displays a gifted, German theologian wellacquainted with Latin and influential Lutheran forefathers, while at home in the Holy Scriptures. His section on the intermediate state, that time between death and the Last Day is relatively short, which is understandable. The Holy Scriptures temper his pen from any imagination potentially exceeding the Bible. According to Scripture, believers die and enjoy paradise in communion with Christ (Luke 23:43). Paul desires death for it means life with Christ: "I have a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better" (Phil.1:23). These passages reject any notion of separation from God upon death, which includes purgatory. Pieper does mention "soul sleep" which has a history in orthodox Lutheranism. Pieper writes: "a sleep of the soul which includes enjoyment of God...cannot be called false doctrine." His footnote takes us to Luther, who says "it is divine truth that Abraham lives with God, serves Him, and also rules with Him. But what sort of life that is, whether he be asleep or awake, that is another question. How the soul rests, we are not to know; it is certain, however, that it lives."

Paul speaks life beyond death and a physical resurrection at the restoration of all things on the Last Day. This is every reason to rejoice and be content with what God has said. Questions will subside and the Church will enjoy what God has promised and it will be glorious. It will be "beyond all comparison."

By Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz

Worship Opportunities – October 2024

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



MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

As of September Council Meeting

<u>Baptism:</u> None							
Profession of Faith: None							
<u>Death:</u> Kirsten Hudson, 8/10/24	Funeral at Grace on 8/16/24						
<u>Removed:</u> None							
Souls: 591	Communicants: 507						
OCTOBER 2024							

Meetings This Month

The Board of Evangelism Meeting will be on October 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Lutheran Women in Mission Ladies Afternoon Circle will meet on Thursday October 3 at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Hostesses are Debbie Hintz, Linda Wellmann and Cynthia Hahn

Ladies Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. Hostesses are Deb Kunkel, Karen Schultz, and Candace Watters.

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.

October 1 – Pastor Kunkel October 8 – Pastor Watson October 15 – Doug Schoppe October 22 – Eddie Colanter October 29 – Jimmie Maurer



ALTAR FLOWERS

October 6 – Richard & Sandra Liere October 13 – Don & Karen Voelter October 20 – Allan & Rebecca Moses October 27 –

RADIO MINISTRY

(30-minute program aired on KWHI 1280 AM each Sunday at 12:30 p.m.) (Cost is \$85 per week.)

October 6 – October 13 – October 20 – Ruth Hemann October 27 – Maudie Bates



COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS



October 6 – Markwardt Family October 13 – Diane Mansolo October 20 – Pastor O October 27 – Justin & Tracy Henderson

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANTS

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Charles Blake, Donald Becker, Randal Hoppens and Shirley Paetz

Thank You: 123! That's how many <u>Lutheran World Relief School Kits</u> were assembled by members of Grace Lutheran Church. Thanks to your generosity 123 children will have an opportunity to not only learn "readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetic" but prayerfully will also learn about their LORD and Savior Jesus. Thank you all for your help with this project. (Jesus said) "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40





Blood Drive is Sunday October 6th

8:30am to 1:00pm in the Family Activity Center Please contact Michael Parks for more info 979-421-3070 Or go to www.giveblood.org



Loyalty Sunday and LWML Sunday - October 6th is the annual Loyalty and LWML Sunday of Grace Lutheran Church. The tradition of making pledges continues, only this year pledges may be offered in a separate "house box" located in the narthex that will be available through October.



Did you know that the mission of our Ladies' Circles is "to serve the Lord with gladness?" A glimpse of all the ways this is done will be on <u>October 6th</u>, with the celebration of Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday. This special day recognizes the work of this national LCMS

ministry and our Afternoon and Evening Circles as they serve others here at Grace and our local community, and beyond. Each person at our worship service on October 6th will receive a small gift from the circles. Please take a moment to view the display in the FAC that day -- It will show the projects that benefit so many people locally, as well as those in the state of Texas, the U.S. and across the world.

Mission Fest - October 13th is our annual Mission Fest Sunday. Preaching and teaching this year is Pastor Rob Paul from Memorial Lutheran School in Houston, Texas. Following the Sunday School hour will be our traditional pot-luck meal. Attendees for the lunch are asked to bring a **MAIN DISH and a side dish** (salad, vegetable dish or a dessert). If anyone would like to volunteer to help set up on Saturday October 12th at 9:00 a.m., please contact Heath Byrd 713-906-7841.

Faith Mission Sunday - A free will offering will be collected for our local food bank, Faith Mission, on October 27th. Prayerfully consider giving to this organization committed to serving those in need within the community.



Lutheran Witness subscriptions: Members wishing to receive the Lutheran Witness magazine in 2025 are asked to turn in their subscription payment no later than <u>October 13, 2024</u> to the church office. The subscription amount for 2025 is \$24.75. Please use the "Lutheran Witness" envelope that is in your box of Contribution Envelopes to make this payment.

PTL Spirit Night in October will be on October 17th from 5:00-8:00pm **PTL Hamburger Drive-Thru & GLHS Bake Sale** will be October 24th from 5:00–7:00 pm



TURKEY SUPPER INFORMATION

Thursday, November 7, 2024, is the date for the 38th Annual Grace Lutheran's Afternoon and Evening LWML Societies Turkey Supper. The menu and Country Store will remain the same and we look forward to seeing you in November. We desire to make Grace Lutheran members a priority for ticket sales. Therefore, on October 6th and 13th we will be selling tickets following both church services for only the immediate families of Grace Members. By limiting sales to immediate family members, it is hoped that all church members will be able to purchase their family's tickets for the event. On October 20th, and 27th (if still available), ticket sales following church service will be available for purchase by Grace Lutheran members for extended family members and friends with a limit of 10 tickets per member. Tickets will also be available for purchase from members of the Afternoon and Evening Societies as well. Ticket prices are as follows: Adults \$15 in advance only; Children tickets for dine-in only are available at the door; children 1-4 (Free), children (5-10 years old) \$6 and children (11-13 years old) \$10. Drive-thru/Take Out Adult plates will be available from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Pick up plates at the back school drop-off/pick-up area. Enter the West driveway and follow the signs. Dine-in plates are available from 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Anyone desiring to support our fundraiser by donating pies (bring your favorite pie in a disposable pan – some of the favorites are cream, ice box, and meringue pies), country store items or helping to prepare and serve food may contact Karen Hart 421-9061, Dorothy Holle 277-4711, Nancy Joiner 277-8162, Rose Marie Prenzler 836-8019, Linda Reid 830-5852, Jean Blake 281-433-7939, or Virginia Hillman 551-0114.



This form has been included in this month's Newsletter for your prayerful consideration for the first Sunday of October which is Stewardship Sunday,

STEWARDSHIP GOALS

Worship God faithfully and regularly.

_____ Receive the Lord's Supper frequently.

_____ Read and study God's Word, the Bible.

_____ Ask God for increase in my spiritual life.

Pray for the needs of others in my congregation, community, world.

_____ Commit to God an offering of:

\$_____ Annually

\$_____ Monthly

\$_____ Weekly

NAME___

DATE_____

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 St. Michael And All Angels Pastor Ogrodowicz - LSB 219 9:00am - Matins 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	8:15am Chapel	1 1 Chronicles 5:1 - 8:40 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Volleyball Game in Giddings 6:00pm PTL Meeting	2 1 Chronicles 9:1 - 12:40 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Board of Evangelism Meeting 7:00pm Elders	3 1 Chronicles 13:1 - 14:17 8:00am Girls Cross Country in Belton 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle 4:15pm Volleyball Game - TNT @ Grace 5:00pm JV Football Game - TNT @ Grace	4 1 Chronicles 15:1 - 16:43 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel	5 1 Chronicles 17:1-27
6 Loyalty Sunday & LWML Sunday Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogrodowicz - LSB 184 8:30am Blood Drive 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Volleyball Game Bastrop @ Grace	8 1 Chronicles 21:1-30 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 7:00pm Ladies Evening Circle	9 1 Chronicles 22:1-19 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice Camp Lonestar (7-8 th grades)	10 1 Chronicles 23:1 - 27:34 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study Camp Lonestar (7-8 th grades) 4:00pm JV Football Serbin @ Grace	11 1 Chronicles 28:1-21 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel Camp Lonestar (7-8 th grades)	1 2 1 Chronicles 29:1-30
13 Mission Fest Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Schuller - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	Teacher Inservice - No School - Daycare OPEN sack lunch	15 2 Chronicles 3:1 - 5:14 Parent/Teacher Conference Week-After School Hours 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel	16 2 Chronicles 6:1 - 7:22 Parent/Teacher Conference Week-After School Hours 8:15am Chapel 12:00pm Trustees 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm GLSB	17 2 Chronicles 8:1 - 9:31 Parent/Teacher Conference Week-After School Hours 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study 10:30am Texas Confessional Lutherans Conference 5:00 - 8:00pm Spirit Night at Nathan's BBQ	18 2 Chronicles 10:1 - 11:23 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off Parent/Teacher Conference Week-After School Hours 8:15am Chapel	19 2 Chronicles 12:1-16
20 Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogrodowicz - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	2 Chronicles 13:1 - 14:15 Homecoming Mustang Day Newsletter Deadline 8:15am Chapel Hearing & Vision Screening	22 2 Chronicles 15:1 - 16:14 Homecoming College Day 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 6:30pm Men's Club	23 2 Chronicles 17:1 - 18:34 Homecoming Dress Your Best 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice	24 2 Chronicles 19:1 - 20:37 Homecoming House Day 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study 9:45-10:15am Fire Safety Show 5:00 - 7:00pm PTL Hamburger Fundraiser	25 2 Chronicles 21:1 - 22:12 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off Homecoming Purple Out 8:15am Chapel 2:30pm Homecoming Pep Rally 4:00pm Homecoming Football Game - Boys vs Girls	26 2 Chronicles 23:1 - 24:27 7:00 - 9:00pm Homecoming Dance for 7th - 12th grades
	7:00pm Council Meeting	6:00am Men's Bible	30 2 Chronicles 29:1-36 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Voters' Assembly Meeting	31 2 Chronicles 30:1 - 31:21 8:15am Chapel	1 2 Chronicles 32:1-33 Pastor Ogrodowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel	2 2 Chronicles 33:1-25





