

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish and Living Grace Lutheran Church
In ministry partnership since 2017

Gran-Park-Rollag Parish

3 Churches – 1 Ministry: Energized by God
To celebrate, share & show God's love
10501 Hwy. 32 South, Hawley, MN 56549-8929
Office Phone: 937-5499
Pastor Jim Greene
Cell Phone: 218-329-3933
PastorJim@RollagLutheran.org
Pastor Hope Deutscher
Cell Phone: 701-730-5051
Livinggracehawley@gmail.com

Living Grace Lutheran Church

A worshipping community of the ELCA focused on
making known God's love and grace by:
*Welcoming Everyone, Sharing Jesus' story,
Growing in faith and Serving beyond ourselves.*
Pastor Hope Deutscher
Office: 218-486-5880; Cell: 701-730-5051
livinggracehawley@gmail.com
PO Box 477, Hawley, MN 56549
Worships at The Garrick Theater,
509 Front Street, Hawley, MN 56549

Sunday, February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent Virtual Holy Communion Worship Service
Led by Pr. Hope Deutscher and Pr. Jim Greene
Music Provided by: Pam Aakre, and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Welcome/Announcements

- Welcome to worship for the GPR Parish and Living Grace Lutheran.
- *A Large print bulletin is available on our websites for you to use during worship.*
- We invite you to subscribe to our YouTube channel – Rollag Lutheran Church.
- *During our service, we have the following supplies reading:*
 - *Bread/crackers and wine/juice available for partaking in Virtual Holy Communion. We have communion kits available if you would like them, they have been blessed by the pastors.*

Happening This Week:

Sunday, February 21: Online Worship Service Available; 9:30 AM Rollag In-Person worship and Annual Meeting follows @ 10:15 AM. Youth Bake Sale will also be held at Rollag.
Monday, February 22: 7 PM Paul Tillich Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday, February 24: 9 AM Staff Meeting; 10 AM Ephesians Bible Study (Zoom); 7 PM Lent Wednesday Worship (In-person at Rollag and on YouTube)
Thursday, February 25: 7 PM Rollag Council Meeting; 7:45 PM Parish Council Meeting (Both meetings will be Online and In-Person)
Sunday, February 28: Online Worship Service Available; 9:30 AM Rollag In-Person Worship

Pastoral Care: Pastor Jim Greene and Pastor Hope Deutscher are available for pastoral care. If you or a loved one are hospitalized or ill, we would love to be caring for you. Please call or email us at the numbers above.

Bible and Book Studies:

- *Wednesdays at 10 AM: Bible Study (Studying Ephesians)*
- *First and Third Mondays @ 7 pm (March 1 and 15) Women's Book Study: It's Not Supposed to be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments leave you shattered by Lysa Terkeurst. Contact Pr. Hope for Zoom log-in details!*
- *7 PM Monday February 22: Paul Tillich Bible Study*

Sunday School: Is not being held in person but we do offer online Sunday School through videos and activities. Check out the GPR Children, Youth and family Facebook page. We are looking for volunteers to help us. Please call the pastors if you are interested in helping!

Lent 2021: We Worship an Amazing God...Every Day – and with the help of the Catechism 7 PM Wednesday Worship Services at Rollag Lutheran Church and Online. NO MEAL will be served this year. Both in-person and online services will include students' faith statements.

Prelude: *Lord, I want to be a Christian*

Pam Aakre, Piano

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Loving God, you have made covenant with us and with every living creature.

We often sin and respond with "I'm only human!" And while we say we're sorry sometimes we may not truly mean it or say it half-heartedly. But you, O God, remain faithful to the covenant of steadfast love, even when we struggle to repent, admit we are wrong and despite our human nature – we sin and need forgiveness. So today, without fear, let us confess our sins:

God of mercy, We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Teach us your commandments; help us to turn from evil in its many guises, and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near. Forgive us when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Hear these words of grace and love: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, + God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer* (ELW #618/LBW #343)

Verse 1: *Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'r-ful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.*

Scripture: Psalm 1 – *The Word of God Commands*

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²**but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴**The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶**for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Message: *The Word of God Commands* Pr. Hope Deutscher

Contact Pastor Hope at hdeutscher@gmail.com if you would like a transcript of this sermon.

Hymn of Month: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Pam Aakre, Piano and Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: *What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev-'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear --
all because we do not carry ev-'ry-thing to God in prayer.*

Verse 2: *Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged – take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev-'ry weakness – take it to the Lord in prayer.*

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Message: Pr. Jim Greene

Contact Pastor Jim at revjamesgreene18@yahoo.com. if you want a transcript of this sermon.

Virtual Communion

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in the remembrance of me.

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Offering

Because we believe that in Jesus Christ, God's time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near, we respond in tangible ways. By doing acts of justice and compassion and by sharing our resources, we bear witness to the good news of the gospel. The offering is received in gratitude to God.

Thank you for remembering the importance of continuing to Tithe your financial gifts. You can mail your offering to your church or give through Tithe.ly online (mobile and online option) or by mail. Visit livinggracehawley.org or gprparish.org for specific information.

Prayers

Gracious God, early on in the bible you became disgusted by the way people lived. After sending the flood you made a promise to Noah and to the world that you would never again allow the waters to cover and destroy the earth. As a sign to us all you sent a rainbow to show us you wanted us to know you were here to help us. Even when there isn't a rainbow in

the sky, may we hold onto your promise to create in us new and clean hearts. LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Like a tree planted along streams of living water, you soaked up all the guidance and wisdom you could from God. You are a living example of how a connection to God produce the fruits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Ironically, it was on a tree you were placed to sacrifice you life so we might more fully live. May your death give us life and may your life help us to die to ourselves in order to bear good fruit. LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Comforting Holy Spirit, you descending on Jesus like a dove to mark Jesus as the one who would save us from our sins. You drove Jesus out into the wilderness to let us know Jesus never shied away from facing down temptations and doubts with your help. Finally, you filled Jesus with the same purpose you give us- to share the good news of God's love, forgiveness, and mercy. Help us to invite you to live through us in all we think, say, and do. LORD IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Triune God, as we enter the season of Lent help us to desire to notice you in the middle of our lives as well as in our highs and lows. May we want to become transformed by you into the people who understand we have a purpose for being alive. Guide us through all our experiences to see your hand holding ours and your love leading us as we together remember how you taught us to pray . . .

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

May we plant our roots deep into God's grace and mercy;
May we branch out and be of service to all in need; and may we produce fruit which is meant to strengthen ourselves and others as we live of life of celebrating, sharing, and showing God's live in all we think, say, & do – following the example of our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter. Amen

Hymn: O Word of God Incarnate

Pam Aakre, Piano; Pr. Hope Deutscher, Flute

Verse 1: *O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high.
O Truth unchanged, un-changing, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.*

Verse 2: *The church from you, dear Master, receive the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
mid mists and rocks and quick-sands still guides, O Christ, to you.*

We Worship an Amazing God . . . Every Day - and with the help of the Catechism

7 PM Wednesday Worship Services at Rollag Lutheran Church and Online
We'll hear our confirmation student's faith statements.

CDC Guidelines, masks are required.

Feb. 17th, Ash Wednesday:	Deeply Connecting with God (1st Article of Creed)
Feb. 24th:	Following Jesus' example (2nd Article of Creed)
March 3rd:	The inspiration of the Holy Spirit (3 rd Article of the Creed)
March 10:	Loving God AND neighbor as self (10 Commandments)
March 17th:	Savoring Sacred Moments (Sacraments)
March 24th:	Active & humble Communication (Lord's Prayer)
April 1st, Maundy Thursday:	Loving and Forgiving as God does us (Forgiveness and Service)
April 2nd, Good Friday:	Believing in the Unbelievable (Death – is it the end or not?)