



SEATED AT THE RIGHT
HAND OF THE FATHER

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
May 7, 2023

*“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a vibrant
congregation that shares the love of Christ with each other,
the community, and the world.”*

Holy Communion

*Based on Now the Feast and Celebration
Congregational responses are in bold print*

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this morning's celebration of Word and Sacrament. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card. We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available please inform Communion Assistant of your need.

We have 4 assisted listening units that are simple to operate. They consist of a small unit with an earpiece and volume control, each unit is replaced after each use. See the ushers to use one today.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

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 as you are able. As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements



Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Blessed be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, ✝ one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

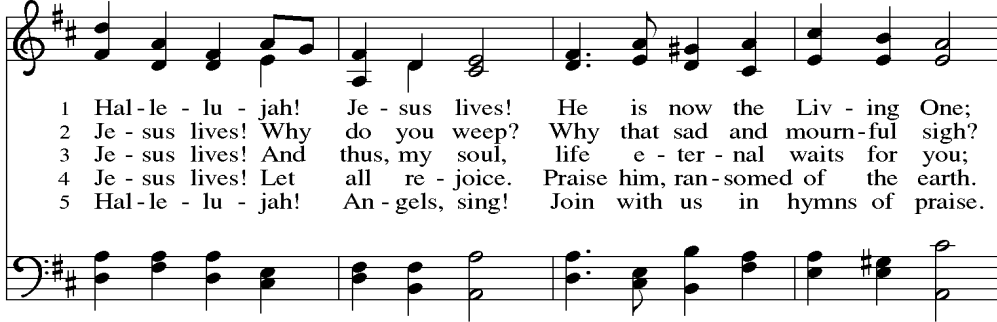
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

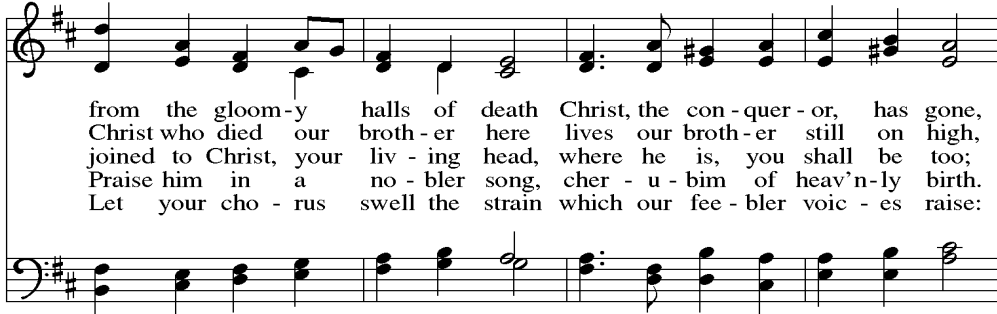
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

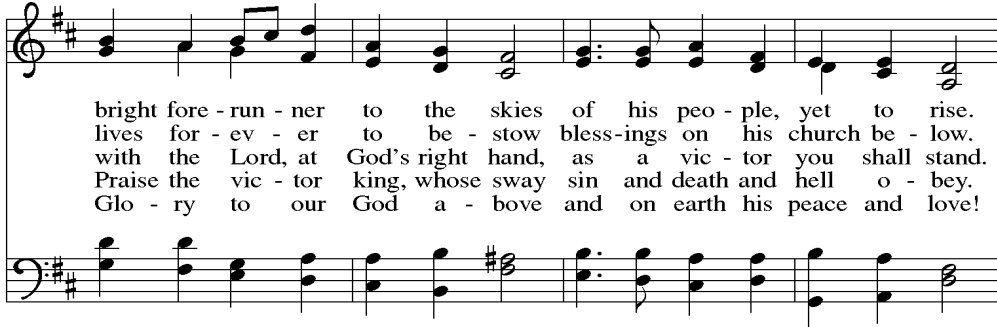
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
 2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?
 3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
 4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.
 5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,
 Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,
 joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
 Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.
 Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
 lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.
 with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
 Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
 Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
 Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

Apostolic Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

P In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Detailed description: This block contains musical notation for a Kyrie refrain. It is divided into two parts: 'Assistant:' and 'Congregation:'. The Assistant part consists of two staves of music. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics 'Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.' and ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'to Verses'. The Congregation part is a single staff of music with the same key signature and time signature, with lyrics 'mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.' written below it.

P For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all...
(to Refrain)

P For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your
Word...(to Refrain)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Detailed description: This block contains musical notation for the Kyrie. It is divided into two parts: 'Assistant:' and 'Congregation:'. The Assistant part consists of a single staff of music with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics 'Help, save and de - fend us, O' are written below the notes. The Congregation part is a single staff of music with the same key signature and time signature, with lyrics 'God. A - men.' written below it.

Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Page 6

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

See Refrain on bulletin page 6

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

See Refrain on bulletin page 6

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Word



Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

We read responsively

¹In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

²**Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.**

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

³You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

⁴**take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.**

⁵Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

¹⁵**My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

A reading from 1 Peter:

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in scripture:

Continued

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But 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 marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

Gospel: John 13:31 –14:17

The Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Glory to you O Lord.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

Continued

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

³⁶Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered, "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now; but you will follow afterward." ³⁷Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children's Message

Eric Hilker

Sermon

Eric Hilker

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

You Are the Way

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

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

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

MEAL

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet those around you, offer a sign of peace to one another.

We sit.

Offering

We offer our thanks to God for "ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" by our offerings. The offering plates will be passed by the ushers from the center aisle.

(Please place visitor cards and communion cards in the offering plate)



We stand

Offertory Response

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst

2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

to Refrain

Offering Prayer

Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| <i>Presider:</i> | <i>Congregation:</i> |
| The Lord be with you. And al-so with you. | |
| <i>Presider:</i> | <i>Congregation:</i> |
| Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. | |
| <i>Presider:</i> | <i>Congregation:</i> |
| Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is | |
| right to give God thanks and praise. | |

Preface

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY *Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
In great love
you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out
to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news
to the poor,
and who, on the cross,
opened his arms to all.

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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his death, resurrection,
and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills
of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood
of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you
and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory,
now and forever.

Amen

I will *praise*
the name
of *God*
with a song, and will
magnify him
with
Thanksgiving.
Psalm 69:30, NKJV

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

Come and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.
Thanks be to God!

We sit.

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)

Baba Yetu

Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, jina lako litukuzwe;
ufalme wako ufike,
utakalo lifanyike
duniani kama mbinguni.
Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku,
utusamehe makosa yetu,
kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.
Usitutie katika kishawishi,
lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.



Ushers will invite you to come down the center aisle. Receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister, then turn to the side you have sat on, and receive the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant at the altar rail. Place your empty cup in the trays at the end of the railing, and return to your pew via the side aisle. Those giving the bread and wine will say the following:

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

You may respond with "Amen"

After all have returned to their places, we stand

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Music

The Communion Blessing

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

Amen

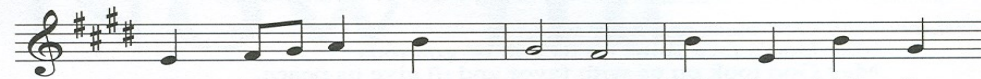
The Post-Communion Canticle

THANKS BE TO YOU

Congregation:



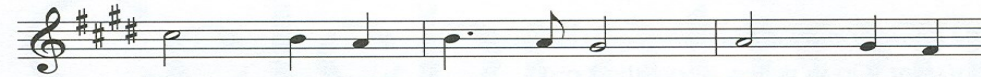
1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.



Sending

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament from this gathering to those who are absent.

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

The God of all,
who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.
Amen.

Benediction+

Sending Song: *“The Church’s One Foundation”*

#654, Page 23, Verses 1, 2, 3, 5

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Selected

The Church's One Foundation

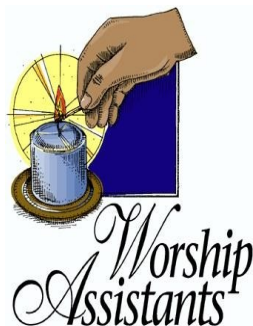
1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Altar Flowers: | <i>Lew & Donna Yobs</i> |
| Altar Guild: | |
| Assisting Minister: | <i>Andrew Sell</i> |
| Communion Assistant: | <i>Tami Radecke</i> <i>Stephen Van Stee</i> |
| Council Person of the Week: | <i>Andrew Sell</i> |
| Offering Steward: | <i>Pat Brady</i> <i>Jean Morgan</i> |
| Ushers: | <i>Rick Bump</i> <i>Linda Meyer</i> |



*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the Glory of God*

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

March 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel
Presiding and Preaching

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21



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 four (4) weeks)

Linda Tomey

Prayer Request for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for four (4) weeks)

Bishop Clyde Brown, Jr., Friend of Many Grace Members

Lindsey Coyner, Friend of Many Grace Members

Chris Jordan, Cousin of Mike Myers

Madawa Family, Friends of Grace

Phoenix Oberg and Family, Friends of Sarah, Jerry and Gwen Kite

Rick Van Norton, Friend of Pat Giesen

Kirsten Schwiesow, Daughter of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Tim Smith, brother of the Rev. Pat Nabers

Hal Walck, Brother of Rew Walck

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Members (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Emily Almarode

Liz Ann Binns

Fred Brower

Marge Cloutier

Sandra Hoy

Kathryn Johnson

Sandy Johnson

Phyllis Kite

Bill Lucas

Glenn Myers

Continued

Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends (Remain on List for three (3) months)

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace
Nina Crowe, Mother of Cathy Crowder
Natalie and Nicole Dodge, Friends of Ron and Sylvia Almarode
Kyle Getler, Relative of Bill Meicke
Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf
Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump
Kathy Hale, Friend of Charlie and Betty Karol Wilson
Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow
Rosalind Holt, Friend of Gail Johnson
Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
David Jones, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson
Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace
Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier
Steve Rolland, Father of Kathy Meicke
Judy Simpson, Sister of Sharon Lynch
Arta Smith, Friend of the Bumps
Sue Smoot, Friend of the Radeckes
Larry Spoon, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many
Kay Truslow, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht
Toretta Wyatt, Friend from Christ Tabernacle

Members/Friends Grieving (Remain on List for four (4) weeks*)

Family of Rev. Al Fogleman, Longtime Lutheran Pastor in This Area
Family of Bruce Joleaud, Brother-In-Law of Mike Trauscht
Family of Billy Mason, Step-Brother of Holly Carper
Family of Mary Miller, Friend of Sylvia Almarode
Family of Matt Olli, Brother-In-Law of Brian Lundstrom
Family of Isaiah Palm, Son of Lutheran Missionaries
Family of Bernell Trissel, Friend of the Hites

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Ryan Blosser (5/1)

Nathan Skelton (5/4)

Alvin Jackson (5/4)

Amelia Jones (5/5)

The Needs of the World

First responders: police, fire, medical personnel, often in harms way in their work

Numerous leaks of toxic chemical in Communities, and our care of Creation and responsibilities to our neighbors

Many Instances of War and Conflict around the World (Ukraine, Syria, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Sudan)

Our President, Vice-President, Senators, Congress, Governor and local leaders

Tornado devastation in Mississippi and Alabama; storms, flooding

For God to break the stiff-necked political impasse that refuses to address gun violence in America

Earthquake near Moyogalpa, Nicaragua, close to Ometepa and the CICRIN school visited by the Mission Team from Grace in February

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

The United Methodist Church and our neighbor UMC churches in Waynesboro

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors in the Kate Collins Area: new homes, existing community



Called Congregation Meeting on Sunday May 21st - An important meeting in the life of Grace is coming up Sunday, May 21st after worship. We will:

1. Elect five (5) Grace Council members and one (1) Youth Council Member
2. Vote on a recommendation from Grace Council to perform roof, painting, entrance and awning work for a price of \$75,250

Please plan on attending this important meeting after worship on the 21st!



Nominations for Grace Council - Pursuant to Grace's Constitution, Grace Council has appointed a Nomination Committee to seek candidates to serve on Grace Council. In addition, the Constitution makes provision that any member can nominate a Grace member for Council, provided that (a) they have secured approval of the person to serve, and (b) do so in writing to the Secretary by **May 14th** (seven days prior to the Council meeting). If you choose to nominate by these requirements, please send it to Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary, by Sunday, May 14th (or give to Pastor on that day).



At today's "**First Sunday Fellowship**", the "All God's Children Book Group" will be serving refreshments, offering fellowship and talking about their mission immediately after worship. Please come; and, if you are on a committee or in a group at Grace, you have the opportunity to sign up to do the same. Please check the list at the back of the church.



Many thanks to Pastor Karen Van Stee for presiding at today's worship service; and to Eric Hilker for preaching. Pastor Van Stee was instrumental in preaching and presiding during Pastor Paul's sabbatical, currently teaches adult Sunday School, and with her husband Steve is a member at Grace. Eric has completed degrees in biblical studies, theology and religious ethics, and currently teaches ethics at Virginia Military Institute (VMI). He's leading a book study on Hospitality here at Grace during the week.



If you have a **graduate** in your family, please let the church office know the following **by Monday, May 8**: Name, parents' names, school, degree, graduation date and plans for the future.



Local **middle and high school students** are invited to help with a tree planting project at Ridgeview Park in Waynesboro! We'll meet at 2 p.m. **today** to dig some holes, plant some trees, spread some mulch, and beautify our community. Please bring gardening gloves, reusable water bottles, and sunscreen if possible! All are welcome! If you have questions, email stjohnevan.outreach@gmail.com



Children's Sunday School! Sunday School for children K-5 *is available after worship at 11:10 a.m.!* This "one room school house" will be looking at the readings that we use in worship, allowing our children extra time to learn about God's Word for us each Sunday. Hope to see you there!



If the church **office door is locked** during open hours, please knock and give Nancy a few minutes to answer. For safety reasons, she is locking the door when alone at the church, especially first thing in the morning. Thank you for your patience!



All God's Children Discussion Group meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Grace Conference Room. Future books to be discussed include *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman and *Recitatif: A Story* by Toni Morrison with the 2022 introduction by Zadie Smith. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Rick Bump at rdbump0621@gmail.com to be added to our emailing list. The next meeting is Monday, June 15.



Our "Ongoing Need for Prayer for Relatives/Friends" – A continuing part of our Prayers during worship involves our prayer for relatives and friends, as well as for Grace members. We know the importance of continued prayer, especially as those we love and care for face longer term illness and recoveries. We *also* want to be sure that we can continue to add the names of all friends and relatives who are in need of prayer, and include this list during Sunday prayer. Therefore, we will begin a new policy of keeping "Ongoing Needs for Prayer" *for 3 months*, and then removing the names (*unless by request for names to remain on the list longer*).



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 pantries. We have made **thirty-three** deliveries thus far, fifteen to Main Street United Methodist, and eighteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 3,570 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Caring for our Neighbors - This year, many Covid-era supports for the working poor are going away: SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) benefits, as well as tax breaks for families with children, that will result in \$thousands less money in families' pockets. This great need will likely be reflected in our community in the weeks and months ahead. Grace is working with other congregations in Waynesboro to determine whether we can work TOGETHER to help address the needs of our community. Please support our contributions to local Food Banks (see the announcement), and if you are interested, let Pastor know if you would like to attend future meetings with other congregations asking "how do we move forward?"



Covid Policy at Grace

- Masking is optional during worship.
- We will continue to post the CDC "risk" color (green [low], yellow [medium] or orange [high risk] in the narthex
- There is a "social distance" section available in the front of the worship space
- Holy Communion will continue to be offered by coming up front and
- Masks and hand sanitizer continue to be available in the narthex.

We continue to encourage:

- Vaccination and keeping up-to-date with current shots
- Staying home when not feeling well, especially with flu and other infections on the rise this time of year
- Masking if you have not been vaccinated for Covid or Flu



Life of Grace Church
May 7-14, 2023

| Day of the Week | Date | Time | Event |
|-----------------|-------|--|---|
| Sunday | 05/07 | 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 11:10 a.m. 2:00 p.m. | Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Fifth Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Karen Van Stee Presiding and Preaching First Sunday Fellowship - All God's Children Book Group Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School Middle & High School Tree Planting —Ridgeview Park |
| Tuesday | 05/09 | 9:30 a.m. | Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) |
| Wednesday | 05/10 | 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. | Prayer Group (Chapel) Yoga (Seminar Room) Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice |
| Thursday | 05/11 | 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m. | Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J Zoom Meeting New Member Class (Conference Room) |
| Saturday | 05/13 | 11:00 a.m. | Yoga (Fellowship Hall) |
| Sunday | 05/14 | 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m. | Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Sixth Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School |

Monday
Jeremiah 32:1-15
Colossians 3:18—4:18
Luke 7:36-50
Morning Psalm 97, Evening 124



Tuesday
Jeremiah 32:16-25
Romans 12:1-21
Luke 8:1-15
Morning Psalm 98, Evening 66

Wednesday
Jeremiah 32:36-44
Romans 13:1-14
Luke 8:16-25
Morning Psalm 99, Evening 9

Thursday
Jeremiah 33:1-13
Romans 14:1-12
Luke 8:26-39
Morning Psalm 47, Evening 68

Friday
Deuteronomy 31:30—32:14
Romans 14:13-23
Luke 8:40-56
Morning Psalm 96, Evening 49

Saturday
Deuteronomy 32:34-41
Romans 15:1-13
Luke 9:1-17
Morning Psalm 92, Evening 23

Members of Grace Congregational Council

Robin Crowder, President (540-476-0180)
Nancy Schwiesow, Vice-President (301-943-0888)
Bob Barrette (434-760-4419)
Fred Biggers (434-981-1954)
Jack Eckstrom (240-344-3176)
Jean Morgan (540-649-4422)
Susan Myers (434-760-1660)
Andrew Sell (612-695-8361)
Stephen Van Stee (540-325-0772)
Karen Walck (765-480-9920)
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor, Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music, Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary, Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

**Office Hours: 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m.,
Monday-Thursday **Closed Friday****

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