

Amazing Grace

May, 2021

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Our mission to the Inland Empire is to be **heralds of the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ, healers to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and upholders of God's will and Word.**

A MESSAGE from Pastor Maggard

Dear Saints,

What does it mean to live in the joy of the Gospel?

This is an especially helpful question during the season of Easter. I believe there are three things that really allow us to live with the joy of the Gospel.

The first element of Gospel joy is the forgiveness of sins. If you have done many stupid and sinful things like I have, it will come back and haunt you at some point. The devil, the world, and even your old sinful flesh will not allow you to forget. This is why we constantly need reminded that Jesus' work on the cross is finished once and for all. Your sin is truly forgiven. St. John reminds us that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 Jn 1:9)

You may suffer consequences from your sin. Your sin is fully paid for, but God may leave the temporal consequences in place to either humble you or let you serve as an example to others. But whatever is in your past does not determine your worth or standing with God. No matter what you have done, you can hold your head up high with your dignity intact. God forgives your sin and restores your dignity. When you are free of sin and have dignity, you can indeed have Gospel joy!

The second element of Gospel joy is the presence of Christ. Jesus does not leave us to our own devices. He gives you His Supper so that you not only have the assurance of your standing with Him, but you also have the real presence of Christ. Jesus joins Himself to you in His Supper.

As Jesus says in St. John concerning the resurrection, "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you." (14:20) The presence of Christ brings true Gospel joy!

The third element of joy we have is the glory that awaits us. No matter how much we suffer here in this time and place, we know that a better time and place awaits us. A place where there will be no more suffering. (Revelation 21:4) As Paul quotes Isaiah, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him." (1 Cor 2:9; c.f. 2 Cor 12:2-4) Jesus' resurrection from the dead is proof that we will inherit the new heavens and new earth. Indescribable joy awaits us!

We often live without this Gospel joy, and it is good to be reminded about it. We do not have to live with any regret. We do not have to live as those without hope. We do not have to worry about our future. We have Jesus!

In Christ,
Pastor Maggard

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

MAY 17TH

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Grace Family,

He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

Easter has always brought such a sense of hope and faith.

Hope in the saving grace of Christ taking on our sins so that we can come home to live with God for all eternity.

Faith in what God has said in scripture that if we are baptized and believe, we are saved by Grace and have eternal life. Easter always gives me peace and comfort in what I can look forward to as a Christian.

In His Service!

Chuck Stringham, President

TRUSTEE

THANK YOU!
thank you!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered some time and energy to help with our Spring cleaning.

Everything was nice and clean going into our Easter celebration.

A special thanks to Debbie and Chuck for taking charge in my absence.

In His love,

Allan Dellinger

Jesus Loves You

WORSHIP

The Lutheran Church is rich in music history. (Maybe unlike any other faith.) Our hymnal is large. There are many hymns that we've never sung. That's why Pastor Maggard reintroduced the Hymn of the Month. While they sometimes may be difficult to sing, it's good to learn new ones.

And so it is, with reading our Bible. How many of us have read it all? I know there are some. I know I'm one who hasn't. Some of it may be difficult to understand or we just pick out our favorite parts and read them over and over. Pastor is providing readings each and every week in our bulletin. Amazing what one can learn from the Holy Scriptures!

So, keep singing and keep reading! Both are very good for the soul!!!

Board of Worship

Debbie Schwartz

P.S. The chimes still have not shipped. I was hoping to have them by now. So, don't give up the thought of being a part of it!

Happy Anniversary

TO

2 Randy and Gail York
20 Tony and Katryn Mantz
29 Dave and Sue Nehls



BIRTHDAYS

2	Tamara	Mahomes
8	Savannah	Travers
9	Nancy	Nobis
13	Kurt	Wampole, Jr
15	Maletta	Miller
18	Nathan	Pickinpaugh
19	Carla	Del Rio
20	Nathaniel	Petrovick
22	Mike	Draney
22	Hannah	Villasenor
28	Patrick	Holm
28	Heather	Hathcock

YOUR TITHES FOR THE LORD'S WORK

MARCH	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
6th	\$ 5,019.00	n/a
13th	\$ 3,970.00	20
20th	\$ 3,650.00	n/a
27th	\$ 3,031.96	26



Thank you for remembering our "shut-ins", , Joyce McFarland, Larry Maudlin, Gloria Reinschmidt, Evelyn Smith, Ruth Spies, and Joyce Waters.

This month's added prayers: Sue Maeer; Dolores Smith's grandson – Shawn and family; Sue Maeer's friend – Mary and her family; Glen and Gail James, their daughter – Sarah and her husband – Steve and their newborn son – David Maverick Lee; Randy and Gail York; Debbie Schwartz's granddaughter – Adison and family; Sue Maeer's friend – Bill, his sister and her son; Lori Smith, her husband – John and her mother – Evelyn; Debbie Schwartz's friend – Andrea Gonzales and her mom – Gloria Hays; Pastor Holm and his family; Joe and Patti Guerra's niece – Traci and her husband – Rob.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for: Dolores Smith's grandson – Shawn and family; Debbie Schwartz's granddaughter – Adison and family.

We keep in prayer: Pastor Jim and Suzanne Pierce; Debbie Schwartz's friend – Glenda McAlpine; Sherry Herrera and her son – Anthony; Glen and Gail James' friend – Sherry; Don and Sue Sidoti's Aunt Millie and family.

Funny Corner

What kind of bee can't make up his mind?

➔ A Maybe!

