



February 28, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 9

Finding Grace During Lent

WATCH

So far, this Lenten season, our emphasis in worship, emails, and gatherings has been about getting ready for Easter. What about grace?

God's grace is central to our faith. We are all sinners in need of forgiveness (Romans 3:23). Nothing we can do on our own brings us to God. Yet, while we were still separated from God, Jesus made it possible for us to be justified (Romans 5:8). This free gift is the grace that is available to us (Romans 6:23).

Too often, we overlook grace. The English word comes from the Greek *charisma* and Latin *gratia*. It means "God's unmerited favor, love, or help." This is the word used in Romans 1:11, 5:15, 5:16, 6:23, 11:29, and 12:6. It's also in 1 Corinthians 1:7, 7:7, 12:4, 12:9, 12:28, 12:30, 12:31, and we find it in 2 Corinthians 1:11, 1 Timothy 4:14, 2 Timothy 1:6, and 1 Peter 4:10.

In our daily lives, the challenge becomes not only accepting God's grace but seeing it in the world around us. After feeding the four thousand, Jesus heard the disciples lamenting having only one loaf of bread for lunch. They were out in a boat, and he cautioned them about missing the point of his miracles. Then, he said, "Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear?" (Mark 8:18).

What about us? Do we see the evidence of grace around us? Grace is the free gift of love and acceptance God offers, and it can appear in many ways. Living out our faith and seeking to embody grace can help us be available for God's use. Trying to seek God's presence can open our eyes and help us see. Listening for God's voice in the world around us can

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

March 5, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Born of Love"
Rev. Val Fisk

Scripture:

1 John 4:7-21

Anthem:

"Hymn of Mercy" (Dan Forrest)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Martha Ballenger

Ushers: Bob Gough, Sally Chewning

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, March 1

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study

5:30 Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Program

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, March 5

8:30 ESOL Class

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

help us hear. When we do, we not only find grace, but we grow in our faith.

As we continue our Lenten journey, try to take some time to see God's grace in the world around you. When you see it, give thanks.

Peace,
Matt



Wednesday Night Dinners

For the next five Wednesdays, Dr. Scott Spencer will lead our program at 6:00, "Passions of the Christ." Note the plural. He will explore the Passion story in each of the gospels and emphasize the four distinctive narratives. If you've never heard Scott speak before, check it out. You're in for a treat. He's a dynamic speaker and has a wealth of biblical knowledge. Come for dinner at 5:30 and bring a friend. Dinner will be pot roast, potatoes, onions, carrots, biscuits, and cookies.

Afterwards, at 7:00, everyone who would like to sing can join Will Cooke and the Sanctuary Choir in the Choir/Lecture Suite.

A WORD FROM VAL



On Saturday, the UBC college group went snow tubing at Wintergreen with the groups from UKirk and The Wesley Foundation. We took 25 people and had a BLAST! After spending an hour and a half flying down the hill

over and over, we drove up the mountain to have dinner at the home of a family connected to the Wesley Foundation. All our students agreed that we want to plan more events together before the semester is over.

MONDAY, March 6

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)
1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group

TUESDAY, March 7

11:00 Development Team Meeting
7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail (Zoom)
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

For our most up-to-date calendar, [click here.](#)

Prayer Requests

Barbara Newlon

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Gail Ellen

Ron Kingston

Clara Brown



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Join us in wishing some of our church family a Happy Birthday next week!

Mar. 8: Gerald Brown

Mar. 9: Ewing Minor

Mar. 10: Sarah Buchanan, Diane Mundell

Mar. 12: Johnny Ellen



Children Are Important to Jesus & to Us

"Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world." Glenna Ohlms so beautifully reminded us of this during the Sunday, February 19th Children's Sermon. It encourages us to remember that children are important to Jesus and, thus, to us.

Each Sunday morning our very youngest are lovingly and warmly greeted by Judy Gough, Diane Woerner, and Catherine Cooper. They provide space in which our children begin to learn of God's love for them through play, music and Scripture. The children sense that God does love and care for them as evidenced by these wonderful teachers. Assured of their good care, parents and siblings are in their classes and worship services to continue their own spiritual growth.

I try to walk around each Sunday to check in with leaders of all age-groups and to observe the wonderful things going on in Sunday Morning Bible Study. I can assure you that we are blessed with wonderful facilities, but more importantly, wonderful Christians leading our children. Hear what two reported to me just recently:

"I have been playing music CDs during the Sunday School and church time. This past week the boys actually looked up and danced and moved around. So finally, it is working!" Judy Gough.

"Stella and I are learning about how God is everywhere." Catherine Cooper.

There is a place for everyone here at UBC. Why don't you make Sunday Bible Study a habit for your family?

"Come and grow with us. We have a place for you!"

Tommy Deal - Education Coordinator

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service will begin at 11:00 am. We encourage everyone in the congregation to join us in whatever way you feel safe and comfortable at this time, whether in person or virtually. As always, you can listen by radio on WINA (1070 AM and 98.9 FM), or you can join us online for our live broadcast. To view the live video broadcast, visit our [Facebook page](#) or click [this link](#) to watch on YouTube.

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Connect with us

