

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

422 Valhi Boulevard
985-879-1865

Houma, Louisiana 70360
WWW.GRACEHOUMA.ORG

Pastor - Richard D. Rudnik
pastor@gracehouma.org

President - Mike Cape
president@gracehouma.org

Church Secretary - Lorie Souther
secretary@gracehouma.org

Accompanists - David West & Mike Cape

Today

Service Elder - Joey Souther
Scripture Reader - Bonnie Dupre
Offering Stewards - Lisa Giroir
Altar Guild - Pastor Rich & Bridgette

Next Sunday

John Wegner
Dale Boger/Nicholas Scott
Lisa Giroir
Mary Lou & Lorie

Third Sunday in Lent	March 23, 2025
-----------------------------	-----------------------

Welcome to God's house! Please allow us to keep in touch with you by signing the register in the foyer/narthex. Thank you!

Altar Flowers are placed today to the glory of God to mark the anniversary of Jerrie Fitzgerald's confirmation on this day in 1959.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week. Those Christians who truly believe that they receive the true body and blood of Christ Jesus our Savior, in, with and under the bread and wine are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper.

The Apostle Paul's words in Corinthians 11:27-29 set forth, *"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."*

If you are concerned about having a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper, we urge you to speak with pastor. Questions and answers that may aid your understanding of and preparation for Holy Communion are on pages 329-330 in the pew hymnal.

Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cup trays for those who cannot tolerate alcohol.

Introit

Psalm 5:4–8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6

Pastor: For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

People: but the way of the wicked will perish.

Pastor: For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;

People: evil may not dwell with you.

Pastor: The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;

People: you hate all evildoers.

Pastor: You destroy those who speak lies;

People: the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Pastor: But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.

People: I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

Pastor: Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies;

People: make your way straight before me.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

People: and to the Holy Spirit;

Pastor: as it was in the beginning,

People: is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

People: but the way of the wicked will perish.

Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

Divine Service

Fourth Setting

Lutheran Service Book, Page 203

Pre-Service Music

1. Opening Hymn # 704
2. Confession and Absolution p. 203
3. Introit Bulletin
4. Kyrie p. 204
5. Salutation p. 205
6. Collect of the Day
Bulletin
7. Old Testament Bulletin
8. Epistle Reading Bulletin
9. **Glory to You, O Lord.** p. 206
10. Holy Gospel Bulletin
11. **Praise to You, O Christ** p. 206
12. Apostles' Creed p. 207
13. The Word for Children
14. Sermon Hymn # 824
15. Sermon
16. Meditation
18. Prayer of the Church p. 207
Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy;
People: hear our prayer.
19. Preface p. 208
20. Sanctus p. 208
21. Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209
22. The Lord's Prayer p. 209
23. The Words of Our Lord p. 209
24. Pax Domini p. 209
25. Agnus Dei p. 210
26. Communion
27. Distribution Hymn # 421
Guitar Hymn:
Your Love Oh Lord Insert
Distribution Hymn # 422
28. Nunc Dimittis p. 211
29. Post Communion Collect p. 212
30. Benediction p. 212
31. Closing Hymn # 809

Postlude

Offering boxes are on each side of the doors exiting the sanctuary.

Old Testament

Ezekiel 33:7–20

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Your Love Oh Lord – Psalm 36

Brad Avery, David Carr, Mark Lee & Mac Powell

**Your love, oh Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky;
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountain,
And Your justice flows like the ocean's tides**

**Your love, oh Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky;
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountain,
And Your justice flows like the ocean's tides**

**And I will lift my voice to worship You my King;
And I will find my strength in the shadow of Your wings**

**Your love, oh Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky;
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountain,
And Your justice flows like the ocean's tides**

**And I will lift my voice to worship You my King;
And I will find my strength in the shadow of Your wings**

**And I will lift my voice to worship You my King;
And I will find my strength in the shadow of Your wings**

**Your love, oh Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky;
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountain,
And Your justice flows like the ocean's tides**

© 1998 Gray Dot Songs New Spring Publishing CCLI# 2794804

This is the House of God.

Let us be thoughtful and reverent.

Before the Service, speak to the Lord.

During the Service, let the Lord speak to you.

After the Service, speak to one another.



BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on the Book of Ecclesiastes. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

This Week at Grace

Today	9:00 a.m. Worship Coffee & LWML Baked Goods 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Monday	6:00 p.m. Bible Study
Tuesday	1:00 p.m. Bible Study
Wednesday	4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Potluck Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek Worship Service
Thursday	Pipeliners Newsletter Articles Due!
Saturday	9:30 a.m. LWML Meeting

For the week March 23—29 2025

Birthday

03/24 Joey Souther
03/26 Dean Lirette
03/29 Frank Alessio

Baptismal Anniversaries

03/25 Ellen DeSoto
03/27 Steven Kinsella
03/28 Marilyn Beach

In the palm of God's Hands...

PRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS: Cynthia Ratliff, Don Effler,

Donna Von Burgsdorff, Ike McDavitt, Jim Loupe, Josephine Hebert, Linda Effler and Trista Effler.

BATTLING CANCER: Annick George Matherne, Beau Bourgeois,

Eldon Authement, Helen Duplantis, Isla Granger, Jenny Ford, Lance Griffin, Laura Robson and Michael Hamilton.

RECOVERING FROM SURGERY/INJURY: Brigitte Kinsella, Carl Folse, Charles Reid, Donna Elke, Jacqui Kaplan, Joe Deane and Marla Churchill.

CHRONIC CONDITIONS & ELDERLY: Connie Oswalt, DeAnn Barrios, Ellen DeSoto, Frank Alessio, Gloria Ashley, Jackie Webb,

James Hillman, Jaxon Greene, John Wegner, Kim Cape, Lyle Souther, Marilyn Beach, Mary Jane Schouest, Mike Wallace, Rana DaSilva, Rhonda Roan, Richard LaCour and Toni St. Amant.

MOURNING A LOSS: The families of Elaine Waswick, Patsy Wegner and Richard Hauser.

NEW & EXPECTING MOTHERS: Lei'Lyn and baby Hebert and Hailey and baby Crawford.

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES & THEIR FAMILY:

Avery St. Amant, Chandler Crawford, Haily Crawford, Haize Shroyer, Jason Reid-O'Neill, Julia Shroyer, Justin Scherf, Katie Cahill, Kyle Turcott, Lei'Lyn Hebert, Noah Scheufens and Todd Mueller.

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Alyssah Kinsella, Donovan Domangue, Gabbie Corbitt, Hannah Norman, Jacob Harding, Jonathan Dahl, Nicholas Scott, Peyton Kraus, Shelby Giroir and Victoria Thalheim.



GRACE'S MISSION

BUILDING ONE BODY IN CHRIST THROUGH WORSHIP,

WITNESS, STEWARDSHIP, SERVICE, LOVE, TEACHING AND FELLOWSHIP.

BUILDING SECURITY & STEWARDSHIP

If you're among the last to leave the church building at any time, please be sure *all* doors are locked *and* closed completely. Also, please make sure all thermostats are returned to vacant-building settings.

Where do we get pastors who preach and care for us with God's Word? Where do we get teachers who teach our children about Jesus in our Lutheran schools? Where do we get our directors of Christian education, deaconesses and directors of parish music? *Set Apart to Serve* (SAS) is partnering with our seminaries, Concordia universities, districts and others to build a Synodwide culture of church work formation and recruitment. Will you please take a brief online survey at lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey and let us know how we can make SAS more beneficial to your congregation? We want to hear what you have to say.