

DRAWN TO THE CROSS

Lent 5

March 17, 2024



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before Worship

Lord God, give me strength and willingness to say with Your Son, “Not my will, but Your will be done.” Make me cheerful and trusting to bear whatever You let happen to me. From Your hand I am willing to take the good and the bad, the joy and the sorrow.

Keep me from sin, gracious Father, and comfort me with Your kind Word of Gospel peace and forgiveness, that I am here to receive once again this morning. Draw us ever closer to Jesus, who willingly went to the cross. Give me a heart that desires to praise and thank you with sincerity and joy. Bless the Kroll family, and thank-you for the gift of Holy Baptism. Amen.

Before Worship

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes.

General Information

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall.
Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall.

Serving in Worship

Music: Rachel Halldorson
Ushers: Josiah Kroll, Art Kutschied
Pastor: Wayne Halldorson
Pastor’s Cell: 903-717-1922
Pastor’s Email: grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com

Church Information

Address: 6788 FM 115 - Scroggins, TX 75480
Phone: 903-860-3749
Website: www.graceneearthelake.com
Email: graceneearthelake@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/graceneearthelake1
Prayer Requests: prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com /
text to 520-236-9673

T-Loop Hearing Assistance

If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal earbuds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.



WORSHIP SERVICE

HOLY BAPTISM

692 *All Who Believe and Are Baptized*

CW 692



1 All who be-lieve and are bap-tized shall see the Lord's sal -
2 With one ac-cord, O God, we pray: grant us your Ho - ly



va - tion; bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, they are a
Spir - it; help us in our in - firm - i - ty through Je - sus'



new cre - a - tion; through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand a -
blood and mer - it; grant us to grow in grace each day that



mong the glo-rious, heav'n-ly band of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
by this sac - ra - ment we may e - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.; Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Remain seated

Opening Blessing

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Confession & Absolution

After His baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness fighting Satan and fighting against temptation.

Likewise we spend 40 days in Lent, fighting Satan, fighting his lies, and learning discipline from how Jesus defeated our greatest foe.

May this time of repentance, renewal, and growth in spiritual discipline equip and empower you to fight any battles that might come your way.

Grant us your Holy Spirit, Lord, and be with us always.

Bless us O Lord, as we gather here today, to once again witness, the miracle of Holy Baptism.

Amen.

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when He said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving His life on the cross. In Baptism, He clothes us with the robe of His righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**Baptism means that the sinful nature in us
should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance,
and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.
It also means that a new person should daily arise
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved You with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve Your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with His innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in Him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and He will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it, gave my
full re - demp-tion price. Do I need earth's trea - sures man - y?
I have one worth more than an - y that brought me sal -
va - tion free, last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.

The Gospel according to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for Him to place His hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them and blessed them.

Joanna Grace Kroll, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart † to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May He strengthen you with His grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

679 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

CW 679 sts. 2-3



2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized



in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er: Je - sus'
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion, I am



cleans-ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y con-science seize me
not so soon en-ticed. Now that to the font I've trav - eled,



since my bap - tism did re - lease me in a dear for -
all your might has come un - rav - eled, and, a - gainst your



giv - ing flood, sprink-ling me with Je - sus' blood?
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!

Baptism Prayer & Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Joanna Grace Kroll as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into His death, we may also share in His resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed Your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through His anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1–7

¹But now, this is what the LORD says—

he who created you, Jacob,

he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Cush and Seba in your stead.

⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you,
I will give people in exchange for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.

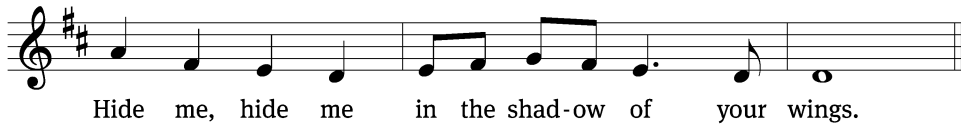
⁶I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

121D Keep Me as the Apple of Your Eye

Psalm 121D

Refrain



Tone



I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—
where does my help / come from?
My help comes / from the LORD,
the maker of heav- / en and earth.
He will not let your / foot slip—
he who watches over you will not / slumber;
indeed, he who watches over / Israel
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;
the sun will not harm / you by day,
nor the / moon by night.
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—
he will watch o- / ver your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going
both now and for- / evermore.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:7–9

⁷During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered

⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

Seasonal Verse for Lent

Mark 10:45

**For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

Gospel Reading

John 12:20–33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." ²²Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever

serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.

²⁸Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

808 Drawn to the Cross

CW 808



1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed with heal - ing
2 How well you know my griefs and fears, your grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; let noth - ing
4 To pledge my la - bor will - ing - ly, which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, to find in you my
bused, my mis - spent years; so now to you with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing through your
sweet a ser - vice be that an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
cross and pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Sermon

John 12:20-33 "Spiritual Magnetism"

422 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

CW 422 st. 1

1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, our guilt and
e - vil bear - ing and, lad - en with the sins of earth,
none else the bur - den shar - ing, goes pa - tient on,
grows weak and faint, to slaugh - ter led with - out com - plaint,
that spot - less life to of - fer; bears shame and stripes
and wounds and death, an - guish and mock - er - y and saith,
"Will - ing all this I suf - fer."

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.

Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 1133502

Tune: Public domain

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

*“God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” – duet performed by Rachel (violin)
and Hosanna (piano) Halldorson*

Prayer of the Church

Dear Jesus, how can we thank you for the wonderful gift you have given us? The child we prayed for is now in our arms and enjoying the life you have created. We continue to pray that You would keep this child safe from trauma and trouble, and give growth and health in the years ahead. Thank you for the Sacrament of Baptism by which you bring little children into your family and robe them in your perfect righteousness. Help us as a congregation to love and serve her, and for the family to be wise and caring servants who model sincere faith in You and self-giving love for all.

Gracious Lord, according to Your will and promise, You sent Your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life. You planned His path to the cross, and He followed it perfectly. Your Spirit led Him to endure the temptations of Satan, but He triumphed. Your own people rejected His message, but He persevered.

He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death, but was not deterred as He proclaimed your kingdom to all and won the victory.

Guide us to follow Christ by faith as we walk the road of temptation and trial. Spare us from falling into Satan's traps, and steel our resolve as his partners confront us. Teach us to use your Word as a weapon to fight against all devilish lies and deceptions.

When we fall, lift us up again with your forgiveness and grace.

As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death, use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance. Humble us as we view the Savior in His humility, remembering and believing that He endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.

In His suffering show us our healing, in His grief show us our joy, and in His death show us our life.

Protect all who are bearing the cross of persecution and disdain.
Supply your power to those fighting temptations and addictions.
Watch over all who are sick and suffering in body, mind, and heart. We pray especially for children who are abused, forsaken, or ignored.
Comfort all your troubled people with the sweet peace that only Jesus can bring.

Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus, whose journey to the cross we remember during the days of Lent. Comfort and strengthen us by His life and death on our behalf, and thrill us as we look forward to celebrating His victory on Easter.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

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.

Amen.

502 Children of the Heavenly Father

CW 502



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he
Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.
show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958; Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, abr.

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873

Text: © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: CCLI no. 111335 02

Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[™] Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joanna Grace Kroll

Please join us to celebrate the birth of Joanna, and the priceless gift of Holy Baptism. We rejoice in all His great blessings!

Grace Outreach Event + Members Info

We're planning another event for children and families this spring – a Grace Fun Day. It's tentatively planned for Saturday, May 4th. Please speak with Mike if you want to be involved or let us know if that date won't work out for Grace or for our volunteers.

Edie Knell has a new cell number: 972-689-8108 *give her a call!*

Pastor had a chance to connect with Kris Martinson and he asked to pass along his love and greetings to everyone at Grace. If you'd like to send him something it can be sent to: Kris Martinson ID # 87102510 c/o Unit Federal Medical Center – PO box 15330, Fort Worth, TX, 76119.

Easter For Kids

Rebecca is planning a special MWM for Easter on April 4 at the regular time (10am-11am). If you know people with kids or have a place you can post an advertisement, please let her know.

Bible Classes

Please consider participating in one (or more) of our weekly classes – Genesis on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm / Revelation on Thursdays at 6:00 pm. The monthly Parables class on the last Friday of the month (10:30 am at Grace) with the men's and women's lunch out to follow at 11:30 am.

Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Easter Sunday

Based upon feedback from our congregation we will not be having a separate service on Maundy Thursday. Instead, we'll begin Good Friday service (6:00 pm) with Maundy Thursday focus (including Communion) and then proceed directly into Good Friday. The service will last approximately an hour.

Easter Sunday we'll have Bible Class at the regular time (9 am) / Easter Worship at 10 am / Easter Brunch at 11 am.

A Look at our Church Library

On Giving Advice to God - Part 1 & 2

Wanting to strengthen your devotional life? Are you looking for something meaty that challenges your spiritual growth? "On Giving Advice to God" Parts 1 & 2 by Daniel Deutschlander is available in the church library for you to check out. Developing the theme "The Wisdom of God and the Foolishness of Man", the author reminds the reader how far God's wisdom goes beyond our human thoughts and understanding. Part 1 takes us from Advent through Ascension, following along the church year and the familiar accounts of Scripture we've come to anticipate year after year. The insights you are sure to gain will deepen your understanding and appreciation for God's wisdom and magnanimous love! Part 2 takes us through Pentecost and beyond. Once you get into it, you may even be tempted to buy a copy for your own personal library because you will want to come back to this again and again - one read through is not enough! It makes a great couples' devotion too, and offers plenty of discussion opportunities each time. Your devotional life will never be the same!

Upcoming Schedule

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship / Baptism
Today	11:00 am	Cake and fellowship
Mar. 20	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Mar. 21	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
Mar. 21	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Mar. 24	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Palm Sunday Worship
Mar. 27	all day	Genesis Bible Class on hold
Mar. 28	all day	Revelation Bible Class on hold
Mar. 29	6:00 pm	Good Friday Worship
Mar. 31	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Easter Sunday Worship
Mar. 31	11:00 am	Easter Brunch

