



Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 30, 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 Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Three

(Available via You Tube and Zoom Remotely)

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.



I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
 this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
 once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;
 he lives to plead for me above;
 he lives my hungry soul to feed;
 he lives to help in time of need.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;
 he lives my mansion to prepare;
 he lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 he lives and loves me to the end;
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;
 what joy this blest assurance gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

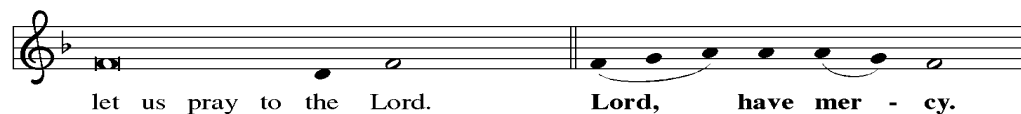
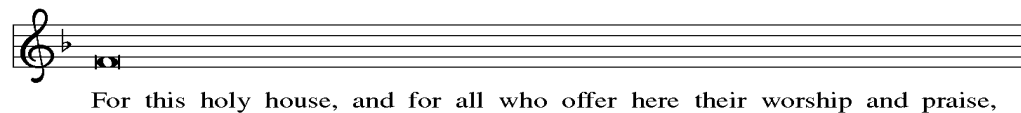
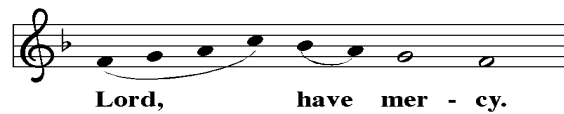
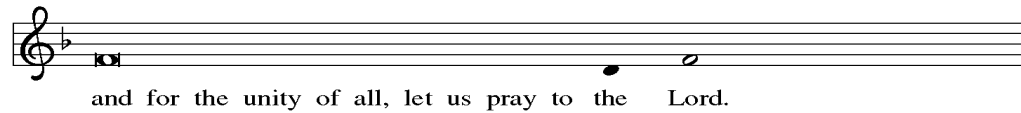
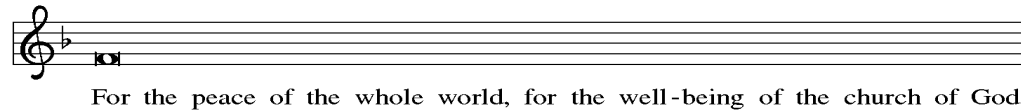
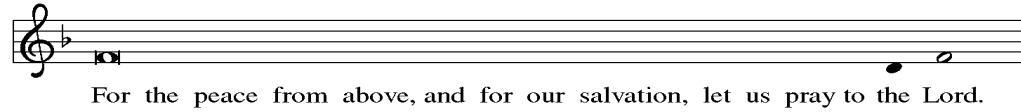
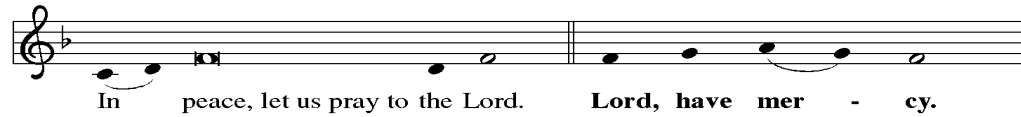
Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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



Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris' n this day; death's might - y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615
Text © 1952, ren. 1980 *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.



Word

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

A reading from Acts:

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23

We read responsively

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,**

I fear no evil; for you are with me;

your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me**

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

my whole life long.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from 1 Peter:

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

S 142a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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

Selected

Offertory Response: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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.



Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

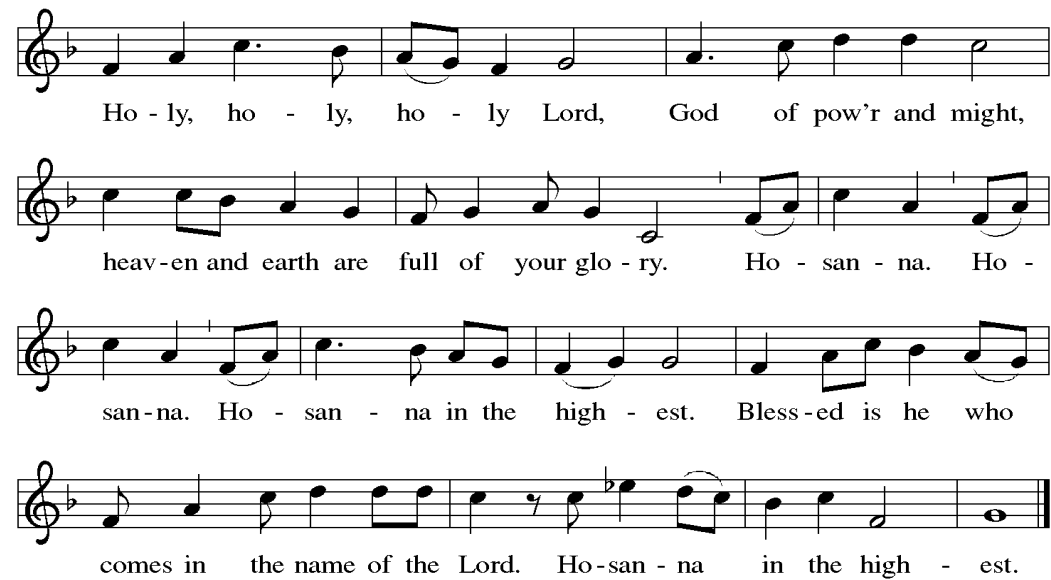
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. 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.**

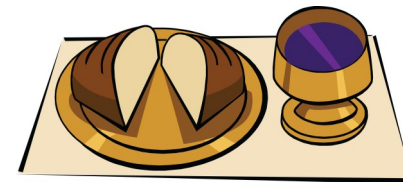
Invitation to Communion

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

We sit.

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.



**Come to the
Table**

The Holy Communion

The congregation may be seated.

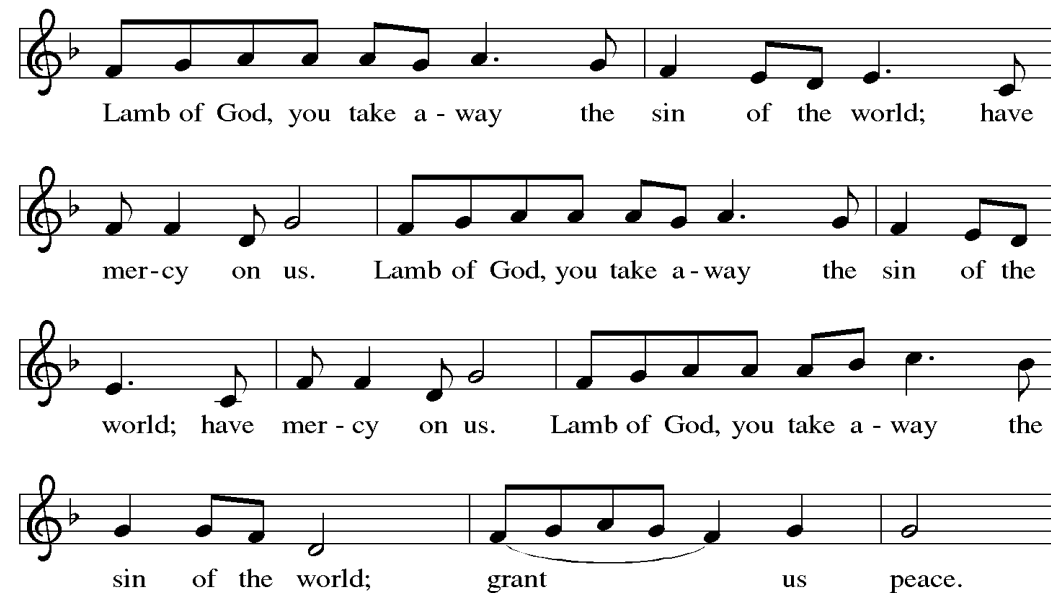
OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening 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)

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, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; 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

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

Blessing of the Quilts

God, our neighbors around the world are in need of hope. Your Spirit is a mighty force, your whispers of hope bring light into the world. Open our hearts and hands to see your presence in our neighborhoods and across the world.

Jesus, help us speak words of hope to our neighbors.

God, we give you thanks for the pieces of fabric, thread, sewing machines, quilting frames and assembly tables. May their presence be a sign of hope, may these quilts wrap our neighbors in unending love, and offer dignity and healing.

Jesus, help us reach out in hope to our neighbors.

Continued

God, we give thanks for all the hands that fashioned hope into a quilt, for the hands that collected and sorted, for the hands that continually open wider so that no one feels left out.

Jesus, help us see hope in our neighbors.

God, we ask you to guide the staff and partners at Lutheran World Relief. May their voices and hands be a beacon of hope. Keep them safe. Keep them filled with your strength and perseverance.

Jesus, help us share a taste of hope with our neighbors.

God, be with our neighbors who will receive these gifts. May they be wrapped in love, may they taste your goodness, may they touch signs of your hope. Whether or not we know their names, or where they live, they are our neighbors, our brothers and sisters in Christ. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the One who is our hope.

Amen

Sending

Recognizing God's abundant hope, go and be a sign of hope to our neighbors near and far: offering hands to hold sweet scents of justice and a feast of God's goodness. In the name of the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Sending Song: *"The Day of Resurrection"*

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Selected

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The Day of Resurrection!

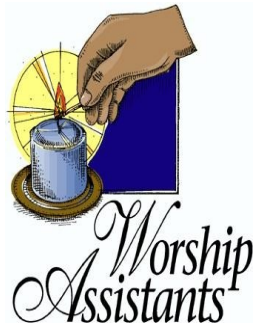
1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
 Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>Rew and Karen Walck</i>
Altar Guild:	<i>Jean Morgan</i>
Assisting Minister:	<i>Robin Crowder</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Cathy Crowder</i>
	<i>Donna Gum</i>
Council Person of the Week:	<i>Nancy Schwiesow</i>
Offering Steward:	<i>Pat Brady</i>
	<i>Jean Morgan</i>
Ushers:	<i>Maella Hilker</i>
	<i>Gail Johnson</i>
	<i>Jerry Kite</i>



*Chancel flowers this morning are
given to the Glory of God and
in memory of our parents,
Bob and Flo Walck.
Rew, Karen and Hal Walck*

**Next Sunday's Schedule and
Lessons**

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Karen Van Stee

Presiding and Preaching

Acts 7:55-60

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14



Before worship, **please print** your new prayer concerns on the sheet located on the podium in the back of our Worship area. If you need assistance, please ask ushers. In an effort to make the prayer list current to the life of the Grace congregation, the community and the world around us, **names on the prayer list will remain for four (4) weeks and names on the on-going prayer list will remain for three (3) months.** If the need is longer term, please notify the church office.

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)

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

Matt Olli, Brother-In-Law of Brian Lundstrom

Rick Van Norton, Friend of Pat Giesen

Hal Walck, Brother of Rew Walck

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

Emily Almarode
Marge Cloutier
Sandy Johnson
Glenn Myers

Liz Ann Binns
Sandra Hoy
Phyllis Kite

Fred Brower
Kathryn Johnson
Bill Lucas

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

Steven Eckstrom, Son of Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom

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

Continued

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

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
Rick Van Norton, Friend of Pat Giesen
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 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

Covid Illnesses Continuing (Including many Grace members)

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

Numerous leaks of toxic chemical in communities 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

Our Neighbors

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



A **big thank you** to Maxine McKinney for being our guest musician today.



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!



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!



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. on Sunday, May 7th, 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



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.



Today, the **quilts** that Grace members have made for Lutheran World Relief will be blessed. The quilters have had a productive year after a long break due to COVID. The quilts will be boxed and taken to the Shenandoah District Church of the Brethren in Weyers Cave, which is the ingathering location for LWR. The quilts will be delivered to Baltimore to the LWR warehouse and be distributed where needed worldwide. In addition to the quilts being displayed for the blessing, some have been given in our community earlier in the year. Normally, quilting is held on Tuesdays from September to May, with a break for the summer. If you feel this is an outreach that you would like to be a part of or want to have more information, please contact Gwen Kite, 540-0910-0508 or any of the quilters.



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 rcbump0621@gmail.com to be added to our emailing list.



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
April 30—May 7, 2023

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	04/30	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Fourth Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Blessing of the Quilts Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School
Monday	05/01	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children (Conference Room)
Tuesday	05/02	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) Worship and Music (Conference Room)
Wednesday	05/03	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	05/04	8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) Virginia Organizing (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J (Grace & Zoom Meeting)
Friday	05/05	 Cinco de Mayo	Cinco de Mayo Pastor—Out of Town
Saturday	05/06	11:00 a.m..	Pastor—Out of Town Yoga (Seminar Room)
Sunday	05/07	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.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

Monday

Jeremiah 30:1-9
 Colossians 1:1-14
 Luke 6:1-11
 Morning Psalm 145, Evening 115

Tuesday

Jeremiah 30:10-17
 Colossians 1:15-23
 Luke 6:12-26
 Morning Psalm 146, Evening 116

Wednesday

Jeremiah 30:18-22
 Colossians 1:24—2:7
 Luke 6:27-38
 Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 118

**Thursday**

Jeremiah 31:1-14
 Colossians 2:8-23
 Luke 6:39-49
 Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 113

Friday

Jeremiah 31:15-22
 Colossians 3:1-11
 Luke 7:1-17
 Morning Psalm 148, Evening 138

Saturday

Jeremiah 31:23-25
 Colossians 3:12-17
 Luke 7:18-28 (29-30) 31-35
 Morning Psalm 149, Evening 114

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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