

Hope Lutheran Church

2001 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725

Grace Lutheran Church

204 North Main Street Columbia City, Indiana 46725

Phone: 260-244-7118 Fax: 260-248-2138

E-Mail: office.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Web Page: www.gracecolumbiacity.org

Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor

Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director

Joyce Dubach, Organist

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026



Introduction to the day

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight

we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup

Attendance for March 29.2026 - 46

PRELUDE

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

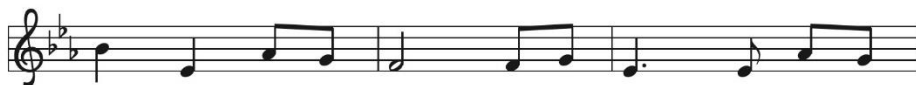
HYMN

(ACS 966)

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

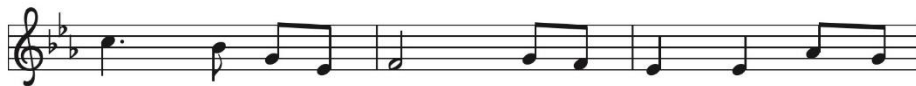


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



Refrain

By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

SERMON

An Instruction in these or similar words concludes the Sermon.

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. [Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.]

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism. [We have shared this discipline of Lent with new siblings in Christ who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil.]

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

A reading from Exodus.

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.] ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1, 10-17

¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I ¹ called upon him.

¹⁰ **How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things he has ¹ done for me?**

¹¹ I will lift up the cup ¹ of salvation
and call upon the name ¹ of the LORD.

¹² **I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD
in the presence of ¹ all his people.**

¹³ Precious in the sight ¹ of the LORD
is the death ¹ of his servants.

¹⁴ **O LORD, I ¹ am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your
handmaid; you have freed me ¹ from my bonds.**

¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice ¹ of thanksgiving
and call upon the name ¹ of the LORD.

¹⁶ **I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD
in the presence of ¹ all his people,**

¹⁷ in the courts of ¹ the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, ¹ O Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

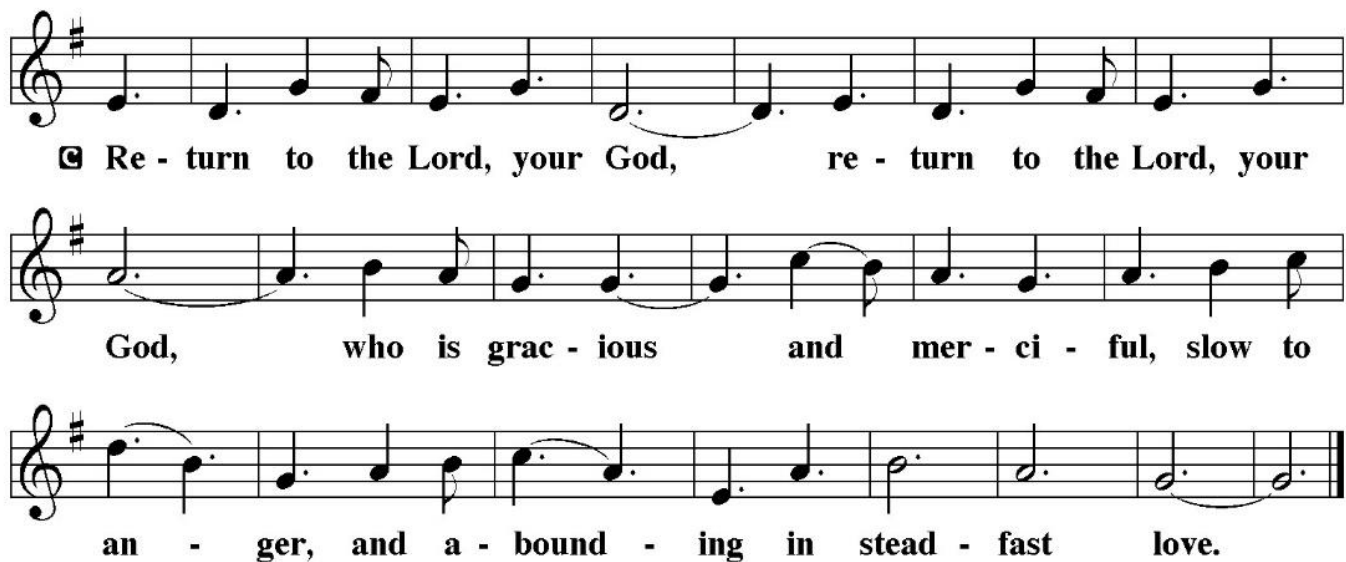
A reading from 1 Corinthians.

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” ⁷ Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” ⁸ Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.”

⁹ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”
¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

^{31b} “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

WASHING OF FEET (ELW p. 260)

When footwashing is included in the service, the assembly is seated. The presiding minister may introduce the footwashing with these or similar words.

On this night we have heard our Lord’s commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God’s love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

The ministers and people may wash each other’s feet. Assembly song and other music may accompany the footwashing. If it has not been sung as the hymn of the day, “Where charity and love” (#359, 642, 653) is especially appropriate.

THE PRAYERS

On this night when Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another, let us bring our prayers before the One whose love knows no bounds.

A brief silence.

Gracious host, you knelt to wash your disciples' feet. Cleanse us from pride and self-centeredness, and teach us to love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Creator God, the earth is yours and everything in it. Awaken us to care for all you have made and conserve the rich diversity of your good creation. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of the nations, guide the world's leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Where they wield power unjustly, confront them. Where they are indifferent to suffering, awaken their conscience. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Compassionate One, embrace all who are lonely or in captivity, comfort the grieving, and relieve those in pain. Draw near to all who suffer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Blessed redeemer, we give you thanks for this community of faith, and for all who gather around your table of grace. Unite us in love for you and for one another. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we praise you for the great cloud of witnesses who now rest from their labors. At the last, gather us with them at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, confident that you will strengthen us by your Spirit to love one another as Christ has loved us. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray,

**O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.**

**You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.**

**Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.**

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.
You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and



might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Glory to you, God from before the beginning,
God bearing from above your Word of grace,
God sending on us the Dove of peace.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

You are the great I AM,
feeding your people with manna in the wilderness.
You are the Father of our beloved Jesus,
whom you gave to the world
to be the Lamb, the King of Israel, the Son of Man.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

You anointed Jesus to be our messiah and teacher.
He is the bread from heaven, the fruitful vine,
the good shepherd, the gate of protection, our very Lord and God,
our way, our truth, and our resurrection to life eternal.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

On the night that he washed his disciples' feet,
he took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With Lazarus we wait in our tomb,
we hear you call our name,
and we come out from our death into your life.

With Mary Magdalene we cry out,
We have seen the Lord.

We have seen the Lord.

Breathe your Spirit of power on us.
Nourish us with your living water,
and sustain us with the body and blood of your Son.
Claim us as your friends.
Birth us anew and enlighten our eyes.
Unbind us, that as your servants we may unbind one another.
Glory to you, O God!
Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
the Source of all, the Light of the world, the Advocate for your children.

Blessing: **Blessing**
and thanksgiving: **Thanksgiving**
and honor: **Honor**
and might: **Might**
be to you forever and ever.
Amen. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

COMMUNION

The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution. As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament
you strengthen us with the saving power
of your suffering, death, and resurrection.
May this sacrament of your body and blood
so work in us that the fruits of your redemption
will show forth in the way we live,

for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*Linens, paraments, ornaments, and candles are removed from the altar and chancel.
As this is done, Psalm 22 is sung or said.*

There is no benediction. All leave the church in silence.

READ IN UNISON AS THE ALTAR IS STIPPED : Psalm 22

A reading from Psalm.

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night but find no rest.

³ Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not human,
scorned by others and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me;
they sneer at me; they shake their heads;

⁸ “Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

¹⁰ On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.

¹² Many bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³ they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵ my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they bound my hands and feet.
¹⁷ I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸ they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me
but heard when I cried to him.

- ²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.
- ²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
- ²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.
- ³⁰ Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
- ³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - APRIL- Synod Disaster Relief Response

- *The year's Synod Assembly will be on line this year versus in person down in Indianapolis. The date is Saturday June 6th. We need one male and one female to represent our church. If you are interested, see Pastor Matt.
- Thanks, Joe Freibrger
- Food Pantry needs, with the colder weather the need for Soup increases. While we still need Cereal and Peanut Butter, we could also use Soup as well.
- Game Night at Grace Lutheran Church, April 21st.
- Preschool Dairy Queen Fundraiser April 21st. 4-8 pm.
- Gloria Pelfrey has moved to 4725 N State Rd 9 Columbia City IN, 46725

- Grace ladies will host Adelphi Tuesday, April 21 at 11:30.
- Following the business meeting ladies from New Hope Wesleyan Church will tell about their Clothing Closet which is a ministry of their church. There is a brochure on our bulletin board explaining their hours. Ladies may tour their Closet following the meeting. They are located at 418 E Chicago St.
- The Care Team will meet Tuesday, April 21 at 10:30am

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday April 6, 2025

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 B/G 6:30pm

Property team 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday April 7, 2025

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Staff meeting 3:45 pm

Pack 3082 Blue and gold 6:30 pm

Wednesday April 8, 2025

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Voucher 4 pm

Thursday April 9, 2026

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday April 10, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday April 11, 2026

Sunday April 12, 2026

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

Worship @ Oaks 1 pm

Girl scouts 2 pm

We have new sign-up sheets in the parish hall, for coffee hour. Coffee hour will be after church service, for anyone that would like to stay.