

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

CHAPTER 26: The Hour of Darkness



THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

16 July 2023, 10:13am

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC and CANDLE LIGHTING

WELCOME and INVITATION

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING SONGS

Sing To The King

Billy Foote, Charles Horne

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He Lives

Alfred Henry Ackley

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INVOCATION and OPENING PRAYER

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

Amen.

God of mercy, Your love for us is so deep that Your Son gave His life in our place on the cross. We are forgiven through the blood of Jesus. Lead us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

CHAPTER 26: *The Hour of Darkness*

Introduction

René Hutzell

THE STORY VIDEO

SONG OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Grace Havens

(Kindergarten – 6th grade students are excused to attend “THE STORY FOR KIDS” in the ANNEX)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 118:19-29

Steve Yearout

John 16:12-33; 17-1-5

Grace Perry

THE STORY CONTINUES . . .

Upper Story (*God's Story*) *"The One Problem That Causes All Problems"*

Lower Story (*Our Story*) *"God's Final Solution To All Our Problems"*

THANKFUL GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of Grace Ministries.

Our ability to continue to serve you, the Church, and our community is greatly dependent upon the willingness of God's people to give of their time, talents and treasures. Please remember to support the LORD'S Church by regularly sending in your tithes and offerings; by mail, online at www.GraceLutheranCC.com/Giving, or download the *GivePlus* Mobile App. As the Apostle Paul writes, "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). If you brought your tithe or offering with you today, you may place them in the box marked "I Bring An Offering To The Lord" sitting on the table next to the usher's station at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY SONG

The Holy Heart

Anne Barbour and Marsha Skidmore

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WHAT WE BELIEVE ~ Apostles' Creed

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

REPENTANCE and RENEWAL

Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to behold the evil of a fallen creation, the agony of Your rejection, the pain of Your condemnation, and the horror of Your crucifixion.

As we approach the cross on Calvary, let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against Your will and ways.

Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking, and doing.

We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.

We have not loved You with our whole heart,

and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We often fail to see the good You work at Your time and in Your way, even amid the evil around us.

Our faith suffers in doubt, and we lose our trust in You.

We can only say:

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy! Forgive us our sins and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised and written since the fall into sin. By His miraculous birth, perfect life, suffering, and sacrificial death, He has taken every sin upon Himself and brought them to the cross for you. For His sake, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

SERVICE OF THE HOLY SUPPER

Holy Communion is a confession of the faith whereby we profess at this altar that our Lord Jesus Christ gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, or who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, are respectfully asked to refrain from partaking in the meal and instead may come to the altar and receive a blessing, or remain in your pew during distribution, and afterwards speak with the pastor.

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

Psalm 136

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God; for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son to be our Savior. Grant us the gift of Your Spirit that we may receive Your blessings with thankfulness for the forgiveness purchased for us by our Savior on the cross of Calvary. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of Sa -bā - oth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
Shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest,
Sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes
In the name of the Lord!**

*Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."
Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mathew 6:9-14

Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promise, we are bold to pray:

**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;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

John 20:19

Amen.

Please be seated.

MY CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

I REJOICE in Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior.
I REPENT of all my sins in thought, word, and deed.
I RECEIVE Christ's real body and blood, as well as the bread and wine in this Sacrament.
I RELY on our Savior's promise of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation given to me
through this Holy Supper.
I REAFFIRM my oneness with fellow communicants in accepting all of Christ's teaching.
I RESOLVE to live a sanctified life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

There Is A Balm In Gilead

LSB #749

There Is A Redeemer

Melody Green

Hymn 971 Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.
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There Is Power In the Blood

Lewis Jones

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Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All thanks and praise to You, O Lord, for Your covenant promise through the ages. For Your covenant promise to Adam and Eve when they had fallen into sin, for Your covenant promise to Noah and his family after the flood, for Your covenant promise to Abraham and Sarah when they were childless, for Your covenant promise to the Israelites who had been enslaved in Egypt, for Your covenant promise to the house of David when Judah faltered, for Your covenant promise to the prophets and the faithful remnant amid rejection, for Your covenant promise fulfilled in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, for Your covenant promise brought to us in the body and blood of Christ, *we thank You. We bless You. We praise You. We adore You.*

Amen.

BLESSING TO DEPART

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in  peace.

Amen.

THE STORY CHALLENGE

Abbie Crist

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray. . . We adore You, gracious God, for Your love seen most powerfully in the self-sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

Thousand thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus unto You.

Guide us by Your Holy Spirit to let our lives be shaped by the cross of Jesus, **so that we willingly give of ourselves in service to others;** by the power of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DEPARTING SONG

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

LSB #425

*Thank you for worshiping with us today.
Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the Grace Fellowship Hall.*

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

OFFICE OPEN 10:00AM - 3:00PM | TUESDAY - FRIDAY

July 16-22, 2023

Sunday: 9:00am The Story: Chapter 25 Review
10:13am **Sunday Worship–The Story: Chapter 26**
Nursery & Children’s Church–The Story for Kids
11:13am Fellowship Time

Monday: OFFICE CLOSED
2pm-4pm Food Pantry

Tuesday: 10:00am Admin. Meeting
11:00am Grief Care Group - BEGINS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: 11:00am The Story Bible Study “The Heart of God’s Story”
5:30pm Supper
6:00pm Bible Study, The Story

Thursday: 10:00am LWML Quilters
12:00pm Culture & Christianity Small Group
2pm-5pm Pastor Visits
5:00pm Worship Team Practice

Friday: 1pm-4pm Pastor Visits
5:30pm Cochran’s Small Group

Saturday: 10:00am Women’s Small Group, The Story

For additional information about events and ministries, check the church calendar online at www.GraceLutheranCC.com.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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