

IDENTITY

revealed

**JESUS IS THE CHRIST,
THE ONE WHO CALLS**



GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Glendale, Arizona 85301

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WELCOME TO GRACE!

We're glad you're here! May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone. You can follow along with the service using this worship folder or using the screens above the chancel. If you're new here, below is some helpful information about our sanctuary and our worship...

- Please reserve the **BACK PEWS** for parents with **SMALL CHILDREN**.
- A **PARENT'S ROOM** with private changing area and restroom is available through the door at the back of the middle aisle. Windows from the room allow you to still watch the service and speakers allow you to hear as well. A volume control is available on the wall by the door.
- Ask an usher to receive an **AUDIO RECEIVER** and **HEADSET** if you need hearing assistance in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall.
- **RESTROOMS** are available in the Narthex. Exit out of the north doors from the Sanctuary and go to the left. They are located in the alcove behind Luther's Seal.
- **LARGE PRINT** bulletins are available. See an usher to receive one.
- Visit our **WEBSITE** at <http://www.graceglendale.org> for additional information about our ministries and upcoming events.

CONTACT US...

Feel free to reach out directly to our office staff via email or telephone. Call 623-937-2010 and use the extension to the right.

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AT TODAY'S SERVICE...

Preaching Minister: Pastor Jacobson

Liturgist: Pastor Sellnow

Senior ushers: 8:00 AM – Bruce Rademacher
10:30 AM – Jerry Rovey

Organist: Jeff Wegner

A/V Team: 8:00 AM – Tracey Moreland / Mark Breiling
10:30 AM – Paul Sullivan

ABOUT THE THEME

Since Jesus was the Christ, he had a number of roles to fulfill. He was the ultimate Prophet, Priest, and King, and he was the Savior. He was also the one who called people to faith in him and sent them to be his witnesses to the world. He called Saint Paul to join the apostles as a missionary to the Gentiles. He also calls us to lives of faith and witness.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Setting 1 (CW 154)

HYMN: LORD, YOU CALL US AS YOUR PEOPLE

CW 736

Please stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

DECLARATION OF GRACE

CW 155

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us
pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



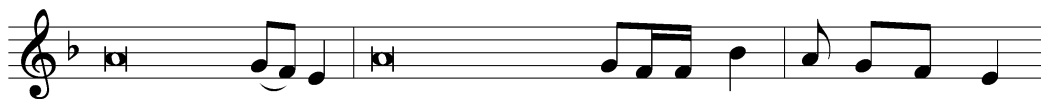
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



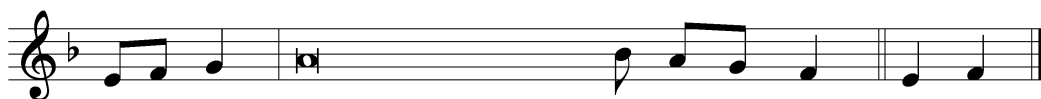
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord God, through the conversion of your apostle Paul, you caused the light of the gospel to shine in all the world. Grant that we may follow his example and be witnesses to the truth that is in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1–22

Jesus appears to Saul, later named Paul, on the road to Damascus.

¹Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the

Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

³As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

⁵“Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked.

“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied. ⁶“Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”

⁷The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

“Yes, Lord,” he answered.

¹¹The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

¹³“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR (8:00)

“Come, Follow Me!”

Galatians 1:11–24

¹¹I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. ¹²I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. ¹⁹I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord’s brother. ²⁰I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.

²¹Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. ²²I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. ²³They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." ²⁴And they praised God because of me.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

1 Timothy 1:15



Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Christ Jesus came into the world to save sin - ners— of whom I am the worst.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990

GOSPEL

Matthew 19:27–30

Converting to Christianity changes lives for eternity.

²⁷Peter answered him, “We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?”

²⁸Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

³⁰But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

At this time, children are invited to the front of the church to hear a special children's message from the Pastor.

HYMN: BY ALL YOUR SAINTS STILL STRIVING

CW 892 sts. 1, 12, 3

SERMON

Acts 9:1–22

YOUR FAITH IS AN AMAZING STORY

1. A story of your conversion
2. A story of your commission

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he

rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Special Intercessions

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the “Welcome to Grace” register in your pew at this time!
Remember to mark if you are communing.

HYMN: HARK, THE VOICE OF JESUS CRYING

CW 745

Stand

PRAYER

Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN: COME, FOLLOW ME, THE SAVIOR SPAKE

CW 702

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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NEXT SATURDAY, JAN 31...

Registration & Breakfast begin at 7:15 am. Conference begins at 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Register online **TODAY** at:

www.menofhisword.org/phoenix

\$125 for adults,

\$85 for retired-called workers,

\$75 for students (up to age 24)



Courage Under Fire

In a world that increasingly dismisses or attacks biblical truth, Christian men face a choice: retreat into silence or stand firm in the faith once delivered to the saints. From the workplace to the public square, from social media to our own neighborhoods, the heat is rising. Speaking up for God's design for marriage, the sanctity of life, or the exclusive claims of Christ can feel like walking into a furnace. The pressure to conform, to compromise, to keep our convictions quiet has never been greater.

But God's Word speaks directly into this fiery moment. In Isaiah 43:1-2, the Lord declares: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." Notice he doesn't promise to remove the fire; he promises to be with us in it. And that changes everything.

This year's Men of His Word Conference will equip you to stand with Courage Under Fire. Through presentations grounded in God's unchanging Word, you'll be strengthened to lead your family, confess your faith boldly, resist temptation, and serve faithfully, even when the culture pushes back. You'll discover that courage isn't the absence of fear; it's trusting the One who has already redeemed you, called you by name, and claimed you as His own.

Join us for powerful fellowship, practical wisdom, and the reminder that you're not alone in this fight. Together, we'll encourage one another to walk through the flames with confidence, knowing the fire cannot consume what God has sealed in baptism and sustained by His grace.

Be equipped. Be encouraged. Be emboldened to live with Courage Under Fire.

Desert Willow Conference Center
4340 East Cotton Center Boulevard
Phoenix, Arizona 85040



Grace Groups

Gathering Together Around God's Word

YOUR FAITH IS AN AMAZING STORY

Acts 9:1-22

In what way(s), was Paul's conversion an amazing story? In what way(s) was Paul's conversion very ordinary? How might someone viewing your conversion see similar extremes?

Paul had a glaring blind spot when it came to "the Way" and the people who belonged to "the Way". What blind spot might you or others have regarding Jesus? What Bible passage might someone in your group offer to help you or someone else see Jesus more clearly?

Compare the commissioning and ministry of St. Ananias and St. Paul *in this text*. Our text says, "At once he (Paul) began to preach." Later, Paul will tell Timothy church leaders should not be recent converts (1 Ti 3:6-7). What are your thoughts in regarding to a person's conversion and their commissioning?

Paul was a single man. Peter was a married man. What blessings and banes exist in your church work regarding this status?

Fill in the blank with something you will actually do. "If you cannot speak like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, you can ... _____"
