

**April 13, 2025**

**Palm Sunday**



## **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

**Church Office:** 609-927-3082 **Food Pantry:** 609-927-9982

**Website:** [www.GraceLutheranSPnj.org](http://www.GraceLutheranSPnj.org)

**E-mail:** [Office@GraceLutheranSPnj.comcastbiz.net](mailto:Office@GraceLutheranSPnj.comcastbiz.net)

Interim Pastor † Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director  
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

**We welcome you to worship here at Grace!**

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.*

*Our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship  
red hymnal found in the pews.*

## GATHERING

**Thank you for joining us as we worship our Lord together!**

### INTRODUCTION

*Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.*

### WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

### PRELUDE

*Triumphal March*  
Stephen Gring: Piano

by Edvard Grieg

**A Bible Reading from the earliest Christian hymn:  
St. Paul's letter to the Church at Philippi 2:5-11**

L: <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

C: <sup>7</sup> **but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.**

L: <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

C: <sup>10</sup> **so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

**Processional Gospel Reading: PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM**

L: Hear from the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, how our Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem. (Luke 19:28-40)

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Following the reading, the people's response: Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29**

L: Hosanna to the Son of David!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

L: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Blessing of the Palms and Branches:**

Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of hope in his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our Lord, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**ELW #344**

**GREETING**

The extraordinary grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of our faithful God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

**ELW (front) #138**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**PEACE** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**



## GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

*Take a brief moment to share the peace by greeting someone sitting near you. Verbal greetings are appropriate if you are not comfortable shaking hands or touching.*

*Please be seated.*

### **An Introduction to the Sermon:**

#### **A Reading from the First Testament: Isaiah 50:4-9**

*In this reading, which Christians understand as pre-figuring Christ, the “suffering servant,” we are introduced to the two Representatives we will see in the sermon. The red text could well be spoken by Jesus, and the green by various people in today’s Gospel reading.*

<sup>4</sup> The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.  
 Who are my adversaries?  
 Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
 who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Sing, My Tongue* Verses 1-3 **ELW #356**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 22nd-23rd chapters. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 22:14-23:56**

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*My Song is Love Unknown*  
 Verses 1-3

**ELW #343**

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING****OFFERTORY***Sing a Loud Hosanna*

by Mark Schweizer

*Please stand as you are able.***OFFERTORY RESPONSE***Sing My Tongue*

Verse 7

**ELW #343****OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Please be seated.***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. *Brief silence.*

*At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, "God, in your mercy," please respond with "receive our prayer."*

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION****GREAT THANKSGIVING****ELW (front) #144****EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER****HOLY, HOLY, HOLY****ELW (front) #144****WORDS OF INSTITUTION****THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Together, we pray as our Lord taught us, saying:

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**COMMUNION HYMN**     *Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless*     ELW #357

**COMMUNION HYMNS**     *My Song is Love Unknown*     ELW #343  
Verses 4-6

*Go to Dark Gethsemane*     ELW #347  
Verses 1-3

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the red wine/white grape juice, place your empty cup in the tray and return to your pew. As places open up, worshippers will fill them in so that communion is a continuous process. If you do not wish to receive communion, or are worshipping with children who have not had First Communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing; as you kneel at the railing, cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **SENDING**

## **BLESSING**

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit ✚ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN***The Old Rugged Cross*

CH #327

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suffering and shame;  
And I love that old cross, where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

**Refrain:** So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
Till my trophies at last I lay down.  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.

2. O the old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
Has a wondrous attraction for me;  
For the dear lamb of God left His glory above  
To bear it to dark Calvary. **Refrain.**

3. In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
A wondrous beauty I see;  
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died  
To pardon and sanctify me. **Refrain.**

4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear.  
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away,  
Where His glory forever I'll share. **Refrain.**

*Please be seated. Enjoy the postlude music.  
and meditate on how God spoke to your heart today.*

**POSTLUDE***Lacrimosa Dies Illa*

from Mozart's Requiem Mass

Andrew Ehrhardt: Clarinet

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We are glad for your presence today.  
We hope you come again soon!*



**We thank all those serving in worship today:**

**Worship Assistant:** June Jordan

**The candles, wine, and bulletins sponsor today is:**

Roberta Blumenthal, in memory of her parents, John and June Stieska.

**The music sponsor is:** Linda Savage, to the Glory of God!

We will have Sunday School here at Grace during our 10:15 AM worship during Easter season April 27 - June 1. We are in need of volunteers. Please visit the link in previous email to sign up.

**Please spread the word and invite any young people you know!**

**As a devotional act for Good Friday, we are accepting donations of 1st Aid Products for Bridge of Peace Lutheran Church & Food Pantry in Camden, NJ.**

There will be a designated place for these in the narthex.



**19th ANNUAL BABY SHOWER**  
**for Shore Memorial NICU**  
**will be hosted by WELCA and the Stitchers of**  
**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**along with our brothers and sisters from**  
**Reformation Lutheran Church, Absecon**



**Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM**  
 Grace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Lunch will be served for Shore Medical Center nurses and guests.

Donations needed: New clothing (preemie-2T),  
 diapers, knitted and crocheted clothing and blankets

Deadline for donations: Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

Please R.S.V.P. to Roberta Blumenthal 609-927-1654 or the  
 Church Office 609-927-3082.

## **Vintage Jazz Band Concert**

Come enjoy this 6-piece group that plays popular music standards of bygone eras!

Tuesday, April 15 at Longport Public Library 6:30-7:30 P.M.  
2305 Atlantic Avenue, Longport

Indoor show, in the City Council Chambers, adjacent to the library.  
*Please see flier in the narthex for details.*

## **Holy Week Schedule**

### **Palm Sunday, April 13**

8:00 AM Worship & 10:15 AM Worship  
4:00 PM Egg Hunt & Holy Story

### **Maundy Thursday, April 17**

12:00 PM Worship Service & Stripping of the Altar

### **Good Friday, April 18**

7:00 PM "The Weeping Tree" Cantata with  
Congregation Participation

### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

8:00 AM & 10:15 AM Worship



We will have a variety of flowers adorning the front of the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. They will be available for you to purchase after the 10:15 worship service to brighten up your home or garden!

# HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

## April 13, 2025—April 20, 2025

### Palm Sunday 4/13//25

8:00AM Spoken Worship

8:45AM Adult Forum

10:15AM Traditional Worship

**Coffee Hour -Sponsored by Council**

**4:00PM Egg Hunt & Holy Story**

### MONDAY 4/14//25

**Food Pantry Closed**

6:30PM Grief Support Group

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

### TUESDAY 4/15/25

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

### WEDNESDAY 4/16/25

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge

6:00PM AA Book Study

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:30PM Compassionate Friends

### MAUNDY THURSDAY 4/17/25

9:00AM-11:30AM Food Pantry

12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

**12:00PM Worship & Stripping of  
the Altar**

5:00PM Choir Rehearsal

6:00 AA 12-Step

**7:00PM Church Council Meeting**

7:00PM Al-Anon

7:00PM Sisters of Hope

Narcotics Anonymous

### GOOD FRIDAY 4/18/25

10:30AM Grace Stitches

**7:00PM The Weeping Tree Cantata  
with Congregation Participation**

7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

### SATURDAY 4/19/25

7:30AM & 8:30AM Weight Watchers

### Easter Sunday 4/20/25

8:00AM Spoken Worship

10:15AM Traditional Worship



**Egg Hunt & Holy Story**

Palm Sunday,  
April 10 at 4pm  
Rain or Shine!

**Ages 2-12**

*Like God's Grace,  
this event is FREE*

**Free Concert**  
"The Weeping Tree"  
Cantata

**Good Friday**  
April 18 at 7pm

**Grace  
Lutheran  
Church**

11 E. Dawes Ave  
Sommers Point

**Easter Sunday**  
Worship Service

**April 20**

8:00am Spoken Service

10:15am Worship with  
Choir, Communion, &  
Children's Message

**Come Learn with Us!**  
Adult Education  
Sundays at 8:45am

**Children's Sunday  
School**  
April 27 - June 1  
During 10:15am worship  
service

**All Ages Welcome!**