

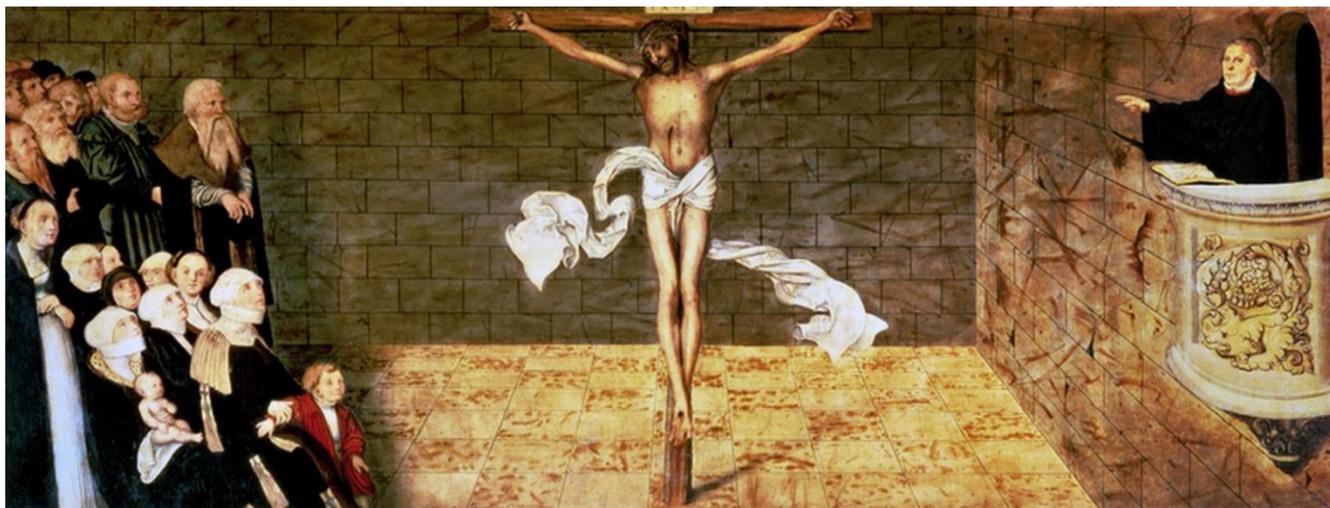


The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.”
Let the one who hears say, “Come.”
Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires
take the water of life without price.

+ *Revelation of Saint John 22:17*

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 2020



Church of Saint Marien Altar Triptych, Detail of Luther Preaching, by Lucas Cranach the Elder, 1547, Public Domain

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Propers for this Sunday form a vivid collage, a rich experience of sights and sounds and tastes and smells. The Gospel sets the theme with its drama of the wedding feast—the invitations spurned, the banquet hall finally filled, and the shocking presumption of one of the honored guests. We can both see and hear the outer darkness into which he is cast, where “there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 22:13).

The Old Testament Reading again takes us inside the banquet hall, this time to sample the savory flavors and aromas “of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined” (Isaiah 25:6). In here, now that death has been swallowed up forever, the mood is truly festive. We are clothed in “garments of salvation,” “the robe of righteousness,” like a bridegroom or priest “with a beautiful headdress” or a bride adorned “with her jewels” (Isaiah 61:10). We “rejoice in the Lord always . . . in any and every circumstance” (Philippians 4:4, 12), for we “shall not want,” and at the table the Lord has prepared for us our “cup overflows” (Psalm 23:1, 5).

Since, “almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation” (Collect of the Day), why would we want to do, eat, or wear anything else?

Yours in Christ Jesus, +Pastor Griebenaw

Pastor’s phone: 760-679-3699

Pastor’s email: pastor@gracelutheranelcentro.org

✠ MATINS ✠

OPENING HYMN: We Praise You, O God

LSB 785



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text and tune: Public Domain

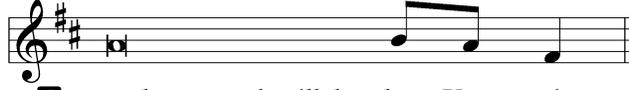
Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

Psalms 51:15; Psalm 70:1



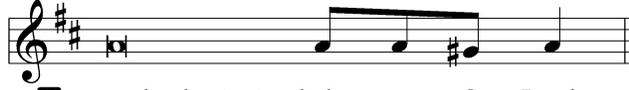
L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;

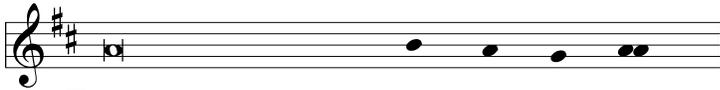


as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

PSALMODY



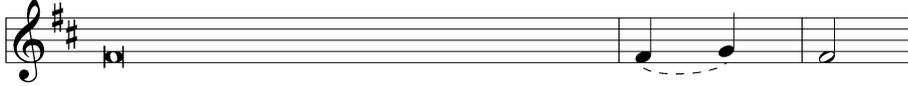
L Glorious is God with His an - gels and saints.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

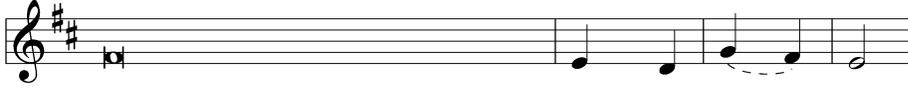
Venite

Psalm 95: 1-7



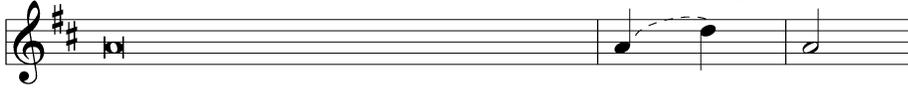
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

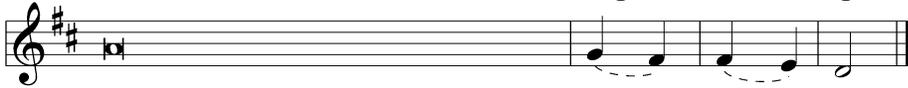


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

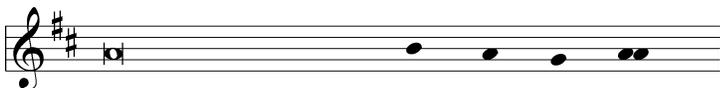
5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L Glorious is God with His an - gels and saints.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN: A Multitude Comes from the East and the West

LSB 510



1 A mul - ti - tude comes from the east and the west
 2 O God, let us hear when our Shep - herd shall call
 3 All tri - als shall be like a dream that is past,
 4 The heav - ens shall ring with an an - them more grand



To sit at the feast of sal - va - tion
 In ac - cents per - sua - sive and ten - der,
 For - got - ten all trou - ble and mourn - ing.
 Than ev - er on earth was re - cord - ed.



With A - bra - ham, I - saac, and Ja - cob, the blest,
 That while there is time we make haste, one and all,
 All ques - tions and doubts have been an - swered at last,
 The blest of the Lord shall re - ceive at His hand



O - bey - ing the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion.
 And find Him, our might - y de - fend - er.
 When ris - es the light of that morn - ing.
 The crown to the vic - tors a - ward - ed.



Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!

Text and tune: Public Domain

READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

- P** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 25.
- 6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
 a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
 of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
- 7 And He will swallow up on this mountain
 the covering that is cast over all peoples,
 the veil that is spread over all nations.
- 8 He will swallow up death forever;
 and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
 and the reproach of His people he will take away from all the earth,
 for the LORD has spoken.
- 9 It will be said on that day,
 “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us.
 This is the LORD; we have waited for Him;
 let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4:4-13

P The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter four.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA & VERSE



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Revelation 22:17

Alleluia. The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” Let the one who hears say, “Come.”

Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. Alleluia.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’ ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

RESPONSORY

Psalm 119:89; 26:8; Luke 11:28



- 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
- 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

Sit

SERMON

Rev. Griebenaw

Stand

CANTICLE

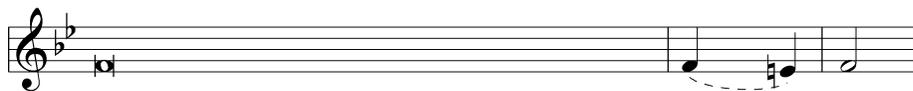
TE DEUM: We Praise You, O God



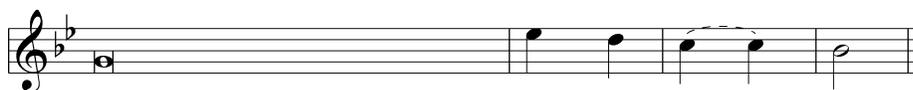
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
- 3 The noble army of martyrs praise— You.



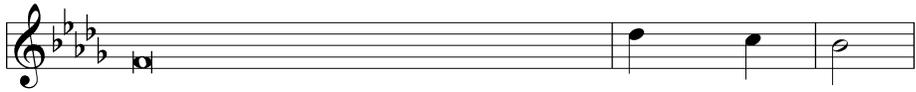
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
- 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



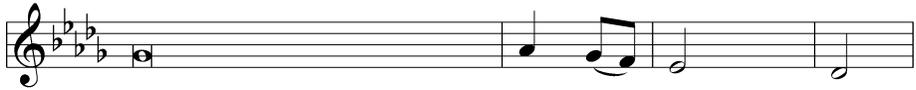
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
- 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise— You.
- 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
- 4 You are the king of glory, O— Christ;



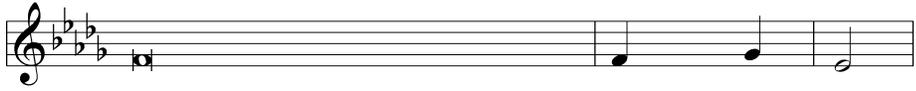
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
- 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise— You.
- 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
- 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



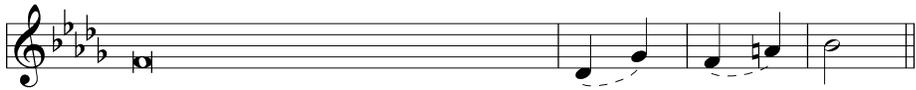
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



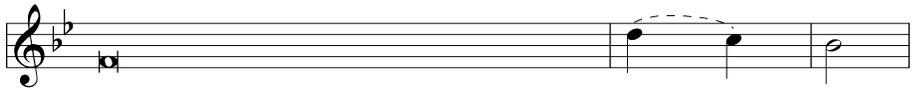
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



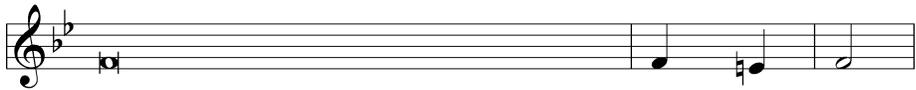
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

PRAYER

Kneel (or remain standing)

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13



Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as



it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly



bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give



those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -



to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -



ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

COLLECTS



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

P Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Collect for Divine Intercession

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we offer before You our common supplications for the well-being of Your Church throughout the world. So guide and govern it by Your Holy Spirit that all who profess themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Send down upon all ministers of the Gospel and upon the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace that they may please You in all things. Behold in mercy all who are in authority over us. Supply them with Your blessing that they may be inclined to Your will and walk according to Your commandments. We humbly ask Your abiding presence in every situation that You would make known Your ways among us. Preserve those who travel, satisfy the wants of Your creatures, and help those who call upon You in any need that they may have patience in the midst of suffering and, according to Your will, be released from their afflictions; through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Additional collects may be prayed following the same form and response. The prayers conclude with the Collect for Grace.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Stand

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



CLOSING HYMN: Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious

LSB 548



1 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, vic - to - rious! Thanks to Thee, O
 2 Thou hast died for my trans - gres - sion, All my sins on
 3 For the joy Thine ad - vent gave me, For Thy ho - ly,



Lord of Life! Death hath now no pow - er o'er us,
 Thee were laid; Thou hast won for me sal - va - tion,
 pre - cious Word; For Thy Bap - tism, which doth save me,



Thou hast con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause Thou didst a -
 On the cross my debt was paid. From the grave I shall a -
 For Thy blest Com - mu - nion board; For Thy death, the bit - ter



rise And hast o - pened par - a - dise! None can ful - ly
 rise And shall meet Thee in the skies. Death it - self is
 scorn, For Thy res - ur - rec - tion morn, Lord, I thank Thee



sing the glo - ry Of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.
 tran - si - to - ry; I shall lift my head in glo - ry.
 and ex - tol Thee, And in heav'n I shall be - hold Thee.

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✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠
 (TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR

Brothers and sisters,

A couple weeks back I included a pericope (fancy work for a selection—literally “to cut around”) from Saint Peter’s first letter (1 Pet 2:18–25) in the Midweek Prayer Service on Psalm 23. The focus of both the Psalm and this selection is the Passion of our Lord, specifically His crucifixion.

In his letter, Saint Peter reminds us that Christ’s death on the Cross was not only a divine atonement for the sins of all but also “an example, so that [we] might follow in His steps” (1 Pet 2:21b), especially when we “do good and suffer for it . . . [for] this is a gracious thing in the sight of God” (v. 20b). Indeed, Peter says, “For to this [suffering] you were called, because Christ also suffered for us” (1 Pet 2:21a).

Saint Paul’s words keep coming to my mind, especially as I read and hear about the grievous divisions in our country—divisions that have left us unable even to speak with others whose views differ from our own—and that manifests most evilly in anger and destruction and violence . . . even death.

Just this past weekend, a man was killed at a protest in my hometown of Denver, Colorado (the story is ongoing and, as of now, does not appear to be related to direct confrontation between the opposing groups . . . but the tension and potential for violence seem to have been the catalyst for this).

This brings me to the particular part of Saint Paul’s admonition that I think we need to hear again and diligently recall: “[Christ], when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed” (1 Pet 2:23, 24).

We are living in a time of great unrest and uncertainty, of violence and revolt—engendering fear and prompting us to respond to violence with violence (be that of word or of deed). As ones redeemed by Christ the Crucified, let us follow in His steps and not revile in return, neither threaten nor strike back, but commend ourselves always to His care, no matter what befalls us in this earthly life, knowing that in Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins—we have been judged righteous (justified)—and have the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to life everlasting.

God has given us His Word to strengthen our faith. So please join me for our **Study of the Psalms** on “Zoom” **every Tuesday at Noon (ending by 1:00pm)**. We socialize for the first 15 minutes and work through the psalm from 12:15pm to 12:45pm, finishing by 1:00pm. This week we study Psalm 25.

- To join the study on your computer, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7603525715>
- To join by phone, call either “669-900-9128” or “346-248-7799” and enter 7603525715#

And tune-in to Facebook **each Wednesday at 7:00pm** for a short **service of prayer and meditation** on the psalm. The service folder is on our website (www.GraceLutheranElCentro.org) and the live-stream is on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro).

Lastly, please continue to mail your tithes and offerings to the church's post office box:

- Grace Evangelical-Lutheran Church
PO Box 1530
El Centro, CA 92244-1530.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+Pastor Griebenaw