# Fourth Sunday in Lent

"For God so loved world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

Grace Lutheran Church March 6, 2016



Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today at Grace-Tucson! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises and as you offer him your thanks and praise.

## **Worship Notes**

The order of service we follow is printed out in this worship folder. You'll notice that the service is a dialogue between God and us, his people. The pastor speaks to God along with the congregation and also speaks the Word of God to the people.

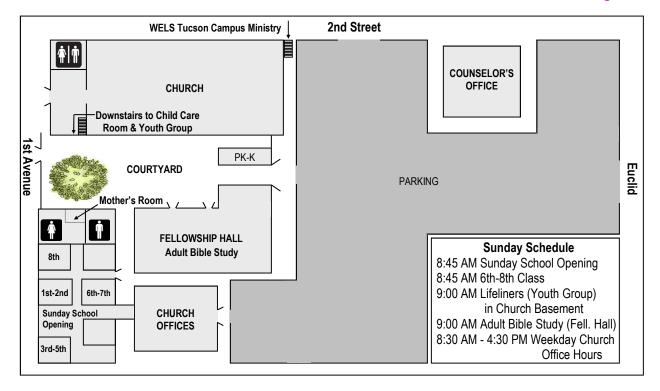
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

Large print hymn sheets are available in the entryway. You may also ask an usher or greeter to get one for you.

We believe that many blessings come from having families worship together and we love to have **children in worship!** If you need to calm a restless child, you may:

- stand for a few moments in the entryway, sometimes that's all that's needed;
- go down the stairs to the left in the entryway—they will lead down to the Child Care Room where you will still be able to hear the service;
- visit the private Mother's Room across the courtyard in the women's restroom—you will be able to hear the service there also.

Printed copies of the sermon are available in the entryway. CDs of the entire worship service will be made upon request from the sound technician in the balcony. It only takes a few minutes to copy. You may also find sermons and services in print, audio and video on our website: www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



The Season of Lent leads the Church on a forty-day journey of repentance, remembrance and prayer. It is a time to consider the sufferings and death of Jesus and to prepare for Easter. This is especially true during midweek services in Lent. The Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days and have only hints of the season's mood, such as the omission of "Alleluias." Sundays are islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. Purple is the color of the season and represents repentance and solemnity.

PRESERVICE MUSIC: 7:45 AM— God So Loved the World Arr. by John Stainer

## GATHERING RITE ON THE WORD OF GOD

Christian Worship Supplement

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR (10:00 AM)

God So Loved the World He Gave

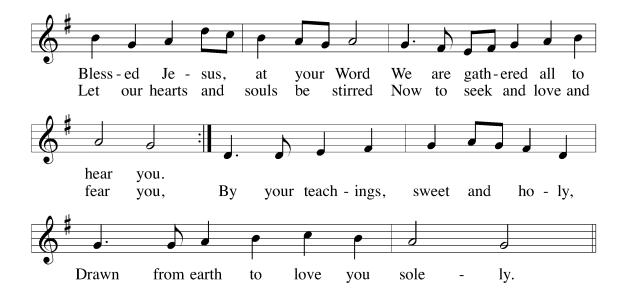
God so loved the world He gave His one and only Son. Those who believe in Jesus Christ have eternal life. (John 3:16)

#### WELCOME

Please stand

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen.

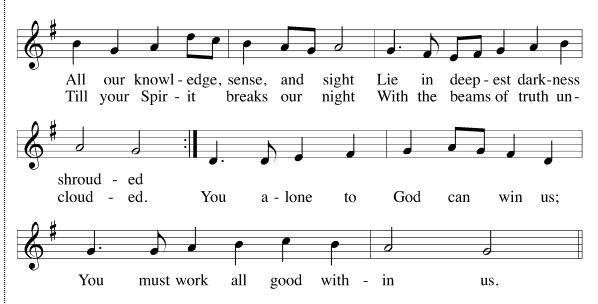
## Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction:



- M: Oh, how I love your law!
- C: I meditate on it all day long.
- M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,
- C: for they are ever with me.
- M: I have more insight than all my teachers,
- C: for I meditate on your statutes.
- M: How sweet are your words to my taste,
- C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Psalm 119:97-99, 103

2 Timothy 3:16, 17

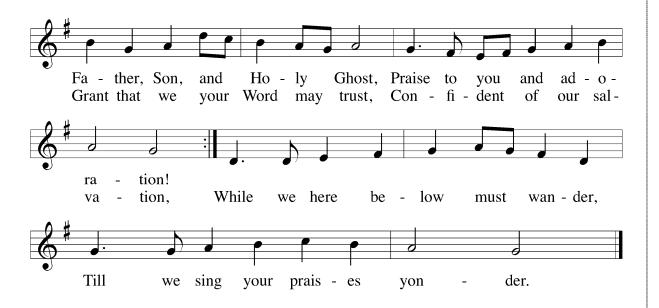


- M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
- C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
- M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



M: God gave his Word so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and

Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV)

said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

### SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:4-10 (NIV)

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable

riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

## VERSE OF THE DAY (7:45 AM)

John 3:16 NIV

M: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

## VOICES OF GRACE (10:00 AM)

God So Loved the World

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, That who so believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, But that in Him the world might be saved. (John 3:16-17)

This is a true saying and worthy of all to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15)

Please stand

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

GOSPEL John 3:14-21 (NIV)

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already

because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



### **NICENE CREED**

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Nicene Creed was first developed in 325 at the First Council of Nicea. It was written to reaffirm the Biblical teaching of the divinity of Jesus, God's Son. Like the Apostles' and Athanasian Creeds, the Nicene Creed is a confession of what the Bible teaches.

Please be seated

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 

The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace Christian Worship #288

**SERMON** 

John 3:14-21 Love With A Purpose

Please stand

After the sermon, please join in singing the response below:



Please be seated



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

## OFFERTORY MUSIC:

7:45 AM-

How Deep the Father's Love for Us Arr. by James Koerts

#### **OFFERING**

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank you!

Please stand

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH-LENT

- M: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.
- C: We confess that without your love we are lost.
- M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.
- C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.
- M: Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.
- C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

- M: Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.
- C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.
- M: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.
- C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

7:45 AM — Please continue on page 9 with the Words of Institution.

## THE SACRAMENT

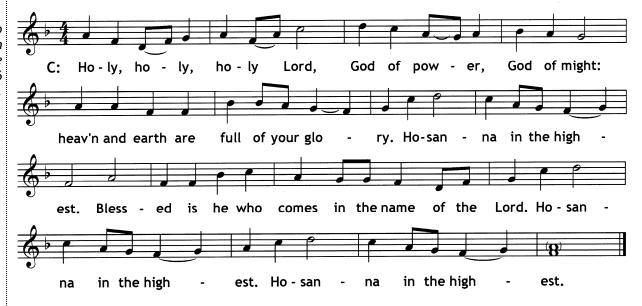
- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is good and right so to do.
- M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Matthew 6 and Luke 11 record how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We use his example prayer as part of our public worship, trusting that he will hear and answer our prayers.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY-Sanctus

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction:

This ancient worship song is based on songs of praise recorded in Isaiah 6 and Psalm 118.



### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

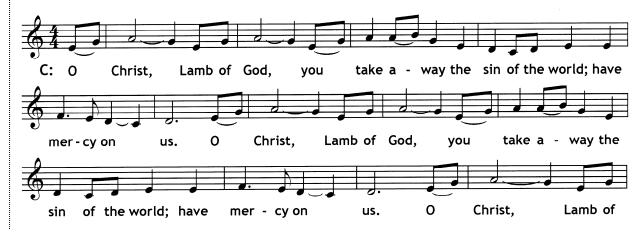
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD-Agnus Dei





Please be seated

### **DISTRIBUTION**

The Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is a unique communion of Christ and the individual believer as well as a coming together of people who hold to the same beliefs. Because of these Scriptural truths, we practice **Member Communion** at Grace. Those who are confirmed members of Wisconsin Synod congregations (WELS) are invited to receive the Lord's Supper with us.

If you are not a WELS member but have an interest in receiving Holy Communion, please speak with one of our pastors after church today or at another time. We are aware that there are a number of other teachings about Holy Communion, and we want it to be a blessing for you, so we would look forward to sharing with you what God says about this Sacrament.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (10:00 AM) Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults

Christian Worship #398

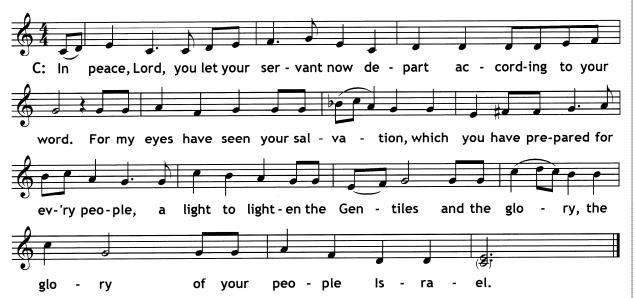
Please stand

### **THANKSGIVING**

## SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction:



We provide glutenfree communion wafers for those with wheat allergy, gluten-sensitivity or celiac disease. These wafers are stored and handled separately to avoid cross-contamination. They are "bread" as Scripture requires and are consecrated along with the rest of the bread. For those requiring gluten-free wafers, please take one from the container on the stand located at the front rail as you approach for communion. Simply hold it so that the pastor can see it at the time of distribution.

Grape juice is available for those who for health or medical reason require it instead of wine. Please speak with a pastor about providing grape juice for you on future Sundays.

- M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- C: And his mercy endures forever.
- M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on [them], and I will bless them."

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

God Loved the World So that He Gave Christian Worship #391

## THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

POSTLUDE: 7:45 AM— Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go CW #518

Copyright Info:
Gathering Rite on the
Word of God: © 2008
Northwestern Publishing
House.
Divine Service I: Texts
revised from The

revised from The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Music by Kermit Moldenhauer. © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House.

Music by K. Lee Scott. © 2012 Concordia Publishing House.

Copyrighted material reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710199.

God So Loved the World:

Preacher	Pastor Ron Koehler
Worship Leader	Pastor Sam Clemons (10:00 AM)
Communion Assistants	Pastor Mark Hallemeyer (10:00 AM)
	Elder Spiritual Needs, Jacob Kassulke (10:00 AN
Accompanists	Kathy Parra (7:45 AM)
	Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Violin	Maya Parra (10:00 AM)
Sunday School Choir & Voices	s of Grace DirectorBeth Kassulke (10:00 AM)
Ushers	Vic Thornton, Rusty King (7:45 AM)
Jon Dongos	e, Danny Koehler, Jon Miller, Rick Street (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech	Jeremy Snavely (10:00 AM)
Greeters	Jim & Elaine Goldie (10:00 AM)

## **Lenten Services**

Wednesday midweek services will be held at Grace-Benson, Grace-Sahuarita, and Grace-Tucson every Wednesday through March 16. The theme for our services is "Ironies of the Passion."



12

## Wednesday, March 9

Grace-Sahuarita 10 AM Lenten Worship "Don't You Fear God?"

Grace-Benson 6 PM Soup Supper

7 PM Lenten Worship "Don't You Fear God?"

Grace-Tucson 10 AM & 7 PM Lenten Worship "We Have No King But Caesar!"

6 PM Soup Supper

## **Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson**

The *Women of Grace* invite everyone to join them this Friday, March 11, between 4:30 and 6:30 PM for the annual Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson. *The menu includes:* Sour Cream Enchiladas, Beef Tacos, Refried Beans, Coffee, Tea, & Milk. **Grace members are asked to bring a cake for dessert.** 

There is a sign-up sheet in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall if you'd like to help with the meal. Those worshiping at Benson, Sahuarita or Vail may call or text Debbie Koehler at 405-7083 if you'd like to help with the meal.

## Women's Fellowship Hike—March 12

This Saturday, March 12 at 9:00 AM, the Women's Fellowship Group will go on an easy hike at Sabino Canyon (5900 N. Sabino Canyon Road, 85750). We will be walking along the paved road. There is a \$5 parking fee, so carpool if you can. Please call Missy Wiechmann if you have any questions at 403-1177.

## **Lutheran Pioneer Stained Glass Project**

Due to schedule conflicts and planning issues, no Easter for Kids event is planned for this year. However, the Lutheran Pioneers at Grace are hosting a craft project making colored glass crosses. You may have seen similar crosses made by the Christian Fellowship Group in November. This activity will take place in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall this Saturday, March 12 at 10:00 AM. The Pioneers will sponsor this project for any children through eighth grade (a parent is asked to help any children younger than second grade). Any older students or parents who would like to participate are asked to contribute \$5 for materials. Please sign up for this project by contacting Pastor Kassulke. **Deadline to sign up is tomorrow, Monday, March 6.** 

## **Martin Luther College Choir Tour**

The College Choir from Martin Luther College (MLC) will be presenting a concert in Tucson as part of their spring choir tour. The concert will be at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church next Sunday evening, March 13 at 7:00. The MLC College Choir is one of the premier singing groups in the WELS, and this is a rare opportunity to attend a concert close to home. Pastor Mike Otterstatter from MLC will preach at Grace-Tucson that morning and speak about our WELS college for ministry during the Adult Bible Study hour.

## **TODAY**

## **Welcome Grace Guests!**

If you are a guest at Grace today, we are very happy to have you worship with us! If you would like more information about Grace or have questions about becoming a member of our congregation, please visit the Welcome Table in the courtyard. If this is your first time at Grace, please stop there to pick up a gift just for being our guest this morning.

## **Altar Flowers**

The flowers beautifying our worship this morning have been given by Chris and Cora Stuhr in celebration of Jay & Missy Wiechnann's 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:7-10 John 12:20-33

Sermon Text & Theme

1 Corinthians 1:22-25
We Preach Christ Crucified

## **Divine Call Extended**

At Grace's Call Meeting on Sunday, January 31, a Divine Call was extended to Pastor Matt Westra (our former Vicar) to serve as Grace's mission pastor to Sahuarita. Pastor Westra currently serves at Living Promise Lutheran Church in Morristown, TN. Please keep Pastor Westra, his wife Rachel and their daughter in your prayers as he considers this Call. Also, please keep in your prayers the ongoing gospel ministry in Morristown and here at Grace!

## **Kingdom Worker Outreach Team**

From March 12 to March 20, we will once again have a group of four individuals joining us from Kingdom Workers. These volunteers will be helping primarily at our Vail site, although we also hope to put them to work at one or more of our other sites. In the past, groups like these from Kingdom Workers have helped in canvassing and other outreach efforts during the week. If you are interested in helping to house part of this team or provide a meal one evening, please contact Pastor Rieke.

## Easter Canvassing in Vail & Sahuarita

This Saturday, March 12 from 9:30-11:30 AM, canvassing will continue in the Rita Ranch and Vail areas in preparation for our Easter Service on March 27 at Grace-Vail. We will meet at Cottonwood Elementary School (9950 E. Rees Loop). If you can't make it on March 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be canvassing again on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Even if you've never been canvassing before, we would love to have you join us. After canvassing, we will treat you to lunch.

In Sahuarita, following the Wednesday morning Lenten service on March 16, we will be canvassing the Sahuarita neighborhoods (flyers on doors). There will be a couple of Kingdom Workers helping. We need additional volunteers as well. If you have any questions please speak to Bob Breiler at (850) 832-7859.



# Grace is one congregation at FOUR places!

Enjoy worship, Bible study and activities at Grace locations in Benson, Sahuarita, Tucson and Vail.

## This Week at Grace • Mar 6-Mar 13

TUCSON	Tuesday
Today7:45 & 10:00aWorship Services/Communion7:45 & 10:00aChildren's Sunday School8:45aYouth Confirmation Class8:45aLifeliners (High School Group): Bible Study9:00aAdult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):	English as a Second Language Classes
Pastor Clemons: Book of Ruth	Thursday Women's Bible Study: Digging for Insights9:00a
Monday Handbell Practice4:30p	Friday Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson4:30-6:30p
English as a Second Language Classes6:30	Saturday Women's Fellowship Hike at Sabino Canyon9:00a
SAHUARITA Today	Cross-Making Project at Grace-Tucson
Choir Practice	Worship Services7:45 & 10:00a Coffee Fellowship following both services
Wednesday       Midweek Lenten Worship	Children's Sunday School
Friday Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson4:30-6:30p	Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):  • Guest Speaker: Pastor Otterstatter (MLC)9:00a  NO WELS TCM: Spring Break!
Saturday   Women's Fellowship Hike at Sabino Canyon	VAIL Today
Sunday Choir Practice	Adult Bible Study: Book of Judges
BENSON Today	Coffee Fellowship following worship
Worship Service7:30a	Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson4:30-6:30p
Wednesday Lenten Supper6:00p Lenten Worship7:00p	Saturday Women's Fellowship Hike at Sabino Canyon
Friday Mexican Dinner at Grace-Tucson4:30-6:30p	Canvassing in Rita Ranch/Vail (lunch provided) 9:30a-11:30a Cross-Making Project at Grace-Tucson
Saturday Women's Fellowship Hike at Sabino Canyon	Sunday Adult Bible Study: Book of Judges
Worship Service/Communion7:30a	Worship Service/Communion
Cross Evengelical Bostore	

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

830 N. First Avenue Tucson, Arizona 85719

Phone 623-6633 Fax 623-1514

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Cora Stuhr office@gracelutheransaz.org

## **Pastors**

### At Grace-Tucson

Ronald G. Koehler, III revrgk3@gracelutheransaz.org
Nathan P. Kassulke revnpk@gracelutheransaz.org
Samuel M. Clemons revsmc@gracelutheransaz.org

## At Grace-Vail & Grace-Benson

Colin M. Rieke revcmr@gracelutheransaz.org

At Grace-Sahuarita Ronald G. Koehler, III

#### **Bible-Based Counselor**

Cinda Drescher cinda@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 882-3773

## **Music Coordinator**

Beth Kassulke music@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 293-2935

## Office Assistant

Debbie Koehler assistant@gracelutheransaz.org Phone 623-6633

## Thrivent Choice Dollars Deadline

Thrivent members, the deadline for designating your Thrivent choice dollars is March 31. You can log on to Thrivent.com or call 1-800-847-4836 for assistance.

Thrivent also has money available for projects through **Action Teams.** If there is a project you would like to request money for, log on to Thrivent.com and fill out the Action Team application at least 3 weeks before your project begins. Once accepted, you will receive \$250 towards your project. Thrivent request photos of the project and a final report when the project is completed.

## **ALA Scrip Program Changes**

The ALA Board of Director has made the decision to revise the Scrip program. Key changes include: An inventory of Scrip cards will no longer be carried in our churches and schools. The inventory we currently have on hand will be available until April 15. Supporters can still purchase Scrip from retailers who offer online or smart phone purchasing (ScripNow!) and reload options are available through <a href="https://www.ShopwithScrip.com">www.ShopwithScrip.com</a>. A limited inventory of cards will be kept in the ALA office for purchase there. Cards will no longer be sent through the mail. This year's rebates will be shared as promised in June via the current system and rebates will continue to be shared going forward. An information sheet with all the program details is available from any of the Grace Scrip Reps - Vic & Lois Thornton, Jen Watson, and Debbie Koehler. We will answer any questions you have to the best of our ability!

## **Tuition Tax Credit**

Even in the New Year, it is not too late to make a donation to the Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO) which may also be claimed as a tax credit on your 2015 Arizona State Tax Return. In fact, up until April 15, you may make a donation and credit it to your 2015 tax year. You can help support Lutheran education and receive a credit on your Arizona state income taxes (up to \$1067 per person and \$2134 per married couple filing jointly). Donations may be made online at <a href="https://www.acsto.org">www.acsto.org</a> or by using the form in the ACSTO brochure. Please make use of this program if you are able to do so. If you have any questions, please speak to Jeff Weinstein (909-7649) or one of the pastors. **Pick up a flyer and a donation form brochure at any of the Grace locations.** 

## **Apache Clothing Drive**

We've donated over 800 boxes of clothing to the Apaches up in the White Mountains so far! The clothing drive is ongoing and we are now partnering with Karen Manning from Holy Cross to collect additional items for children and newborns (knitted/crocheted caps and scarves, baby quilts, receiving blankets, burping cloths and baby clothes). You can deliver donated baby items to the church office in Tucson or coordinate with Russ Weir and he will get them to Karen.

As a reminder, please bring new or gently used clothing for donation. If it's not suitable for you to wear, would you want someone else to wear it?

If you don't have clothing to donate but would still like to help, there is always a need for gas money. Any monetary donations are appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns please talk to Russ Weir, Apache Clothing Drive Coordinator at 795-0062.



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

For more information about our synod and what we believe visit: www.wels.net