



Peace † Grue

God's Country News

An ELCA Parish



MARCH 2024



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LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Services will be held at each church on
February 14, 2024:

Peace at 12noon

Grue at 6:15pm and

Presbyterian Church at 7:30pm with
imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

Weekly services will be held at 7:00pm each Wednesday evening,
alternating churches, with light supper served
beginning at 5:30pm.

February 21: Grue Church

February 28: OSTML

March 6: Peace Church

March 13: First Presbyterian Church

March 20: Grue Church

Order subject to change.

A soup luncheon and abbreviated service will be
held at noon each week at Peace.

All are welcome at either service.

Thanks to all who have volunteered to bring soup for the
noon Lent service at Peace. Ione Quam



Reminder

CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL

START BACK UP ON

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2024

The last day of confirmation class this year will be on
Wednesday, May 24th.



March 2024

Dear friends in Christ at Peace and Grue,

A torn fragment of bread or a smooth flat wafer placed in an outstretched hand. A sip of wine from a chalice or a tiny cup reverently consumed. Simple familiar words spoken: "The body of Christ, given for you." "The blood of Christ, shed for you." In these small acts and few words, Christians return to the heart of our faith, joining ourselves together with every other believer, not just across the world, but in an age-old continuity reaching back to Jesus himself.

The core belief that gives this form of worship its power is that Jesus Christ is himself in it. This is where it becomes anything but simple: How can Jesus have body and blood when we are so far removed in time and space from his physical historical life? How can a risen, ascended Jesus be in two places at once? What kind of "presence" is this? Luther's description is simple: Jesus gives himself (his true body and blood) in, with, and under the ordinary objects of bread and wine, telling us to eat and drink. Luther is more interested in the fact that Christ is present (because of his promise: "This is my body...") than how Christ is present (a problem Luther dismisses as a mathematical question).

What is indisputable is that this partaking in and sharing of Jesus' presence in, with, and under the bread and wine is an important command of Jesus. It has been at the heart of Christian worship from the earliest days of Christianity, and it is still central to us today. Most Christians hold up this sacrament - together with baptism - as essential to the practice of our faith, as we carry out Jesus' command with seriousness and devotion, experiencing forgiveness and growing in love.

"To receive this sacrament worthily," Luther says, "we need believing hearts." He does not say perfect hearts, but hearts like ours: hearts anxious in the face of uncertainty. This seems simple, but it is not. In our humanness, we seek to control our hearts and our thoughts. It is hard for us to give ourselves to anyone, even God. It is hard for us to trust a reality that comes from outside of us rather than inside. It is not logic or the power of our faith that makes Jesus present for us, gives us forgiveness, and the strength of his promise, it is the power of God. It is not about marveling at the miracle that happens at the altar, it is about the miracle that God's promises are true, and Christ's sacrament is always available that brings us together again and again and again to hear the words anew and rejoice in the assurance they contain.


We live in a world full of fear and division. We can face both by showing the world our trust in God. When we receive the bread and wine, knowing what it truly is - the body and blood of Christ, given for us - we defy the world's skepticism and hardness of heart with a truth deeper than the world can offer. The world needs to see and know Jesus, and this sacrament is the way we know him most intimately. This sacrament changes the one it touches. It brings us into a closer relationship with God and our neighbor by connecting us personally with a divine reality, so that we can offer ourselves back to the world in service as Jesus did. It invites us to "taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him" (Psalm 34:8).

During Lent, we have a few of our young people preparing to join us at the table. Their 1st communion is scheduled for Palm Sunday, giving them the opportunity to join us at the table on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, as well as Easter Sunday. I hope you will be there to welcome them to the Lord's table.

Pastor Dan

READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

3

<p>March 3, 2024</p> <p>First Reading <u>Exodus 20:1-17</u></p> <p>Psalm <u>Psalm 19</u></p> <p>Second Reading <u>1 Corinthians 1:18-25</u></p> <p>Gospel <u>John 2:13-22</u></p>	<p>March 10, 2024</p> <p>First Reading <u>Numbers 21:4-9</u></p> <p>Psalm <u>Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22</u></p> <p>Second Reading <u>Ephesians 2:1-10</u></p> <p>Gospel <u>John 3:14-21</u></p>	<p>March 17, 2024</p> <p>First Reading <u>Jeremiah 31:31-34</u></p> <p>Psalm <u>Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16</u></p> <p>Second Reading <u>Hebrews 5:5-10</u></p> <p>Gospel <u>John 12:20-33</u></p>
<p>March 23, 2024</p> <p>First Reading <u>Isaiah 50:4-9a</u></p> <p>Psalm <u>Psalm 31:9-16</u></p> <p>Second Reading <u>Philippians 2:5-11</u></p> <p>Gospel <u>Mark 14:1--15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]</u></p>		<p>March 31, 2024</p> <p>First Reading <u>Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9</u></p> <p>Psalm <u>Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24</u></p> <p>Second Reading <u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43</u></p> <p>Gospel <u>Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18</u></p>

PEACE CHURCH ACOLYTE SCHEDULE 2024

March

3 Troy Walvatne / Evan Rossum
 10 Coffee Cup Sunday
 17 Beckett Johnson / Joey Johnson
 24 Finn Thompson / Traeton Nelson
 31 Easter
 7:00 Noah Anderson / Darian Holte
 9:00 AJ Olson / Beckett Johnson

April

7 Liam Hansen / Evan Rossum
 14 Troy Walvatne / Joey Johnson
 21 Gavin Balgaard / Traeton Nelson
 28 AJ Olson / Beckett Johnson



******If you are unable to acolyte on the Sunday that you are listed
please contact another youth and switch or ask them to cover for you - thanks.***

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1

Troy Johnsrud
Harold Jensen

March 2

Allen Hammer
Dee Holte
Michael Maunumaki

March 4

Trevor Beving
Lynn Jensen
Keith Nichols

March 5

Evelyn Schamber

March 6

Rachel Cassavant-Bloom
(Runningen)
Alexa Griep

March 7

Terry Fick

March 8

Zach Cunningham

March 11

Karl Miller
Michael Wahl

March 12

Kathy Van Santen

March 13

Miles Wing

March 15

Brighton Moen

March 17

Elroy Anderson
Susan Casberg
Paul Christensen
Terrance Johnson
Penny Scholl



March 18

Jill Evavold
Gordan Rohloff

March 20

Kirsten Moe (Drexler)
Brady Sunby

March 22

Deanna Thronson

March 24

Vanessa Field
Anne Mueller

March 25

Paul Johnsrud
Robert Moerke

March 26

Sadie Ness

March 28

Kyle Fick

March 29

Steven Alvstad

March 30

Vance Johnson
Aiden Eberhardt

=====

*If I don't have your
birth date or if I have
it listed incorrectly
please
e-mail or call me -
peace@prtel.com /
747-2273
Melissa R*

God's Country News

**Articles are DUE by the 20th
of each MONTH**



Grue Bible Study

Tuesday, March 19th @ 1:30 pm. @ Grue



Peace Bible Study

Tuesday, March 19th 9:30 a.m. @ Peace



	Peace - MARCH- Sunday School at 10:15
3	10:15 a.m.
10	10:15 a.m.
17	10:15 a.m.
24	10:15 a.m., Playing Bells in Church
31	10:15 a.m.

	Grue - MARCH- Sunday School at 9:30
3	9:30 a.m.
10	9:30 a.m.
17	9:30 a.m.
24	9:30 a.m.
31	No SS

This winter at Peace



Coffee Cup Sundays

The 2nd Sunday of January, February and March

PEACE will be having Coffee Cup Sunday Services.

These worship services will take place in the fellowship dining room.

Feel free to sit at tables with your coffee and your church family.

These services are meant to be a little more casual and comforting for the long cold months of winter.

Dates: Sunday Jan. 14, Sunday Feb.11, and Sunday March 10.

The Grue Women's bible Study met Tuesday Feb 20th at 1;30 at the Church.

We decided to raffle the knitted Afghan made by Amy Maunumaki. Raffle ending May 5th, proceeds going to our upcoming projects.

We will be studying the book of John again this year.

We are working on finishing our quilting projects and giving them to where they can be used. It is good to get together, great fellowship.

There are many things to celebrate, our Church's 150th Anniversary this year, celebrating on Sept. 22nd.

Many things to look forward to.

Have a great day

Bea Runningen, Sec.



Greetings to all!

Thank you to the Odegard/Spielman family for covering our church's February needs. Each Sunday, ushers and readers are needed. One Sunday communion helpers and then a generous person each Sunday is needed to make coffee and provide a cookie and/or bar for fellowship. If you have not joined us for a while, please do. If you do not feel comfortable using our coffee maker, please let one of us know. We are always willing to help.

On Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday, Peace WELCA made and served lunch at our Ashby Living Center where we have church members residing. The residents enjoyed a hot ham and cheese lunch with DQ ice cream cake for dessert. Val's sweet great-granddaughter handed out treat bags too. Special thanks to Frank Novak for coming in to help with clean up and dishes. The residents enjoyed the good food and extra conversation, and our hearts were filled as well. It would be nice if we could do something like this on a regular basis. Please let us know if you feel a tug to help with this mission work in our own back yard. They enjoy waffle night and have not had it for a while. This can be a fun couple's event.

SERVING OPPORTUNITY: Wednesday, March 6th Peace will be making and service the light supper before Lenten services. Currently we have three soups: Flalafila, White Chili and Tomato Basil. You can add a soup, provide butter, buns and/or meat for sandwiches, cookies or bars welcomed for dessert. If you can provide, please let Janet know asap at 612-385-2730.

Plans are underway for our parish WELCA hosting the Conference 8 Gathering for Saturday, April 27th, 2024. Everything will be focused around our theme, The Faith of a Mustard Seed and Patty Welterling will be our speaker. If you want to be involved in planning or helping, please let Val or I know. Invitations will be sent out soon. Our community room holds 100 and we are planning for a full house.

In April, we will have a 'NO BAKE –BAKE SALE'

Reminder: If you are a member of Peace, you are automatically a member of WELCA!

Sister in Christ and WELCA Co President,

Janet Novak

P.S. Please check your contact information in the Annual Report and WELCA handbook for accuracy. Call the church office at 218-747-2273 to provide correct information.



Peace Church Council Minutes

February 7, 2024

Members present: Wayne Vorland, Linda Bahnson, Gene Jensen, Tim Cunningham, Duane Spielman, Jody Dahlen, and Pastor Dan.

Secretary's report was reviewed: M/S/C to approve

Treasurer's report was reviewed: M/S/C to approve

Pastor's report: 18 visits, 6 meetings and events, and 4 hospital visits.

Committee Reports: No reports for the Education, Worship, and Christian Growth Committees.

Property and Management: Hinges for the front doors need fixing. Working with the Lumber Yard on replacements.

Old Business: None

New Business: Gene Jensen graciously agreed to serve as Vice President for 2024.

Discussion on the use of the sound system/keyboard outside of church services due to continued misuse. Council agreed that the cover will be placed over the soundboard with a lock, and signs will be posted on the sound system, keyboard, and organ that they are not to be used.

Ashby Post Prom Donation: Council was approached about a donation. M/S/C that the Ark will be placed outside of the sanctuary for a couple Sunday's in February for Peace Members to contribute if they wish.

Discussion on Confirmation requirements: Council is in support of the confirmation coordinator and Pastor Dan that if students do not complete the requirements of Peace's confirmation program, that the student will not be confirmed.

Easter is on March 31st. Discussion on having an Easter breakfast. Tabled until the March meeting.

M/S/C to adjourn. Next meeting will be Sunday, March 10th after the 9:00 service.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Dahlen

Peace Council Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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Parish Council Meeting February 7th, 2024

Present- Gene Jensen, Tim Cunningham, Wayne Vorland, Linda Bahnson, Jody Dahlen, Duane Spielman, Pastor Dan, Sonia Heibel, Darlane Miller, Sharon Hermanson, Melissa Runningen and Char Woldahl.

Meeting was called to order by Darlane Miller, Vice President Grue

Devotion- Pastor Dan read Psalm 2 along with a short prayer.

Additions to Agenda: Offering for Lenten services.

Secretary's Report- Read and approved- M/S/C

Treasure's Report- Tim presented and asked for any questions. approved -M/S/C

Pastor's Report- council approved Pastor Dan's request to designate a portion of his salary for housing. M/S/C.

Mike Youngblood of Battle Lake Lutheran church had contacted him to see if the congregations would be interested in participating in the giving of gift cards for people in need, Parish to Partner. He said they were starting to branch out to the Henning and Ashby areas.

Pastor Dan will be contacting Mike to talk more in detail about the program.

Council tabled it for now until we meet in the fall.- M/S/C

Introduction and welcome of new council members: Linda Bahnson-Peace, Sonia Heibel-Grue and Char Woldahl-Grue.

Brenda Johnson-Peace- not in attendance.

New Business-

Grue church will be hosting their Harvest Meal again on Saturday, November 23rd.

Council went over the Lenten schedule.

Pastor Dan said this year starting on Ash Wednesday the sermon series will be based off of "Jesus's 7 Words from the Cross".

Lenten free will offering will be going to Otter Tail & Grant county Food Shelves.

The free will offering taken at the meal will be designated by the hosting church as to their desire.

Next Parish council meeting will be held at Grue on May 8th @ 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn- M/S/C

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Hermanson

Grue Council Meeting, February 7th, 2024

In attendance: Darlane Miller, Sonia Heibel, Char Woldahl, Melissa Runningen and Sharon Hermanson.

Vice President Darlane Miller called the meeting to order.

Additions to agenda- Irish Stew fundraiser in Ashby on March 16th.
Increase in church insurance.

Secretary's Report- read and approved. - M/S/C

Treasure's Report- read and approved.- M/S/C

No Old Business

New Business-

On Saturday, March 16th we will be hosting an Irish Stew w/ biscuits lunch at the Ashby Senior Center from 11:00 am - 2:00pm.

This is a fundraiser for the youth trip to New Orleans and the Ladies WELCA group. We are asking for the donation of baked goods to sell.

A sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering area.

Please come and join us.

We will be receiving a Thrivent card to help in the cost of the food for the event.

The council members went over the schedule for Lenten season.

Grue will be hosting 2 services this year on February 21st and March 20th. There are sign up sheets in the gathering area for soups, sandwiches, bars and cookies to be serviced.

Please sign up and come join us for fellowship.

Sonia presented to the council members a letter from Church Mutual Insurance Company on their increase of 49% for the coming year. The council members decided that we will be contacting other insurance companies for quotes.

Kathy Evavold and her mother Jean have volunteered to strip and re-finish the communion kneeling railing. We truly thank them for their talents and time.

We received a letter from Ashby Post Prom committee asking for a \$100.00 donation. Council approved the donation. -M/S/C

Motion to adjourn meeting. M/S/C.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Hermanson, Council Secretary

Feb. 4, 2024 8:15 am

Members Present: Candy Catoe, Teresa Ohren, Brenda Risbrudt, Cindy Vorland, Carol Koefod

Members Absent: Pastor Dan

Old Business:

Acolyte: Schedule has been sent for March, April and May. Students will only be assigned for Sunday services.

Ushers or students in the congregation will be asked to acolyte for special services.

Discuss any changes for next school year. * Looking to Pastor Dan and Ed. Committee to discuss smaller numbers of students and how they wish to proceed for acolytes and Psalm readers. Also asking Pastor/Council if acolytes need to continue to wear robes.

Coffee cup Sundays: Share initial thoughts

Well received in Jan and Feb.

Will do again next year. Asking council if we should plan to have all Jan and Feb services be Coffee Cup services. Keeps the heat down upstairs and makes for a more intimate and cozy worship for the coldest months.

We will ask for ushers/greeters next time to help with hymnals and helping people find seats etc.

IV. Sound System

Has been fixed! Should work well moving forward for the near future.

Praise Band Letter sent to council regarding frustrations over needs to “fix” it nearly each week. Discussion: Council has agreed to lock the soundboard in order to maintain the integrity of the sound system. Community will still be able to use the sanctuary for worship, we are just asking that no changes be made to the sound system.

We will need a new sound board in the not too distant future. Worship Committee will start this discussion with the Church Council in hopes of securing funds should/when this needs to be replaced in order to have no down time without sound system.

New Business:

Vacancies to be filled:

Council Representative for WC: Will talk to Council about representative.

Poinsettia/Lilly Orders: Candy working with Missy on this.

Baptism Banners Emily Evavold will continue to do this.

Other Committee Responsibilities:

II. Spring Services

March Services:

1. Asking Council if Sunrise Services should be the 9:00 Service and eliminate the 7:00am Service as numbers continue to decline.
2. Worship committee members will assist with Maundy Thur and Sunrise Services

B. April Services:

C. May Services:

II. Summer Meeting to discuss June, July and August Services will be held: Sunday May 5 after services.

Submitted by: Carol Koefod

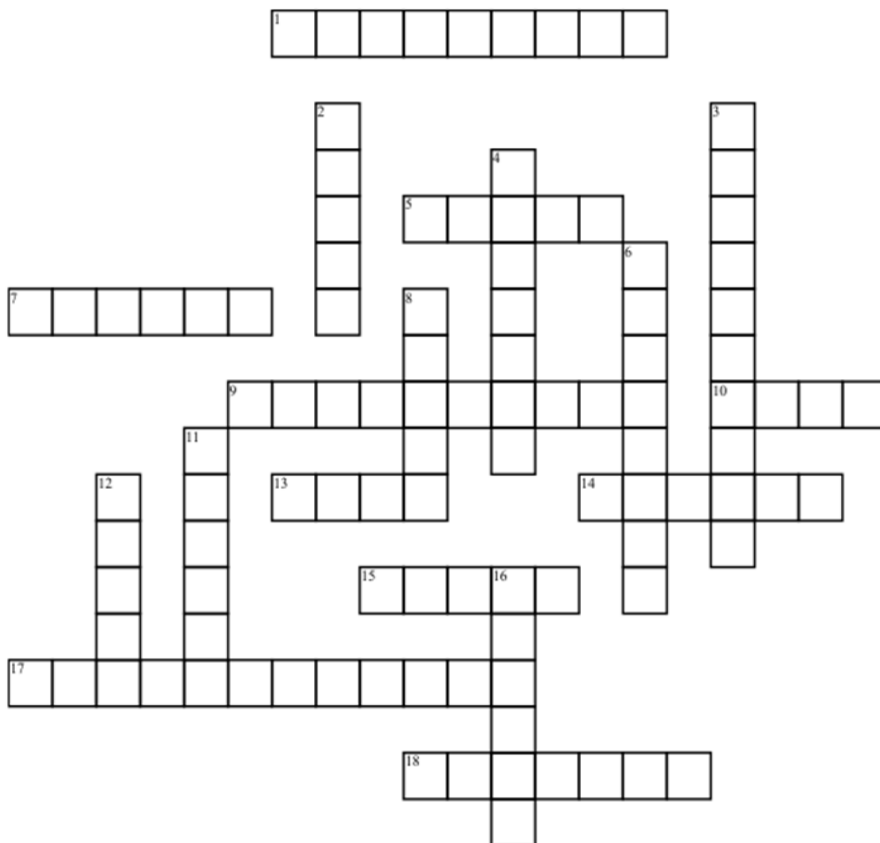
ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



LENTEN CROSSWORD



Across

1. ASH _____
 5. The Christian holy book
 7. Jesus entered Jerusalem on this animal
 9. Day in Lent recalling Jesus' death (2 words)
 10. Branches waved at Jesus upon his entry into Jerusalem
 13. Was with Jesus at the cross

14. Jesus prayed for 40 days here
 15. What Jesus died upon
 17. We spend Lent preparing for Jesus death and _____

18. Giving to _____ is a good Lenten practice

Down

2. What Jesus shed for our sins

3. Holy Communion started after this
 4. To go without
 6. The final week of Lent (2 words)
 8. Number of days in LENT
 11. Season after Lent
 12. Disciple who betrayed Jesus
 16. PALM _____

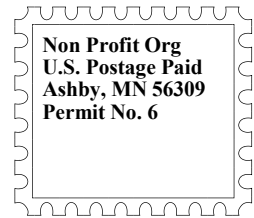
Peace + Grue Lutheran Parish –March 2024

In person Confirmation Class resumes on April 3rd, 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 PEACE service 9:00am, SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45am, SS 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion	4	5	6 No in person Confirmation <u>LENT SERVICE</u> Peace Church 12 noon with <i>a light lunch served.</i> <u>Peace @ 7 pm with light supper</u> <i>served starting at 5:30pm.</i>	7 PQ	8	9
10 PEACE service 9:00am, SS 10:15 a.m. Peace Council mtg after 9:00 service GRUE service 10:45am, SS 9:30 a.m. Grue council mtg at 9:45	11	12	13 No in person Confirmation <u>LENT SERVICE</u> Peace Church 12 noon with <i>a light lunch served.</i> <u>Presbyterian @ 7 pm with light supper</u> <i>served starting at 5:30pm.</i>	14	15	16 Irish Stew & Biscuit meal/fundraiser for Grue Youth trip to New Orleans at Ashby Senior Center 11-2, free will offering. Bake sale. Afghan raffle, \$1.00 a ticket.
17 PEACE service 9:00am, SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45am, SS 9:30 a.m. Cub Scouts meeting - Peace	18	19 Peace Bible Study 9:30 a.m. GRUE Bible Study 1:30 p.m.	20 No in person Confirmation <u>LENT SERVICE</u> Peace Church 12 noon with <i>a light lunch served.</i> <u>GRUE @ 7 am with light supper</u> <i>served starting at 5:30pm.</i>	21 PQ	22	23
24 <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> <u>1st Communion Sunday</u> PEACE service 9:00am, SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45am, SS 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion	25	26	27 No in person Confirmation	28 <u>Maundy Thursday</u> Peace Church 12:00 p.m. <i>with light lunch served</i> <u>Maundy Thursday</u> Service @ Peace 7:00 pm with Holy Communion	29 <u>Good Friday</u> Service @ Grue 7:00 pm with Holy Communion	30
31 EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 7:00 am @ PEACE PEACE service 9:00am, SS 10:15 a.m. GRUE service 10:45am, No SS Holy Communion	PEACE Church Service 9:00 A.M., S.S. 10:15 A.M. GRUE Church Service 10:45 A.M. S.S. 9:30 A.M.					

PQ – Peace Quilting, 1st & 3rd Wed., 9:00 am

God's Country News
Peace-Grue Lutheran Parish
306 Larson Ave
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RETURN SERVICE REQUEST



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OF THE ELCA

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