



PARABLES OF JESUS



Third Weekend in Lent
March 7th & March 8th, 2026
6pm & 8am Worship Services

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church is:
Biblically based! Christ-centered! Confessional!
Disciple-developing!
Mission-minded!
Theologically traditional!
Family Friendly & Spirit led!

WE ARE CALLED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES -
TO BE "G.R.A.C.E.D." PEOPLE OF GOD:

GO TO GOD IN PRAYER DAILY!

READ GOD'S WORD DAILY!

ATTEND WORSHIP REGULARLY!

CONNECT IN A STUDY OR SMALL GROUP!

ENGAGE IN SERVICE IN THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY!

DEDICATE SELF TO THE TITHE AND BEYOND!

OUR WORSHIP TOGETHER:
SAT., 6PM & SUN., 8AM

Ringin' of the Bell, Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Confession of Sins

L: We begin in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

L: Beloved of God, St. Paul reminds us in Romans 3:23 that we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. We are to approach God's throne of grace with confidence, confessing our sins to Him. We confess to Him in the silence of our hearts.

(silence for confession)

L: Now we confess our sins as a community of faith. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

Opening Song

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #499

1. Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love, teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come; and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

3. Oh, to grace how great a debt or daily I'm constrained to be; let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to Thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love, here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

The Greeting and Kyrie

L: The grace of God, the compassion of Christ, and the hope of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you!

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord, C: Lord, have mercy!

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

C: Lord, have mercy!

L: 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. C: Lord, have mercy!

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

C: Lord, have mercy!

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C: Amen!

Hymn of Praise

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day: *Heavenly Father, on account of Your love, You both convict and forgive. Whether we have wandered far from You or stayed near yet distant in heart, lead us home. Give us repentant hearts that rejoice in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Special Music

Mike & Sandy Birdlebough (8:00am)

Children's Message

(8:00am)

Gospel Song

"Glory Be to Jesus" #95 (v. 1-2)

1. Glory be to Jesus, who, in bitter pains, poured for me the life-blood from His sacred veins.
2. Grace and life eternal in that blood I find; blest be His compassion, infinitely kind.

Bible Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

¹The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear {Jesus}. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹... "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

L: The Word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Message:

"Tears on the Road Home"

Song of the Day

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" #734
(Tithes & Offerings Received)

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me. See, on the portals He's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.
(Re): "Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home." Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"
2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not His mercies, mercies for you and for me?
(Re)
3. Oh, for the wonderful love He has promised, promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me.
(Re)

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C: O Lord, our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness, You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

The Prayers of the People

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, Lord God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

Words of Institution, The Lord's Prayer, and Holy Communion

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.

Post-Communion Prayer and Benediction

Sending Song **"Go, My Children, with My Blessing" #721**

1. "Go, My children, with My blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are My own. In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever. Go, My children, with My blessing, you are My own."

3. "Go, My children, fed and nourished, closer to Me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here My Spirit's power filled you, here My tender comfort stilled you. Go, My children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

4. "I, the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace. I, the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace. I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother. Go, my children, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Announcements & Dismissal

L: The time of worship is now ended, C: and the service begins!

L: We leave to live out God's call:

C: To save the lost and strengthen the saved!

L: May we go to Be and Make Disciples,

C: Blessing and teaching in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

L: And remember, He is with you always, C: even till the end of time!

*Lutheran Book of Worship, copyright 1978 - Augsburg Fortress Press, CCLI #2604642
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Prayer requests can be written on connection cards and placed in the offering basket or texted to 830-383-0249.

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Time Begins

- 8:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Spring Tea / Cowboy Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Worship: KNAF 910AM/107.9FM
- 10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion

Monday, March 9

Newsletter News Due

- 9:00 a.m. Lutheran World Relief Quilters
- 1:00 p.m. Holy Ghost Quilters
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Choir: Sanctuary Basement
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Guild
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Bible Study: Daniel's Porch

Tuesday, March 10

- 8:00 a.m. Band of Brother's
- 9:00 a.m. Lutheran World Relief Quilters
- 12:00 p.m. 2nd Corinthians Bible Study
- 1:00 p.m. Holy Ghost Quilters
- 5:30 p.m. Book of Nehemiah Bible Study: Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study

Wednesday, March 11

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Caregiver's Support
- 11:00 a.m. Lent Worship
- 4:00 p.m. After School Club: Youth Room
- 5:30 p.m. Grace Notes
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School Youth: Youth Room
- 6:30 p.m. Lent Worship
- 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
- 8:00 p.m. WILD: Youth Room

Thursday, March 12

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Community Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Lydia Circle
- 1:00 p.m. Katherine Luther Circle

Friday, March 13

Saturday, March 14

- 6:00 p.m. Worship

Sunday, March 15

Feeding John

- 8:00 a.m. Worship
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bar
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Worship: KNAF 910AM/107.9FM
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

Scripture Reader Sign-Up: For those interested in being a scripture reader, please use the QR code to sign-up for worship services. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.



Welcome Visitors: We are so glad you are here! If you do not have a church home and would like to hear more about Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, please fill out the connection card in the pew and place it in the offering box or contact the church office at 830-997-2288, holyghost@holyghostfbg.org or Pastor Steve Qualben at pastorsq@holyghostfbg.org.

Weekly Worship: We offer three opportunities every weekend: Saturday at 6:00pm; Sunday at 8:00am and 10:30am with Sunday School for all ages at 9:15am.

Interested in becoming or growing as a Christian? We can help!

Please contact the church office holyghost@holyghostfbg.org; Pastor David Priem pastordp@holyghostfbg.org, Pastor Steve Qualben pastorsq@holyghostfbg.org or Pastor Tobias Heike pastorth@holyghostfbg.org.

Youth Ministry at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church: We take our ministry to youth very seriously at Holy Ghost. Please feel free to contact our two full-time youth ministers directly: Daniel Hofmann (K-5th) danielh@holyghostfbg.org and John LaRocque (6th-12th) johnl@holyghostfbg.org.

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church is a member of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) and Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC).

Worship-Online and on the Radio: We stream our services on our Facebook page and YouTube every week at 10:30am, and we broadcast at 10:00am each Sunday on the local radio station KNAF 107.9 FM and 910 AM.

TEXT GIVING: Text **HolyGhost** to **73256**. You can give to the general ministry, special offering, or the capital campaign building fund! It's safe and secure!

Bible Study Opportunities:

* Pastor Steve's 12-week study on 2nd Corinthians meets every Tuesday from 12:00-1:15pm. Please RSVP to the church office or Pastor Steve Qualben at pastorsq@holyghostfbg.org, if you'd like to attend.

* Pastor David's 7-week study on Nehemiah meets every Tuesday at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to the church office at 830.997.2288 or to Pastor David at pastordp@holyghostfbg.org.

The Lenten Mid-Week Service Special Offering: One-half of our mid-week Lenten offerings will be designated for Caritas Family Assistance Network. Caritas is a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the social, emotional, and academic needs of students in the Fredericksburg Independent School District (FISD) through counseling and family liaison support services.

The HGLC Hospice List: Alice Behrends, Emma Hirschfield & Bill Petmecky. Please pray for all who are in need!

Hospitalized: Pam Ransleben & Betty Ellebracht. Please pray for all those who have need of any type of healing!

Congratulations to Allison Borlace, who celebrated her 1st Holy Communion on Saturday.

If You or a Family Member is in the Hospital, please contact the church office so we can visit & pray with them. If you or a family member are unable to attend worship & would like a Visitation Minister to bring communion, please call the office at 830-997-2288.

Yard Crosses: Display one at your house as a testimony in the community of the Savior's sacrifice for sinners, and on Easter Day turn it around to celebrate His victory! Purple ribbons (the color of Lent, representing repentance) are also available to place on the crosses.

Lenten Wrist Bands: As people may ask about the wristband, allow this "soft" evangelism tool to be a way to point others to church and Jesus. Lent is a great time for each of us to get closer to God and for us to invite our under-churched friends to join in this Lenten journey, as well!

Ladies' Lunch Study: All ladies are invited to join us on **Wed., March 18th** at noon in the Spirit Haus as we study: *What is the Will of God for My Life?* Bring your Bible (and lunch if you wish). No advance preparation or other materials are needed. For more information, please contact Kim Gibbs at 830-456-7299.

Cancer Support Group will not meet in March. Our next meeting is **Wed., April 8th**, at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Iris Burrer at 830-456-5711 or Karen Dolezal at 512-517-3180.

Lenten Devotion

Parables of Jesus, the 2026 Lenten devotional booklets written by the Holy Ghost Family of Faith, are available in several formats:

*Hard copies are available in the Narthex or Church Office.

*Twice weekly videos of author readings on Facebook.
(search Holy Ghost Lutheran Church)

*Daily text on the R-Team's Facebook page.
(search Holy Ghost Daily Devotions)

*Full electronic booklet at: holyghostfbg.org



Please lift up prayers of strength and protection for all of our active-duty members of the US Armed Forces.



Youth News

Daniel H. / K-5th

March 18th: Camp Holy Ghost / RSVP Required / 8am-4pm / \$10

March 27th: Friday Night Live / 6:30pm-8:30pm / Youth Room

Candy needed for our Egg Hunt! Drop off at the church office until March 29th!

Please reach out to Daniel Hofmann, our Children's Minister,
at danielh@holyghostfbg.org.

John L. / 6th-12th

Youth Group every Wednesday: Middle School: 6pm-7:30pm / High School: 8pm-9pm

***Parents if you have a graduating senior this year, please let the church office know. We have some special plans and want to ensure all of our graduating seniors have the opportunity to participate.**

Please reach out to John LaRocque, our Youth Minister, at johnl@holyghostfbg.org.

2/25/26: Attendance: 192 / Online Views: 136 / MWL-Caritas: \$1,430.00

2/28/26-3/01/26

Weekend Attendance: 342 / Online Views: 345 / SS Atten: 93 / SS Offering: \$8.00

General Offering: \$9,599.00 / Capital Campaign: \$1,300.00

MWL-Caritas: \$165.00 / Der Stadt Friedhof \$35.00 / Caritas \$1,195.00

Contact Us:

830-997-2288 Fax: 830-997-7869

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