

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Organ Prelude



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" (v. 1, 3, 4) LSB 670

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

HYMN "Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious" (v. 1-2) LSB 548

GOD'S WORD:
Reading Acts 15:1-11 **Gospel** John 20:19-23

PROFESSION OF FAITH The Apostle's Creed

HYMN "For All The Saints" (v. 1-3, 8) LSB 677

THE MESSAGE "Big Church – All Are Welcome"
Pastor Paul Burtzlaff
(Sermon Notes available on pages 5-6)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMEMORATION of SAINTS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE
PROPER PREFACE
SANCTUS LSB 161
WORDS OF OUR LORD/PAX DOMINI
AGNUS DEI LSB 163

DISTRIBUTION (Reflective instrumental music)

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" (v. 1, 6, 7) LSB 549

DISMISSAL



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Oxford, FL 34484

AGLC.org

[Facebook.com/
amazingthevillages](https://www.facebook.com/amazingthevillages)

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Grace Guide

Sunday
November 3, 2024

CHARLOTTE



Welcome to Amazing Grace!

It is our joy to have you join with us as we worship the living God who made heaven and earth! May you feel God's presence in this place as you worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.
Our cover art this week is from Charlotte, age 4, one of the amazing 119 Early Learning Center preschoolers we are blessed to offer full-time Christian Education to each day.

OUR MISSION as a congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod is to "Experience Christ's Love. Live It. Share It."



Thanks for signing the pew pad to let us know you're here!
Please leave your name badges in the basket by the door. If you need a badge, please sign the list by the badge board.



**“A ‘Brief’ History of the Reformation”
Sundays, 9:15-10 am
Led by Jere Greene**

The Reformation affected many aspects of life - religion, politics, war, economics, philosophy, publishing, and the settling of the New World. Monks, princes, kings, popes, preachers, and some of the greatest theologians are part of the story!



**Women of Grace
This Bible Study is on break until
December 2**

We will look at two questions that Jesus asked that we still need to answer today. Books are available in class. All are welcome to join this great group of ladies!



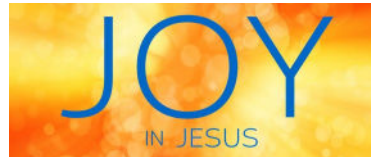
**Bethel Bible Study - New Testament
AGLC, led by Eric Fehlau**

Understand what connects the books of the New Testament. Learn about who Jesus was, His purpose and mission on earth, and how the Bible fits into history.
Contact Eric Fehlau - 219-213-8073
20-Week Course



**Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays, 8:45-10:00 am
Bradenton Rec Center
Led by Bill Donaldson**

This Bible Study is made up of men from Amazing Grace and other area churches. The book of **Romans** is the Apostle Paul's masterpiece, a carefully written book about what Christians believe and why.



**Five-Week Bible Study
Wednesdays, 1-2:30 at AGLC OR
6:30-8:00 pm on Zoom
Led by Susan Gordon**

Learn about joy in Jesus no matter what your circumstances. The book of Philippians is full of wonderful life lessons!
Zoom ID: 841 5988 0663



**Men's Bible Study
Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 am
AGLC, led by Butch Verbeck**

Join the men as they discuss and learn from **the 10 Commandments** as part of their study of the **Concordia Lutheran Confessions**. These commandments were given to us by God for our good!

Congregational Life

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

- Pastoral and Communion Assistants:**
8:00 Chuck Remus & Stu Vogt
10:15 Wanda Pierce & Peggy Ludwig
- Readers:** 8:00 Daryl Benedict
10:15 Diane Biel
- Ushers:** 8:00 Bob & Karen Kiehl
10:15 John Dyslin-R, Dale & Lynette Krauskopf
- Altar Guild:** Pat Heinz
- Worship Slides:** 8:00 Marilyn Harris
10:15 Donna Iverson
- Welcome Center:**
8:00 Pam & Steve Long
10:15 Barb Farmer & Roni Cotroneo
- Coffee Hour:** Camille Benedict and friends
- Counters:** Brenda Page & Barb Montoya

We Pray for...

- + Paul Byberg, father of Russ Harmon, who has been diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor.
- + Jim Gould, brother-in-law of Chris Gottleber, who is hospitalized with kidney & liver failure.
- + Kimberly Masters, one of our Early Learning Center Lead Teachers, who fell and fractured her hip. Kimberly teaches our 3-year-olds.
- + All those who have had someone who is precious to them go in to their eternal rest this year.
- + Norma DeLair still recovering from a fall.
- + Lori Rockey's brother, Jeff, in recovery from cancer surgery.
- + Rae Witte, who is having heart issues.

MISSIONARY PARTNERS: Gospel Mission of India, FL/GA District LCMS, Mission: Haiti, Trinity HOPE: Haiti Feeding Program, La Providencia Honduras, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries (Maternity Home)

COMMUNITY LEADERS & BUSINESSES: Mayor Ed Wolf, Wildwood; Paws Animal Hospital, The Villages; Commissioner Julian Green, Wildwood; Coast to Coast Jewelry & Coin, Oxford.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses (all the saints who have gone before us), let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Hebrews 12:-2



Long-term visitors are invited to join our amazing volunteers! There is a place for you!

You will be trained in whatever role you take.

Communion Assistant is a vital role in our worship, as you serve the wine during Communion. If you would be willing to serve in this way, please contact Deacon Chair, Stu Vogt, stubefit@gmail.com or 352-446-9910.

Ushers and Welcome Center Hosts are great roles if you are a “people person!” You will be interacting with our members and visitors and helping them to see the love and welcome of Amazing Grace!

To volunteer as an usher, contact Wanda Pierce, 260-585-1054.

To serve at the Welcome Center, contact Karen Sanders, 314-591-5886.

Burdens are lifted when the family of God prays for you!

We have both an internal Prayer Team that prays confidentially for people and published prayers that are shared with the church.

To share a request with the confidential Prayer Team, contact Lois Clymer, 215-718-3570.

If you would like the church family to pray for you, please contact Susan Gordon in the office, 352-748-1201.



Our belief regarding the "Lord's Supper", also known as Holy Communion, is that it is a joyous sacred act established by Christ Himself and given as a gift to the Church. God's Word teaches: Let a man examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink of the cup. (1 Cor. 11:28-29).

Therefore, in accordance with Scripture, and out of loving care for all, we invite all to join us at His table who:

- Confess and sincerely repent of all your sins. (1 John 1:8-9)
- Believe that only through the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, does God forgive your sins and give you newness of life (Is. 53:4-6; Rom. 6:23; 2 Cor 5:17)
- Believe that in, with and under the bread and wine, you receive not merely a symbol, but the true Body & Blood of Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins and the strengthening of your faith. (1 Cor. 10:16; Matt. 26:28)
- Recognize that participation at the Lord's Table is a "proclaiming of the Lord's death" (1 Cor. 11:26) and indicates public agreement with the Biblical teaching of the Sacrament and a oneness in faith in Christ alone as Savior.

If you cannot receive wine, apple juice is in the center of the tray. If you need gluten-free wafers, please let Pastor know. If you cannot come to the altar, please let the usher know so Pastor can serve you at your seat. Non-communing children may join their parents and receive a blessing.

This Week's Church Calendar			
SUN 11/3	Traditional Worship	Worship Center	8:00am
	Bible Study	Room 201	9:15am
	Youth Group & Bible Study	Room 101/102	9:15am
	Modern Worship	Worship Center	10:15am
	Nursery & Kids Church	ELC	
TUE 11/5	Bethel Bible Study	Fellowship Hall	1:30pm
WED 11/6	Men's Bible Study	Bradenton Rec	8:45am
	Philippians Bible Study	Fellowship Hall	1:00pm
	Philippians Bible Study	Zoom	6:30pm
<i>(email office for Zoom link and materials)</i>			
THU 11/7	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall	7:30am
	Prayerful Chair Yoga	Worship Center	3:00pm
SUN 11/10	Regular Worship Schedule and Bloodmobile		

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/10 **Big Red Bus**
- 11/11 **Ladies Lunch**
- 11/20 **ELC Thanksgiving Chapel**
- 11/27 **Thanksgiving Eve Worship—4 pm**
- 12/3 **ELC Santa Visit**
- 12/4 **Advent Worship/Meal**
- 12/7 **Advent by Candlelight**
- 12/11 **Advent Worship/Meal**



Ladies Second Monday Lunch Bunch!
November 11, 1 pm
Francesco's Ristorante in Summerfield!

Sign up at the Connect Center so we can give the restaurant an accurate count.



Please place your boxes on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks!

Surviving the Holidays

Thursday, November 14, 1-3 pm
at Amazing Grace.

"The holiday season presents unique challenges for people who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Come and learn tools to navigate through these difficult times."

Please sign up at the Connect Center or call the church office to register, 352-748-1201.

WHY NOT BECOME a MEMBER OF AMAZING GRACE!

Please fill out a Membership Information form available at the Connect Center.

Drop your completed form in the box provided by Wednesday, November 13.
The office will be in touch with you regarding next steps.

New Members Class - for those New to the Lutheran Church!
Monday, November 18
5-8 pm

(Dinner and childcare will be provided - sign up at the Connect Center)

Special Note to our Seasonal residents:
You can also join Amazing Grace, either as a full or Associate Member.



Register @ oneblood.org

Big Red Bus at Amazing Grace
Nov. 10th 8 am-Noon



Did you know?

All that we own is God's. All of our time, talent, wealth, and possessions are gifts from Him. Stewardship is simply returning to God a portion of what He has blessed us with so that it can be used to care for people and bring people to Jesus.

10 years ago the people of Amazing Grace gave back to God so the building you are sitting in could be built for worship and fellowship. In 2018, the same people gave back to create the Early Learning Center. And two years ago, they again gave to expand it to serve more children. We invite you to give back to God by investing your time, talents, and financial blessings to reach so many who need to know Jesus.—right in our neighborhood as we continue God's mission at Amazing Grace. (Malachi 3:10)

ADVENT *by* **CANDLELIGHT**

Dec. 7th, 4:00-7:15 pm
Sign up at the Connect Center.

AGLC Women's Ministry invites you to Advent By Candlelight (ABC)!
This wonderful outreach event is just a month away!

We need 8 more Hostesses for tables of from 6-8 ladies.
THANK YOU to the ladies who have already volunteered to hostess!
As a hostess, you invite your guests and decorate your table. You will get an info packet with instructions.

YES, it is on Saturday this year! There will be a short meaningful program, a delicious dinner, and entertainment to put us in the holiday spirit!

Sign up today to be a hostess or baker.
Men - sign up to serve dinner or help w/ parking.

Registration will begin Sunday, Nov. 10 for those who are not hosting but want to attend.

Questions? Contact Bunny Gowell, 207-286-6786 or Chris Rebeck, 248-505-7583

Today we honor and remember those in our church family who have gone home to their eternal rest with Jesus since last All Saints.

These faithful servants include:
Sheryl Behrens
Barb DeLong
Pat Roush
Bill Backus
Rev. Larry Hendricks
Jane Trinkle

We also remember those of our own families and friends who have gone to be with God during this time.

All Saints' Day

Do you know someone who is struggling with grief or illness who needs comfort?

Why not take them one of our prayer shawls handcrafted by a member of Amazing Grace? These are available near the Connect Center.

Simply sign the register, so our prayer team can remember them, and take a pink or blue form to share with the recipient.

Join Rev. Dr. Paul Burtzloff on a
JOURNEYS OF PAUL IN GREECE
October 11 - 18, 2025

Brochures available at the Connect Center

Did you know?
It's easy to visit our website or share it with a friend!
AGLC.org

Reach out today!
Call 352-748-1201

Join our Praise Team!

We are looking for Praise Team Members and a Praise Team Coordinator.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship
Wednesday,
November 27th
4:00pm

Ministry Leaders:
If you are going to need help with setup, hauling items, or parking for an upcoming event, **please contact Jeff Robinson at 309-922-7346, at least two weeks prior to the event.**
Amazing Grace family, if you like this kind of work, we always need more volunteers! Contact Jeff and he will add you to the **Logistics Team**

THANKSGIVING

FAMILY Chapel

November 20th 5:30-7pm
Thanksgiving Family Chapel and meal.

BIG CHURCH -ALL WELCOME

November 3, 2024

OF FIRST IMPORTANCE: **Christ Died for our sins and was buried
He rose from the dead and was seen**

Acts 15: Significant Controversies break out in the Church between the Law and the Gospel.

Who is _____ enough?

Who gets in?

How many rules do you have to _____?

Legalism: Get your _____ together first! Then you are welcome to be part of the church.

Jesus came full of _____ and truth. You don't dumb down the _____ and you don't dumb down Grace.

It's the proper distinction between _____ and _____.

The early church was getting tripped up....

Judaizers (legalists) stated: "Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved." Acts 15:1-2

How do we drift into a judgmental attitude?

We can quickly become Pharisaical.

But, God knows the _____. (Acts 15:8)

We are a Justified by _____. (Romans 5:1)

Justified means:

*"Now then, why do you try to **test God** by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that **neither** we nor our ancestors have been **able to bear**?" (Acts 15:10)*

*"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should **not make it difficult** for the Gentiles who are turning to God." (Acts 15:19)*

The church worldwide struggles with _____ issues vs. GRACE

Avoid the Drift into legalism

Avoid focusing on the _____ and away from the outsiders.

The _____ wheel gets the grease complex. The church always _____ toward the insiders.

*And He (Jesus) said to them, "**Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation.**" Mark 16:15*

2. Avoid the drift toward the _____.

*...yet we know that a person is **not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because **by works of the law no one will be justified.**** Galatians 2:16*

3. Preserve rather than _____.

*Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so **I am sending you.** John 20:21*

So...

Be _____.

Err on the side of _____.

Be open _____.

Be All in. Share the Name of Jesus and Live _____

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: From your perspective, who is the church for?

Have you had any bad experiences with a church that made you want to say, "I don't want any thing to do with them anymore"?

In your opinion, is it too easy or too hard to become a Christian?

2. Read Acts 15. The controversy for the Church at that time was over circumcision and dietary laws. What are contemporary sources of controversy for "entry" in the Church? How can you guard against the propensity to drift toward law and away from grace?

3. It can be hard to be a church where grace and truth do not conflict but coexist. Jesus was full of both. So, in response, let's make three, prayerful commitments with Acts 15:19 in mind:

- Let's be more concerned with who we are reaching and being intentionally outward focused.
- Let's always err on the side of grace.
- Let's remain open-handed in attempts to advance the name of Jesus Christ.