

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

422 Valhi Boulevard
985-879-1865/1833

WWW.GRACEHOUMA.ORG

Houma, Louisiana 70360
email:gracelut@bellsouth.net

Pastor - Richard D. Rudnik President - Richard A. Thalheim, Jr.
Church Secretary - Donna Boger ECC Director - Sofie Arceneaux
Accompanist(s) - Mila Estupinan & Mike Cape

Today

Service Elder - Dennis Kelley
Scripture Reader - Mona LaCour
Acolyte - Victoria Shroyer
Greeters - Jean Frey
Offering Stewards - D. Boger & G. Meyer
Altar Guild - M. Johnston & A. Perryman
Ushers - D. Akins, D. Armstrong,
G. Fitzgerald & J. Souther

Next Sunday

Dennis Kelley
William Muenchinger
Ross Reaves
B. Dupre & C. Shroyer
A. & J. Kraus
M. LaCour & C. Pellegrin
G. Bauman & R. Reaves, Jr.

Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2009

Welcome to God's house! Please allow us to keep in touch with you by signing the register in the foyer/narthex. Thank you!

Altar Flowers are placed today to the glory of God by the Labat family in honor of Roy's birthday which was celebrated April seventeenth and by the Fitzgerald's in honor of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary which was April fourteenth.

As We Gather

To touch and be touched in the right way is a very important part of human life. From the prophets we hear the promise of God to come near--- to touch human life by becoming flesh and blood. In the Gospels we meet the God who comes to touch His people with hope and life. Jesus was always touching--- children, the sick, and the fearful. Today Thomas comes to Jesus with his doubts and fears and Jesus invites him to touch His wounds. Still Jesus comes to us with just the right touch---the touch of water to cleanse and give new birth, the touch of forgiveness to restore and set free, and the touch of food that feeds us to eternal life.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week. Those Christians who truly believe that they receive the true body and blood of Christ Jesus or Savior, in, with and under the bread and wine are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper.

The Apostle Paul's words in Corinthians 11:27-29 set forth, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."

If you are concerned about having a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper, we urge you to speak with pastor. Questions and answers that may aid your understanding of and preparation for Holy Communion are on pages 329-330 in the pew hymnal.

Non-alcoholic wine is white and located in the center of the individual cup trays for those who cannot tolerate alcohol.

This Week at Grace

Today	9:00 a.m. Worship Coffee & ECC biscuits follow in fellowship hall	Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Potluck fellowship 6:45 p.m. Prayer & Praise
	10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11:45 a.m. Board of Directors meeting	Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Coffee & Fall Fest muffins follow
Tuesday	Pipeliner Articles Due		10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

For the week of April 19 - 25, 2009

Birthdays
April 21 Matthew Taylor
22 Gabrielle Corbitt
Cameron Shroyer
23 Billy McDonald
Kristopher Pugh
Erin Sauce
Mitch Tabor

Baptismal Anniversaries
April 21 Burt Beach
25 Gabriel Olivier
Seren Robichaux
Haize Shroyer

In the palm of God's Hands...

HEALTH CONCERNS: Kelly Falgout, Henry & Marilyn Pepper, Winford Powell, Iva Kohls, Matthew Taylor, Helen Radau, Mary Deane, Byron Caro, Genevieve Brunette, Audrey Buquet, Glenn Carpenter, James Henley, Payden Kohls, Dennis Kelley, David Braden, Connie Oswald, Geraldine Lewis, Wanda Williams, John Schlichting, Kristen Brantley, Denise Reaves, Amber Runco, Pat Rabun, David Mack, Jean Frey, Lloyd Chiasson, Betty Carpenter, Betsy Michel, Percy Songe & Joy Kraus

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING: Peggy Adams

NEW MOTHERS & BABIES: Jennifer & Zayli Poche

EXPECTANT MOTHERS & BABIES: Laura Schmitt

ELDERLY: Elaine Cofield

MOURNING A LOSS: the family of Ken Porche

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES: Matt Babin, Brandon Darce, Stephen Darce, Caleb Dufrene, Jack Hansen, Todd Mueller & Matthew Spolarich

MISSIONARY FAMILY IN VIETNAM: J.P., Aimee & Celeste Cima



There will be a Board of Directors Meeting today immediately following Sunday School in the conference room. All are invited to attend.

First quarter financial statements are available. Call Cindy Deane at 262-0763 or the church office at 879-1865 if you'd like one for your records.

Grace's Mission

*Building one body in Christ through Worship, Witness,
Stewardship, Service, Love, Teaching, and Fellowship*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: As often as You eat of this bread and drink of this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: Make us ready, O Lord, to receive the body and blood of our Savior with faith, for our good and for our eternal salvation. Bring us at last to that great and wondrous day when our Savior shall stand before us when we shall see You face to face and live in the warmth of Your embrace for all eternity. To You be glory and honor, both now and even forevermore.

People: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord + be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *is sung as per page 163 in the hymnal.*

People: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "Come, Thou Fount" #37, "Feed Us Now" #53, "I Am the Bread of Life" #100, & "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #73 (*The Best of the Best Songbook*)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Stand

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, You stooped low to touch us lost and fearful people with Your love. In Jesus we have known Your saving touch and Your life-giving voice. Speak to our hearts that we may not fear. Embrace us with Your Spirit that we may recognize our Savior and follow Him to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "How Shall I Call You?" (#97 *The Best of the Best Songbook*)

+ PREPARATION +

Pre-Service Music

Stand

OPENING HYMN "Celebrate Jesus" (#31 *The Best of the Best Songbook*)

INVOCATION AND ACCLAMATION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,

People: we lie and do not practice the truth.

Pastor: But if we walk in the light as He is in the light,

People: we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

People: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: If we say we have not sinned,

People: we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.

Pastor: But if anyone does sin,

People: we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous.

Pastor: Let us kneel and confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

(Kneel in silent reflection)

All: Merciful Father, we stand before You in sorrow and regret. We are not the people You have called us to be. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed; by the evil we have done and by the good we have not done. We long for Your healing touch to give us forgiveness, to restore us as Your own, and to grant us a willing heart to live as Your children. For the sake of Your own Son's suffering and death, we ask You to keep Your promise and wipe away our sin and its guilt so that we may stand before You with a conscience cleansed from sin and guilt, to serve You in willing obedience all our days.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: Amen.

Stand

HYMN OF PRAISE “Shine, Jesus Shine” (#204 *The Best of the Best Songbook*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

+ WORD +

FIRST READING Acts 4:32-35

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 John 1:1-2:2

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL John 20:19-31

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sit

Children's Message

SERMON HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (#115 *The Best of the Best Songbook*)

SERMON

MEDITATION by Mike Cape

Stand

NICENE CREED (as found on back page of pew hymnal)

PRAYER

Pastor: Lord in your mercy;

People: hear our prayer.

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

OFFERTORY “We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise” (#234 *The Best of the Best Songbook*)

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS *is sung as per page 161 in the hymnal.*

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed Lord, You made all things and still preserve them. Before the foundation of the world, You chose us to be Your children and spoke hope through the prophets. At the right time You sent forth Your Son to be born of a virgin, the incarnate Savior who redeemed us from sin and death by His own death and resurrection. Rejoicing in what He has accomplished for us, we pray You to grant us willing hearts to hear His voice, to trust in Him, to receive His gifts in this Holy Supper, and to proclaim the great good news of His victory to every person.

People: Amen.

2nd Sunday of Easter	1 John 1:1-2:2
In the resurrected Christ alone we have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Because we have that sure hope we can live joyfully as God's children [stewards] who do the right things for the right reasons.	
"One of the most comforting aspects of Christ's work for us is that He has gone through pain, dying, and death in advance of us. He didn't eliminate it from the human experience. He transformed it into our homecoming. The transition now holds no terror, no sting. Our last moment on earth is instantly transformed into our first moment with Jesus." - <i>Pastor Mark Jeske, speaker on <u>Time of Grace</u></i> This "Life Quote" is from Lutherans For Life - www.lutheransforlife.org	
<i>Today in Sunday School, we'll study "Jesus reinstates Peter." We are all like Peter in our words and actions, denying our Lord and weeping bitterly over what we have done. We are in need of the same comfort that Peter received - the comfort of sins forgiven and the assurance that even though we are faithless, Jesus will remain faithful. You might discuss, "How did Peter express his sorrow and repentance? What specific directions did Jesus give to Peter?"</i>	
WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Topics include: Tolerance, Equipping Pro-Life Christians, Gay Marriage, Repentance, Prayer and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org .	
<i>LWML/MISSION GUILD NEWS</i>	
There will be an LWML Retreat May 1-3 at Dry Creek Baptist Retreat Center in Alexandria, LA. For more info contact Joelle Gerken at 693-3222.	
<i>MEMBER BOXES</i>	
Please remember to check you member box before leaving today. If you don't see your name on the list, please contact Donna or Gordon by calling or emailing the church office.	
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER NEWS	
We are currently accepting registration forms for Summer Fun and Fall 2009-2010 School Year. If you know of anyone who would be interested in our program, please have them contact Sofie at school or by email glcecc@bellsouth.net .	
<u>ECC PAPER PRODUCTS DONATIONS</u>	
Please consider a donation of one or more of the following items: Baby wipes, paper towels, kitchen-size paper cups, bath-size paper cups, Kleenex and napkins. Thank you for leaving your donations in the blue box in the narthex.	
<i>A note of information...</i>	
Pastor Rich will be out of town on vacation Monday, April 20 - 27. In case of an emergency, please contact your zone elder or leave a message on the church office answering machine.	

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