

Reflections of Grace

APRIL / MAY 2025

Grace Community Christian Reformed Church



The Easter Story in 14 Bible Verses



The fresco of Entry of Jesus in Jerusalem by Lattanzio Gambara.

1. Matthew 21:7-9 — Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted...

2. Matthew 26:14-16 — Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

3. Matthew 26:18 — The Last Supper

He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"



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a lot can happen in
3 days

The Easter Story in 14 Bible Verses

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4. Matthew 26:36 – The Garden of Gethsemane

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

5. Matthew 26:39 – Jesus Prays in the Garden

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."



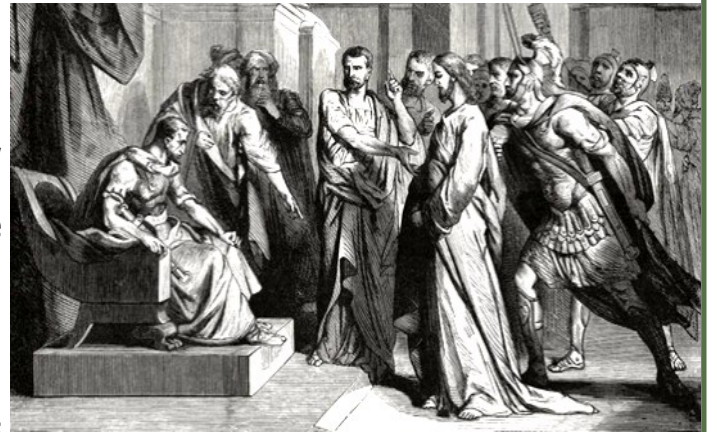
Vintage color lithograph of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (1882)

6. Matthew 27:1-2 – Jesus Delivered to Pilate

Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

7. John 19:6 – The Trial of Jesus Before Pilate

As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!"



Wood engraving of Christ before Pilate (1886)



8. Matthew 27:30-31 – Jesus' Final Steps

They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

9. Mark 15:33 – Darkness Comes
At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

10. Luke 23:46 – The Death of Jesus

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

A Prayer for Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families.
Help us rely on you for guidance,
patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you
and serve you with their God-given gifts.
Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives.
Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from
manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect.
And help us all be united in purpose to do your will.
In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.



BIBLE QUIZ



From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"

answer on page 9

"MY EASTER DOVE"

There came a dove,
an Easter dove,
when morning stars grew dim;
It fluttered round
my lattice bars,
to chant a matin hymn.



It brought a lily in its beak,
aglow with dewy sheen;
I caught the strain, the incense breathed,
and uttered praise between.

It brought a shrine of holy thoughts
to calm my soul that day;
I caught the meaning of the note,
why did it fly away?

Come peaceful dove, sweet Easter dove!
Above earth's storm and strife,
sing of the joy of Easter-tide,
of light and hope and life.

—Henrietta Cordelia Ray
(1849-1916)

HOPE FOR HOLY WEEK

As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what he has to offer because of his humble attitude and his devotion to his mission.

When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

—Peter Sulzle



THE BLESSING OF FELLOWSHIP

Between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in invisible fellowship with other Christians.

It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God's Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

EARTH-SHAKING VICTORY

On Ash Wednesday in 2001, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook the Seattle area. Charlie and Ann Lewis, co-pastors in Snohomish, Washington, reflected on the timing:

"While most years we prefer to think of Lent as a contemplative journey of faith as we walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the cross, this year we are thinking of how God turned the world upside down at Calvary. From the cross, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and his life was finished. Then the earth shook violently, the curtain in the temple was torn in two and rocks were split apart. The God who identified with us in our humanity in the incarnation of Jesus Christ demonstrated in that moment the depth of divine love for us — a love that leads God to choose the path of suffering and sacrifice.

"Three days later, the earth shook again — another violent earthquake, and the stone in front of the tomb was rolled away. Then the crucified Christ threw aside the burial cloths, emerging from the darkness of the tomb to walk in the dew of the grass as dawn was breaking across the sky. God had declared victory over sin and death itself. That victory was for us. ... God has given us a glorious life that extends into eternity."



The Easter Story in 14 Bible Verses

continued from page 2

11. Matthew 27:57-59 — Jesus' Body

As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth...



Burial of Jesus by Josef Janssens in the Cathedral of Our Lady in Antwerp, Belgium.

12. John 19:40-41 — Jesus is Buried

Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid.

13. Luke 24:1-6 — The Resurrection

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"



Fresco of Resurrected Christ by Josef Kastner in Carmelites Church in Vienna, Austria.

14. Matthew 28:8-10 — Jesus Appears

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

EASTER INSIGHTS

Did you know the word *Easter* only appears in the King James Bible? It may be a variant of the name *Eostre*, a pagan fertility goddess who symbolized rebirth and spring. *Eostre* stems from the Proto-Germanic word for *dawn*, which Christians connect to Jesus' victory over darkness.

The ancient tradition of Easter baskets also has ties to *Eostre*, whose symbol was a rabbit. Christians likely adapted the practice of bringing eggs and seeds as an offering to *Eostre*. Some Orthodox Christians continue a tradition of having a priest bless baskets of Easter food on Holy Saturday. Items usually hold special symbolism, such as Paska bread, cured meats, colored eggs, salt, horseradish and lamb-shaped butter.

REFLECTING ON RESURRECTION

In *Rest Your Dreams on a Little Twig*, poet Joyce Rupp finds in spring flowers the proclamation of the gospel: “we who have died / are alive today.” In another poem in the same volume, she writes: “A green shoot grows / out of an old tree stump, / announcing to the world / that power lies within death.”

As you move about outdoors these springtime days in the northern hemisphere, where do you see nature testifying to resurrection? Where is evidence that what seemed dead — bare branches, dry grass, inactive seeds — was not in fact the final word? What encourages you to believe in renewal, second chances, life that blossoms from death? In what ways are you, who had died, alive today? Part of your life that felt like an old stump might be sprouting green shoots after all!



KNOW WHO (AND WHOSE) YOU ARE

Actor Kirk Douglas once picked up a hitchhiker. After the man got settled in Douglas’s car, he turned to look more closely at the driver. Surprised to recognize the famous man at the wheel, the hitchhiker exclaimed, “Do you know who you are?!”

We would do well to ask ourselves and each other the same thing. Often, we seem to forget — or perhaps we never knew.

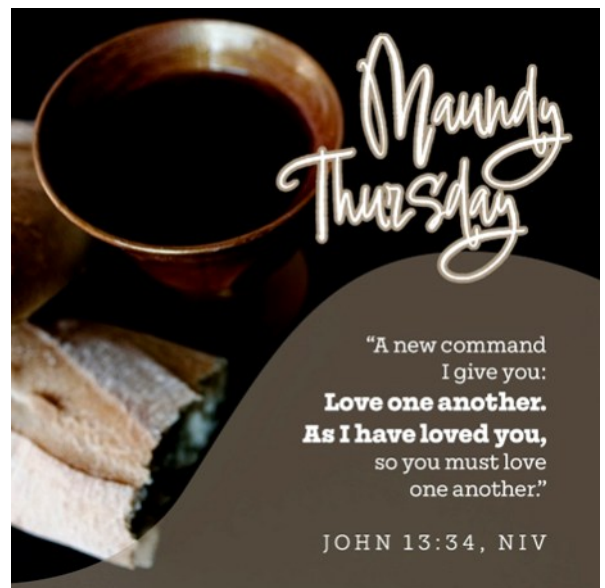
Through much of life, we behave as if our identity depends on our occupation, wealth, family line, daily accomplishments or good deeds. But none of these — not even the last one — determines the core of who we are. All that matters is our Creator’s opinion, and God loves us with abundant, unconditional love.

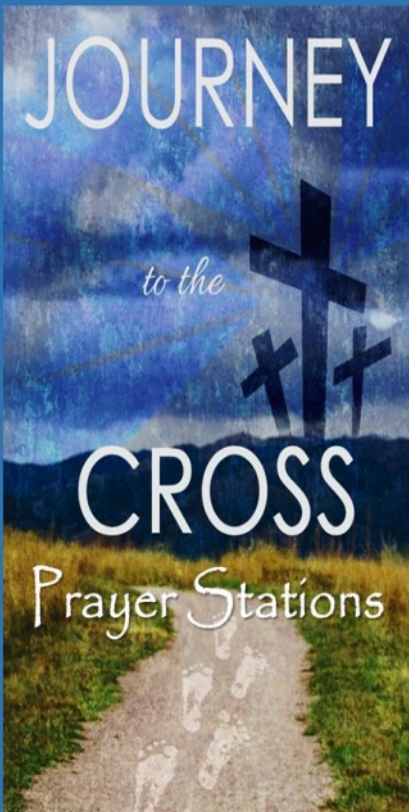
Do you know who you are? You are God’s beloved child! And so is everyone else. May we live out that knowledge, treating one another as such.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL—PALM BRANCH

When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that occasion, knowing that Jesus’ crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God’s throne.





JOURNEY
to the
CROSS
Prayer Stations

APRIL 15:
11:15 AM - 1:00 PM

APRIL 17:
4:00 – 5PM / 6:30-8PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY
COMMUNION SERVICE- 5PM
SOUP SUPPER - 6PM

APRIL 18: 9 AM - NOON

Invite your family and friends.

REACH
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

YOUTH MINISTRY

2nd & 4th Sundays 6-9 p.m.



GIVE ONLINE
FAST. EASY. CONVENIENT.



WWW.GCCRC.ORG

Love your enemies and pray



for those who persecute you...

Matthew 5:44, NRSV

Celebrate with us

easter
SUNDAY
Christ Is Risen!



10:00 am service

FROM THE EDITOR:

Do you have a story you've read or seen that has affected your life in a positive way?

Or maybe you've had a "God" moment in your life that impacted you and your spiritual journey? When something happened that can only be explained as having come from God?

How about a great recipe that others may like?

We'd love to be able to share these stories and recipes in our newsletter.

Submit your half or one page story for the newsletter by placing it in the newsletter box on the wall outside the office.

Or email it to the church at: gracechurch@gccrc.org.
Articles/stories may be edited.

All articles/recipes must include your name. If the article was published in a magazine or any other way, you must include your name, the copy of the article, and the permission from the source to publish, to be considered for the newsletter!

We reserve the right to reject a submitted article for content and/or edit your submission.

"HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN..."

During his earthly ministry, Jesus could be physically present in only one place at any given time. "Only those could speak to him who came to where he was," explained Archbishop William Temple. "If he was in Galilee, people could not find him in Jerusalem; if he was in Jerusalem, they could not find him in Galilee" (from *Readings in St. John's Gospel*).



Spiritually speaking, Christ's Ascension means he is with us wherever we find ourselves. Christ desires to be present with us everywhere we go. His presence is universal. He is here now. "Believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:16, NRSV) — that is what the Ascension affirms.



SPECIAL DATES IN APRIL & MAY

- April 1st: April Fool's Day
- **April 13 - Palm Sunday**
- **April 17 - Maundy Thursday**
- **April 18 - Good Friday**
- **April 20 - Easter Sunday**
- **May 1 - National Day of Prayer**
- May 11 - Mother's Day
- May 26 - Memorial Day
- **May 29 - Ascension Day**



IGNITE KIDS GROUP

APRIL 25

6-8pm

5yrs.-5th grade

Worship Games Bible
Crafts Lessons

Invite a friend and join the fun!

Answer to BIBLE Quiz on page 3: A
(See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)



FREE
to an interested party!
All I ask is that you
haul it away.

I'm ready to part with my piano, and would like it to go to a person or family who will give it a good home. Maybe it's you—or your children or grandchildren. It's a Wurlitzer console piano that's been in my home over 50 years. Please contact me if you are interested.

Eleanor Lamsma
708.903.1046 eleanor.lamsma.comcast.net



Springing to LIFE



New life defines the season of spring. Make this Easter craft that symbolizes rebirth.

What you need:

- Brown paper lunch bag
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Jellybeans



What you do:

1. From the bag's bottom, cut two 2-inch circles. Set aside.
2. From the sides, cut two 10-inch circles.
3. Draw a thin spiral on each large circle and cut along the lines. Crinkle spirals gently.
4. Starting at the center, wrap one spiral into a nest. Glue every few inches to hold it.
5. Glue one small circle to the bottom of the nest.
6. Repeat with the other spiral. Fill nests with jellybeans and give to a friend!



DEATH IS NOT THE END

Loren Eiseley, an anthropologist who died in 1977, requested this epitaph for his wife and himself: "We loved the earth but could not stay." No one can stay, of course. We're all moving toward that final day when "the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over, and our work is done" (*The Book of Common Prayer*).

On Memorial Day, we remember people who have perished in war, making the ultimate sacrifice to protect others. May God hasten the day when humans can solve disputes peacefully. We also remember loved ones whose stay on earth is over.

PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD
IS THE DEATH OF HIS FAITHFUL ONES.

PSALM 116:16, NRSV

A memorial stone at Ohio's College of Wooster, placed by a class years ago, reads: "United in time / Divided in time / To be reunited / When time shall be no more." Christians believe that death does not end all. When our earthly life is over, we have the promise of eternal life — and joyful reunions — in heaven.



LOVING MY "ENEMIES"

In polarized times, when people view huge concepts such as justice, government policy and care for neighbors differently, how do we follow Jesus' command to love our enemies? I prefer the word *opponents*, but our Lord's instructions still stand.

In the Bible, "love" doesn't mean liking someone; it means caring for them, treating them kindly. I find *The Message* paraphrase of Luke 6:27-36 helpful: "Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst," Jesus says about one's enemies. So, when I contact government leaders to express my opinions, I address them with respect, whether I agree with them or not. When I encounter a neighbor whose views oppose mine, I ask myself what I would want them to do for me, whether help with an errand or be friendly. Then, as *The Message* puts it, I "grab the initiative and do it for *them*."

And this, which might be the hardest: Amid tough times, Jesus says, "Respond with the supple moves of prayer." It's human nature to pray that God change our enemies' or opponents' minds. But it's more Christlike to pray for their health, their families and what-ever *God* desires for them, not what *I* want. Can I do this? With God's help, yes.

—HEIDI HYLAND MANN

Sharing the Gospel of Christ that others might be saved, praying for those who hurt you, forgiving those who attack, being kind to all, sharing God's Word, speaking truth in love, not arguing, not returning evil for evil, doing good to those who hate you.





Join us for our
next
**FELLOWSHIP
POTLUCK LUNCHEON**
April 13 - 1:30am

Sign up today to
bring a dish to share: main, side,
salad, or dessert.



MAY 11

Happy
MOTHER'S DAY

to all mothers and women!



Make these sweet sandwiches
for a Mother's Day tea party.

What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



APR 2025

<p>Grace Community Church Prayer Calendar</p>
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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
		Pray for local elections today. Praise God for the opportunity to vote.	Pray for an opportunity to show hospitality today.	Pray that those who have strayed from the faith may come back to Christ.	Pray for those you know who don't yet know Christ.	Ask God to prepare your heart to receive communion tomorrow.
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Pray for our worship service and for Tables of Grace.	Praise God for our Deacons' Pantry.	Pray for Council to have wisdom as they lead sacrificially.	Pray for those who struggle with doubts.	Pray for our children to love and serve Jesus.	Pray for new ways to serve using your gifts.	Pray for Jei as he prepares for Holy Week sermons. Pray for inspiration.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Pray for fellowship with King Jesus. Pray for REACH youth group.	Ask forgiveness for the times you have betrayed Jesus.	Pray with Jesus, "Not my will, but yours be done."	Pray that you will not deny Christ in your interactions with others.	Pray for humility in serving. Pray for our Maundy Thursday service.	Pray for the "Journey to the Cross" Prayer stations. May hearts be blessed.	Pray for boldness to share the gospel message of salvation.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Praise God for Easter joy! Pray for churches around the world.	Pray for eyes to see our Risen Savior working in our church.	Pray for our Coffee Break ladies to serve the Risen Savior, Jesus.	Pray for those who need physical or emotional healing.	Pray for a readiness to give a reason for the hope within us.	Pray for Ignite Kids group and their leaders.	Pray for the praise team and tech team as they lead worship tomorrow.
27	28	29	30			
Praise God for times of worship and celebration.	Pray for our church to be filled with courage to trust God's will.	Praise God for our Coffee Break leaders and kitchen helpers.	Pray you will forgive others for past sins. Pray for restored relationships.			

APRIL & MAY SCHEDULES

GREETERS

Apr 6 Warren & Ruth Kuipers
 Apr 13 George Voss / Evelyn Luchtenburg
 Apr 20 Carol DenBesten / Mary Lewan
 Apr 27 Patricia Schroader/ Theresa Dybala

CHILDCARE

Apr 6 Joyce Phillips
 Apr 13 Laura Soucek
 Apr 20 Maria Kialanda
 Apr 27 Kaitlyn Van Kuiken

TECH SCHEDULE

Projection		Sound	Projection		Sound
Apr 6	Dave Phillips	Ed Ritzema	May 4	Dave Phillips	Ed Ritzema
Apr 13	Ed Ritzema	Chris Van Kuiken	May 11	Ed Ritzema	Chris Van Kuiken
Apr 20	Aiden Soucek	Pedro Kialanda	May 18	Aiden Soucek	Pedro Kialanda
Apr 27	Dave Phillips	Chris Van Kuiken	May 25	Dave Phillips	Ed Ritzema

ACCOMPANISTS

Apr 6	Diane/Pedro	May 4	Bob/Diane
Apr 13	Bob/Diane	May 11	Diane
Apr 20	Diane	May 18	Diane
Apr 27	Pedro	May 25	Pedro

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Apr 6	Diane Ritzema
Apr 13	Jestine Ivy
Apr 20	Ed Ritzema
Apr 27	Tom Huisenga

Prayer Room Schedule

Apr 6 Theresa Dybala / Diane Ritzema
 Apr 13 Eleanor Lamsma / Jei Wilson
 Apr 20 Mary LeWan / Jestine Ivy
 Apr 27 Bob Cooper / Maria Kialanda

Lord, create in me
the heart of a servant
 choosing to work
 for your glory
 and not my own.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE NOTE:

**ALWAYS USE THE LATEST SCHEDULE YOU HAVE RECEIVED.
 CHANGES MAY HAVE BEEN MADE FROM WHAT IS LISTED HERE.**

HOME COOKING

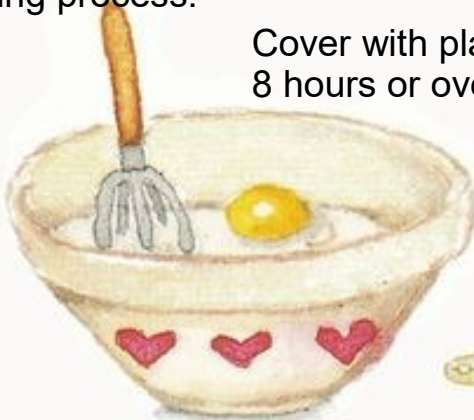
STRAWBERRY TIRAMISU from Taste of Home magazine

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1 lb. fresh strawberries | 1 cup heavy whipping cream |
| 1 tsp. orange zest (1 med. orange) | 1 cup strawberry jam |
| 1/4 cup fresh squeezed orange juice (1 med.) | 8 oz. mascarpone cheese |
| 1/4 cup powdered sugar | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 7 oz. crisp ladyfingers (24 count) | |

Instructions

1. Hull & slice the strawberries. Zest the orange and cut the zested orange in half and juice it.
2. Whisk the strawberry jam with the orange juice in a bowl large enough to dip the ladyfingers. Add 1-2 tbsps. Of water to thin the mixture if it seems too thick. Set aside.
3. Mix cheese with orange zest. Set aside.
4. Whip the cream, powdered sugar, and vanilla with a mixer on medium, until stiff peaks form. Don't over whip it.
5. Gently fold 1/3 of the whipped cream into the cheese mixture. Then fold in the rest.
6. Dip the ladyfingers one or two at a time into the jam mixture. Coat all sides. Arrange the ladyfingers over the bottom of an 8x8 inch baking dish. Cut the ladyfingers to fit the bottom, if needed. If necessary, add a little extra jam over them, so all are coated evenly.
7. Spread half of the whipped cream/mascarpone mix over the ladyfingers.
8. Place a layer of sliced strawberries on top of the cream and repeat the layering process.

Cover with plastic wrap and chill in refrigerator for at least 8 hours or overnight to let the ladyfingers soften.



When ready to serve, add any remaining strawberries on top.

Submitted by Barb Wassenaar



HAPPY SPRING





OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

1. C → ↓ ↓ _____
2. H → ↑ → _____
3. V ↑ → ↓ _____
4. I ← ← ↑ _____
5. T ↑ ← ↑ _____
6. P ↑ → → ↓ _____
7. D ↓ → ↓ ↓ _____
8. T ↑ ← ↑ ← _____



Praise be to the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us

into a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Answers: new birth



© Adron '13

Puzzle!

First, write the word that fits each definition. Then transfer those letters to the correct numbered lines below, completing John 20:17 (NIV). Finally, unscramble the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. Water that falls from the sky 1 2 3 4

2. Birds lay these in a nest 5 6 7 8

3. A newly hatched hen 9 10 11 12 13

4. These bloom in spring 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

5. A caterpillar transformed 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

6. Dirt mixed with water 30 31 32

J 5 8 31 20 8 2 3 32 ... " I 2 30

2 20 12 25 4 32 11 4 6 24 16 30 29

F 2 23 10 18 26 2 4 32 29 16 22 1

F 2 24 10 25 19 23 16 30 29 G 16 32

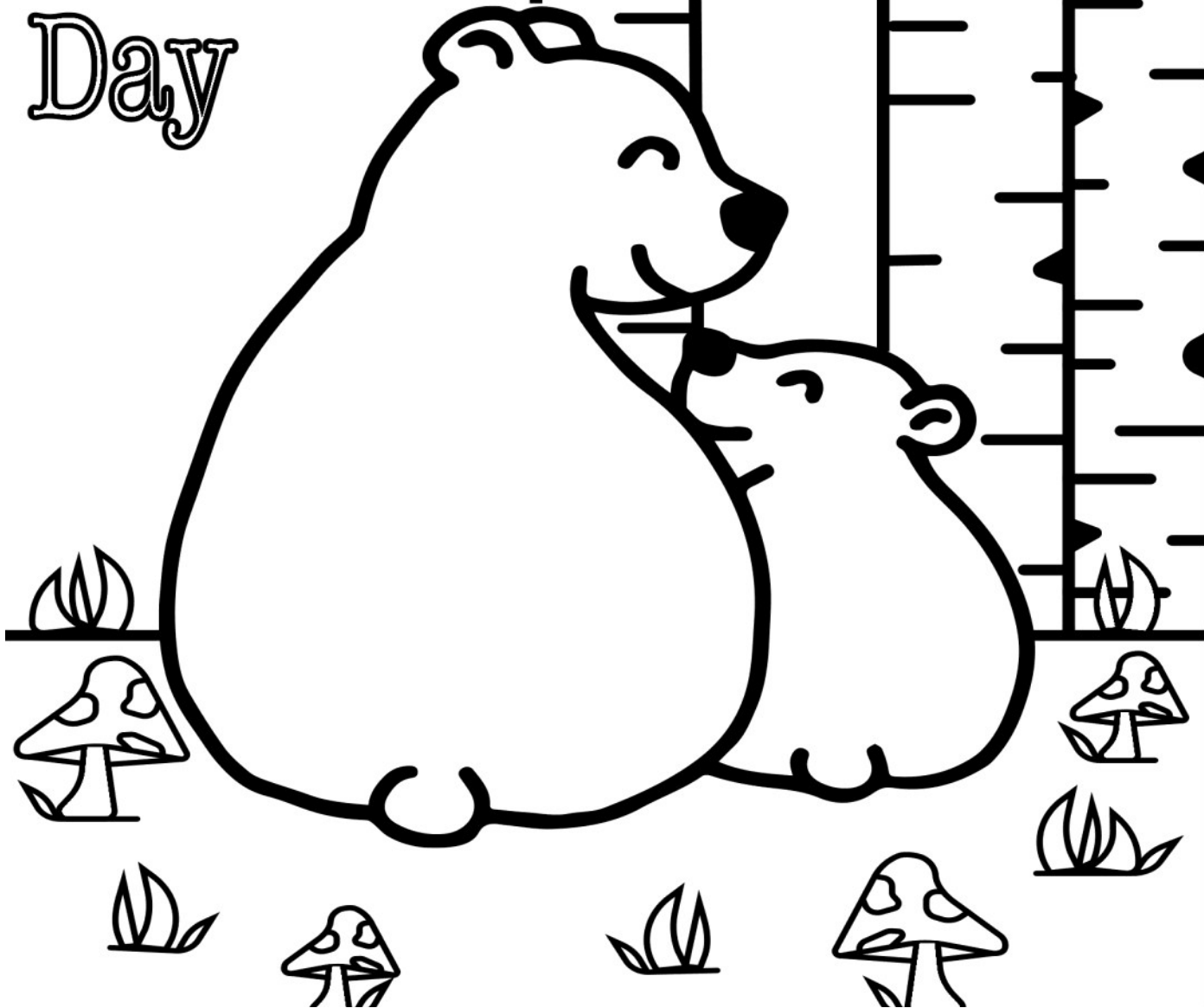
2 4 32 29 16 31 1 G 16 32."

John 20:17, NIV

Jesus has _____ !

Answers: rain, eggs, chick, flowers, butterfly, mud; Jesus said ... "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." (John 20:17, NIV) Jesus has risen!

Happy
Mother's
Day



Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)

6 11

NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)

14

RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)

18 3

KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)

16 5

EHLA (Genesis 30:14)

1

CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)

7 12

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)

10 17 13

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)

8

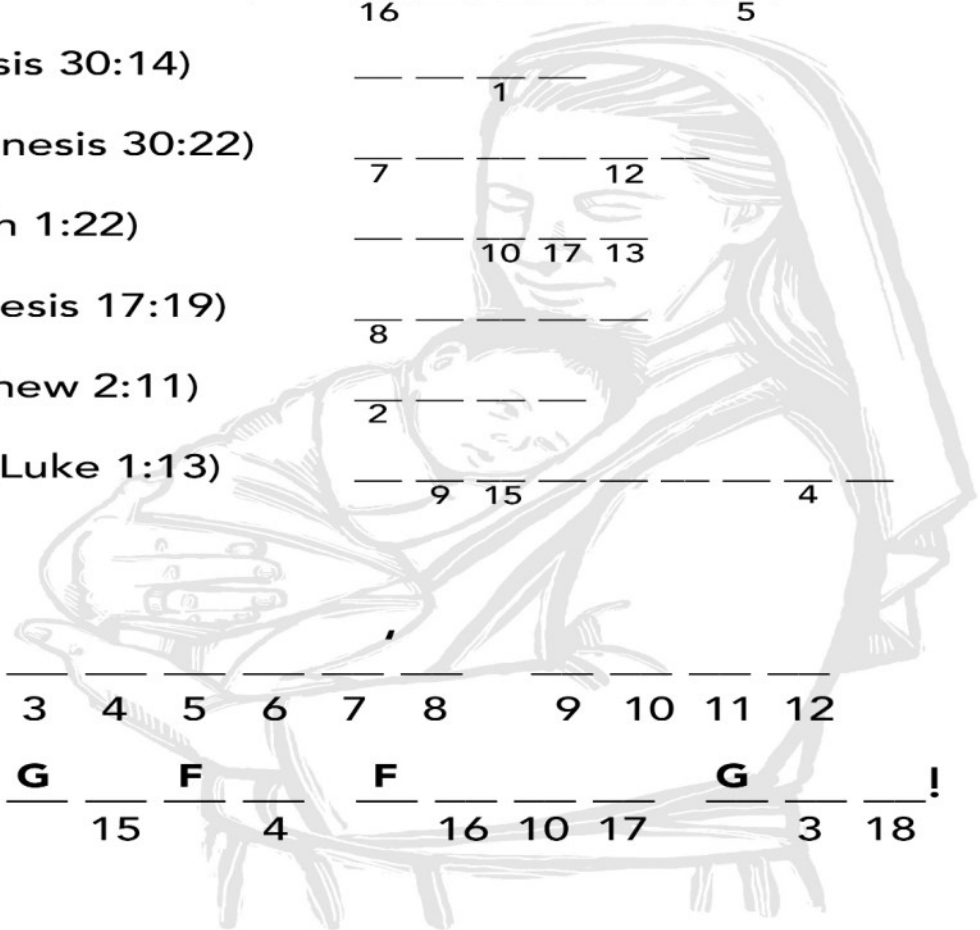
AMYR (Matthew 2:11)

2

ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)

9 15 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
 13 8 14 **G** **F** **F** **G** !
 15 4 16 10 17 3 18



Answers: Eve, Hannah, Deborah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel, Naomi, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth;
 A mother's love is a gift from God!

**GRACE
COMMUNITY
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**

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This newsletter is a publication of Grace Community Church. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome and will be considered for publication provided they include your name and/or the name of the original author, are one page, and are within the guidelines and tone of this newsletter.

If you have any questions concerning this newsletter, please contact:
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Contributions for the
June / July 2025 issue
are due no later than
June 14, 2025.

No newsletter in August.

**Grace Community
Church**

Called to be a community of externally focused people who foster authentic, grace filled relationships.



Our Values

Care is expressed in being open and accepting, in being non-judgmental and respectful, and in welcoming people from diverse backgrounds and experiences. We continue to learn to be authentic in our caring by being honest about the ways our brokenness takes shape. In humility, we treat others with respect and integrity, as we would want to be treated.

Compounding recognizes that God's grace is fruitful; it brings deep change and growth in our life. As we follow Jesus, God multiplies our efforts into something more than we can ask or imagine. God multiplies our efforts of acceptance and care for people outside our circles of relationships. We will be enriched by others because we can see God at work in them.

Cultivating is the act of building others up, encouraging each other to share God's gifts. Each person matters. We are not passive. We foster personal responsibility for spiritual growth. In our worship and life together, members are welcomed to participate freely. Filled with the Spirit, we all grow as participants share what God is doing in their life.

Connecting to God through Scripture and prayer. We want to see clearly what God is saying to us in the Bible, enabling us to live freely for God. In worship, we connect our story with God's story. We respond to God in ways that show how the truth of the Bible fits into our life. We pray together, believing that all growth is the result of God's work.

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