

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE  
MARCH 22, 2023  
7:00PM



“The Red-Letter Challenge--Giving”

Grace Lutheran Church  
1787 Klerner Lane  
new Albany, IN 47150  
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glcna.org

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE  
Red-Letter Challenge--Giving

GREETINGS AND PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: “Now Thank We All Our God” LSB # 895

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Psalm 116:12-19

Pastor: What shall I return to the LORD

People: **for all his goodness to me?**

Pastor: I will lift up the cup of salvation

People: **and call on the name of the LORD.**

Pastor: I will fulfill my vows to the LORD

People: **in the presence of all his people.**

Pastor: Precious in the sight of the LORD

People: **is the death of his faithful servants.**

Pastor: Truly I am your servant, LORD;

People: **I serve you just as my mother did;  
you have freed me from my chains.**

Pastor: I will sacrifice a thank offering to you

People: **and call on the name of the LORD.**

Pastor: I will fulfill my vows to the LORD

People: **in the presence of all his people,**

Pastor: in the courts of the house of the LORD—

People: **in your midst, Jerusalem.**

All: **Praise the LORD.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

People: **Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. (1 Chronicles 29:12) Forgive us our sins this night that they may be removed. Have compassion on your servants and give us a godly perspective of all things big and small.**

Pastor: God has had mercy on us. His grace is given in Jesus. Therefore, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All: **Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Timothy 1:17**

**COLLECT:**

Pastor: Let us pray together...

All: **Lord Jesus, there is none like you. You alone are God and Creator of all things and all things belong to you. Humble our hearts to hold you above all things and bless us to follow You faithfully; we pray through You Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: Grace Jaquemai**

+++WORD+++

**OLD TESTAMENT: Malachi 3:6-12 (Giving to the Lord what He deserves)**

<sup>6</sup>“I the LORD do not change. So, you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. <sup>7</sup>Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

“But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

<sup>8</sup>“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup>You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. <sup>11</sup>I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty. <sup>12</sup>“Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN: “For the Fruits of His Creation” LSB # 894**

**GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-27 (Jesus teaches a rich young ruler what is good.)**

<sup>17</sup>As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>18</sup>“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

<sup>20</sup>“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

<sup>21</sup>Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>22</sup>At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

<sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is<sup>(s)</sup> to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup>The disciples were even more **2** 1, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE: Pastor Woods, Associate Pastor of Grace Lutheran**

**OFFERING: “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” LSB # 806**

**PRAYERS & LORD’S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING: “I’m But a Stranger Here” LSB # 748**