

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church May 2, 2021

"A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus"

#### Service of the Word via You Tube

(Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting One)

Congregational responses are in bold print

Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church! There are four key parts to our Worship Service: we GATHER before our God to prepare to worship, and bring ourselves and all that we are before God. Then we hear the WORD of God; we share the four Bible Readings with at least one billion other Christians around the world each Sunday! And we hear that word proclaimed through the Sermon, confess our faith in the God whose Grace we hear about in the Word, and offer our prayers to God, for the sake of the Church, the World, and each other in our needs and joys. We then share in the MEAL of Holy Communion, offering ourselves and then discovering God's love and forgiveness have already been waiting for us as we receive Christ's Body and Blood through the bread and wine. Finally we are SENT, the shortest but perhaps most important part of worship, because it is THEN that we live out our Faith and what we believe about God's Grace and Love, and how it makes us a blessing in this world as we share it.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are parts the you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in **bold type**. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to **stand**, please do so <u>as you are able</u>. As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.

#### Gathering

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

#### Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

Amen.

### My Faith Looks Up to Thee



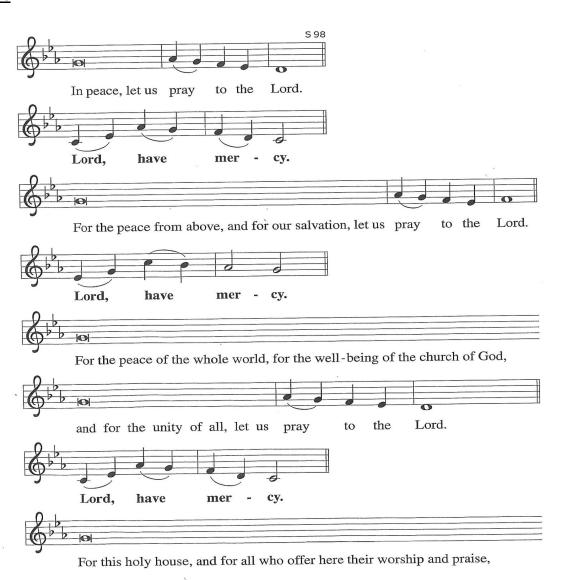
Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

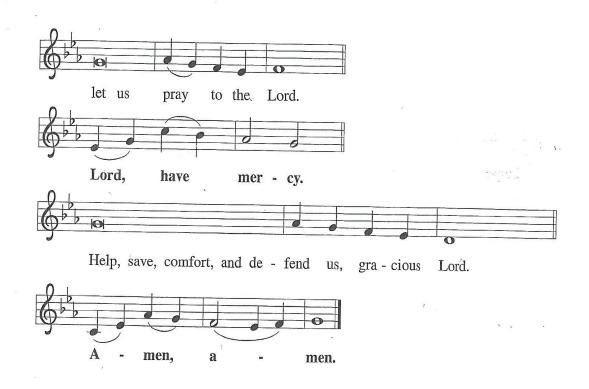
#### **Greeting**

The grace our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

#### **Kyrie**





Hymn of Praise: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

#385, Page 6, Verse 1

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

In Jesus you have made us all sisters and brothers in Christ. There is no distinction between Gentile and Jew. There is no separation that can remove any from fellowship in Christ's community. Blind us to our differences so that in unity we may proclaim your truth to all, for the sake of Jesus Christ in whom there is harmony and peace.

Amen.

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615
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#### Word

First Reading: Acts 15:1-18

A reading from Acts:

¹Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ²And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. ³So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. ⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

<sup>6</sup>The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup>And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; <sup>9</sup>and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup>Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup>On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

<sup>12</sup>The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup>After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup>Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup>This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

<sup>16</sup>'After this I will return,

and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;

from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up,

<sup>17</sup>so that all other peoples may seek the Lord —

even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things <sup>18</sup>known from long ago.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**



The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing this verse.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Word

#### **Gospel:** Luke 2:29-32

The holy gospel according to St. Luke:

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

- <sup>29</sup>"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;
- <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation,
- <sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Children's Message

The Jones Family

#### <u>Sermon</u>

**Pastor Pingel** 

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

#### **Musical Selection**

#### **Nicene Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Hear us O God,

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Meal

#### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet those around you, remaining distanced, and offering a sign of peace (such as arms open) to one another.

The offering plate is located in the Narthex near the doors.

The congregation stands.

#### Offertory Song

#### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song



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#### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of love,

you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.

Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

Amen

#### **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

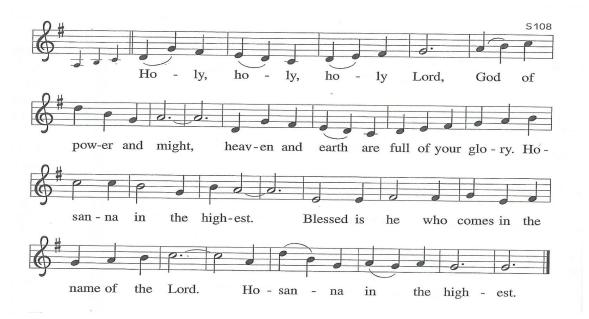
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### Thanksgiving at the Table

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 is 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 remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

#### Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

#### Amen

#### **Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

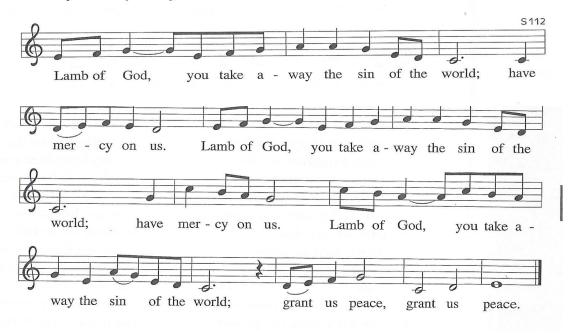
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

#### **Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

#### Thanks be to God!

"Lamb of God" may be sung.



#### The Holy Communion

The congregation may be seated.

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

**Communion Distribution:** We will commune where we are seated, using the Holy Communion chalices provided. The Pastor will indicate the time to open the bread compartment in the chalice, receive the body of Christ, then turn the chalice over to the wine compartment, and receive the blood of Christ, using the words as noted, below.

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

#### Amen.

After all have returned to their places, the congregation **stands**.

#### The Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen** 

#### **Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Sending

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent. The presiding minister may say this or a similar prayer of sending.

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and Sacrament to our sisters and brothers. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

#### **Blessing**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

**Sending Song:** "The Church's One Foundation"

#654, Page 17, Verses 1, 5

#### <u>Dismissal</u>

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

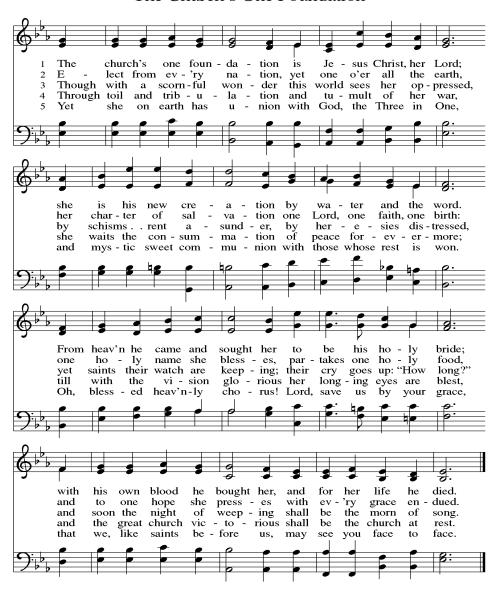
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

#### **Postlude**

#### The Church's One Foundation



Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

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#### Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers: Open

Altar Guild:
Assisting Minister:
Children's Church:
Council Person of the Week:
Offering Stewards:
Jean Morgan
Tripp Franklin
The Jones Family
Gail Johnson
Pat Brady

**Temperature Takers:** Jean Morgan, Karen Walck **Ushers:** Gail Johnson, Carrie Jones



# The Chancel Flowers today are given to the glory of our Lord

### Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

#### May 9

Sixth Sunday of Easter

#### Service of the Word In-Person And via You Tube

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel, Presiding and Preaching

#### Living by Faith

Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21 Luke 18:9-14



#### Our Unity in Christ—Grace Racial Reconciliation Verse

I Peter 2:9-10—But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Please print your new prayer concerns before worship on the sheet in the white notebook located in the back of our Worship area. Please ask ushers if you need assistance. Names on the prayer list will remain on for four weeks, in an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of Grace congregation and the community and world around us. If the need is longer term, please notify the church office, and the person in need will be transferred to the "Ongoing Need for Prayer" list.

#### Prayer Request for Members (Remain on List for 4 weeks\*)

Beth Ann Doerring Frannie Knicely

Flossie Myers

#### Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for 4 weeks\*)

Gregory Barrette, Son of Bob and Carolyn Barrette
Patrick Haynes, Nephew of Tomeys
Connie Henson, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson
Cindy Honeycutt, Friend of the Pingels
Carolyn Moser, Sister of David Schwiesow
Jennifer Robertson, Friend of Brad and Kim Hull

#### Joys and Celebrations (Remain on List for 4 weeks\*)

#### Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Please advise of status changes)

Liz Ann Binns Fred Brower Marie Brown
Nancy Fitzgerald Sandra R. Hoy Bob Knemoller
Glenn and Flossie Myers Janet Parmer Barb Susen

#### Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Please advise of status changes)

Nancy Beiker, Friend of Gail & Sandy Johnson
Nancy Delaney, Dave Delaney's Wife
Ernie Graham, Friend of the Schwiesows
Mike Huff, Brother of Donna Gum
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace
Kyle Getler, Member Relative
Regan Grant, Friend of the Bumps
George Toop, Friend of the Schwiesows

Continued

#### **Members/Friends Grieving**

Family of James "Dennis" Critzer, Brother-in-law of Nancy Dowdy
Family of Pete Giesen, Grace Member
Family of Mary Grim, Sister of Ernestine Moomaw
Family of Larry Hinebaugh, Friend of Donna Gum
Family of Freda Hite, Mother of Bobby Hite
Family of Elliot Joyner
Family of Kathy Lambertson, Daughter of Hal Aaslestad
Family of Jacob Robertson
Family of Anne Seaton

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year

Amelia Jones Carolyn Barrette Kathy Johnson John McGehee

#### The Needs of the World

# Patience and Abiding with each other as vaccines and pressures to return to

### Too many gun incidents and the wisdom to move forward

Students and teachers as we draw to the close of a pandemic-affected school year

Our nation and the many conversations about race and a way forward together

#### The Church

## The Student Care Center at Grace Our unity in Christ with Churches in our

### Community

Bishop Bob Humphrey, Assistants to the Bishop: Kelly Bayer Derrick, John Wertz, Dave Delaney and Synod Staff

#### **Our Neighbors**

Our neighbors in the Pelham area

#### **Announcements**



Return to In-Person Worship at Grace - Following best-practice advice from our medical experts, we are limiting attendance to 30 people per worship service. You will need to sign-up each week by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday in order to attend the next Sunday. We will add an additional 8:30 worship if we exceed 30 wishing to attend.



"Coffee Fellowship" Still Available After Worship! - In this "in-between" time upcoming where many of us are still worshiping via You Tube while we also have In-Person worship, our Zoom Coffee Fellowship continues after worship at approximately 10:50 a.m. It continues to be a great time to catch up, see each other's faces, and celebrate joys and concerns! Each week via email or U.S. Mail, you receive the Zoom link. Let the Church Office know if you are not receiving that invitation!



As we return to in-person worship, we need worship assistants. If you plan to return to in-person worship and could/would help with taking temperatures, offering stewards, ushering, etc., please call the Church Office if you can help!



Altar Flowers—Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers, especially now that we are having in-person worship. Please call the church office if you would like to sign up for Altar Flowers. May 16, May 23 and May 30 are all currently open.



If you have a graduate in your family, please let the church office know the following by Tuesday, May 4: Name, parents' names, school, degree, graduation date and plans for the future.



**Mission Endowment Fund**—Submittals for grant requests from Grace's seven funds are <u>due May 9th</u>. See information in the Church Narthex, in the the email/letter sent to you the week of April 19 or call the Church Office.









Bible Class begins April 29th - Galatians - Fruits and Gifts of the Spirit - for the Church AND the World We Live In - The first of a what we hope will be a number of different Bible Classes offered in 2021, we remain in Zoom format for this five week class that began Thursday April 29th. CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP! God's Word will not come away empty, and we need each other to understand God's Word (that's biblical!)!

Prayer Vigil—A prayer vigil will be held every 3rd Saturday at 3:00 p.m. alternating between Constitution Park and North Park, May's will be on the 15th at North Park. We will meet with our friends in Christ from Christ Tabernacle for prayer for racial reconciliation for the community in which we are all a part. This is prayer critical for our tie. Come and be a part!

Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food banks. We have made <u>fifteen</u> deliveries thus far, seven to Main Street United Methodist, and eight to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. Last week, 93 pounds of food went to Calvary United Methodist breaking our previous records! If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.

I have a congregation member, Sam Burns (DOB 10/15/54), who needs a **kidney transplant**. The doctor's have suggested to his wife, Donna, that we spread the word of this need far and wide in hopes of finding a living donor match. Inquiries as to the process and decisions about whether to proceed are anonymous. The family won't hear about anyone who inquires. The best way to begin is to call UVA transplant center at 1-434-924-0000. Reference Sam Burns and his birthdate. Basic information can be found at <a href="https://unos.org/transplant/living-donation">https://unos.org/transplant/living-donation</a> Of course you can call me if I can be helpful. I also hold information confidential re: any discussions I have about this topic.

Shalom, Karen Taylor



### Life of Grace Church May 2-9, 2021

DAY OF	DATE	TIME	MEETING
TODAY— SUNDAY	05/02	10:00 a.m.	Fifth Sunday of Easter Service of the Word In Person and via You Tube Communion Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship via Zoom
Monday	05/03		Nancy Dowdy Off—Carolyn Hite in Church Office
		7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Student Care in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	05/04	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m	Student Care in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	05/05	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Student Care in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	05/06	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Student Care in Fellowship Hall
		11:00 a.m.	Galatians Bible Class via Zoom
		5:30 p.m.	Discussion with Christ Tabernacle
		7:00 p.m.	Galatians Bible Class via Zoom
Friday	05/07	7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Student Care in Fellowship Hall
Sunday	05/09	10:00 a.m.  HAPPY  HAPPY  Ouy	Sixth Sunday of Easter Service of the Word In Person and via You Tube Communion Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching
		10:50 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship via Zoom  MEF Grant Requests Due

#### **Monday**

Daniel 1:1-21 1 John 1:1-10 John 17:1-11

#### Tuesday

Daniel 2:1-16 1 John 2:1-11 John 17:12-19

#### Wednesday

Daniel 2:17-30 1 John 2:12-17 John 17:20-26



#### **Thursday**

Daniel 2:31-49 1 John 2:18-29 Luke 3:1-14

#### **Friday**

Daniel 3:1-18 1 John 3:1-10 Luke 3:15-22

#### **Saturday**

Daniel 3:19-30 1 John 3:11-18 Luke 4:1-13



# Members of Grace Congregational Council

Linda Meyer, President
Jerry Kite, Vice-President
Bob Barrette, Kathy Bump,
Holly Carper, Robin Crowder,
Kim Hull, Gail Johnson,
Kathryn Johnson, Amy Warren
Hannah Pingel, Youth Representative
David Proctor, Secretary
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Jinancial Secretary
Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor
Mike Myers, Organist,
Director of Music

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Lunch 12:00-12:30) Monday-Thursday; 8:30 a.m.—Noon - Friday
Email: gracelc@lumos.net

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