

Grace Lutheran Church

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April 4, 2022

My Dear People of Grace,

The **Way of Lent** is drawing to a close. These forty days may have held different experiences for you and yours as the urgency of the pandemic is easing, the countries of the world are at war with the many threats that come with that, and personal matters as well. Yet, we continued walking in God's grace.

And, together, we now approach the end of Lent and the coming of Holy Week, which is always a meaningful time in the Christian church. It is a time of focused attention and reflection on our life as disciples following our Lord as he prayed and was betrayed and suffered and died, all of which was blanketed with his love for the world.

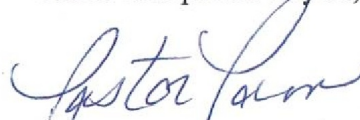
I pray that this time for you will include prayer, devotion, acts of service, and worship as we get ready to move into the "Great Fifty Days" -- the celebratory seven-week season that begins with Easter Sunday.

Lent is a time in which we recognize our need of a Savior. It is a time in which we see the depth of the Lord's love for us. If your Lent has been one of intentional prayer and fasting and generous giving, I pray God's continued blessings. If you, like so many others, find yourself saying, "Lent is almost over? I thought it had scarcely begun!" No worries. Neither Lent nor Holy Week is a time during which we "earn" the right to come to Easter Festival services. It is never too late to begin again and I pray you experience God's grace in its fullness during these days ahead.

For some, the last two years of pandemic may have shifted our Sunday morning routines and returning to in-person worship may be a challenge. Please know that you have been missed and we hope to see you in the coming days. If transportation is an issue or if there are other things that make it difficult to return, please let me know. I'm happy to talk with you to figure things out.

Yes, Easter's coming! And we gather together to hear the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the hope that brings to our lives. Please reach out to your neighbors, your co-workers, your family and friends. Invite them to join us for the special services of Holy Week and the joyous Festival of Easter.

Grace and peace to you,


Pastor Pam Smith

Our mission is to share God's love with each other, our community, and the world.