



*Second Sunday of Easter
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 16, 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.



Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

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*

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.

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 and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

Word



Psalm: Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

²**I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD;
I have no good apart from you."**

³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.

⁴**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

⁵The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

⁶**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸**I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

¹⁰**For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

¹¹You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;

in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from 1 Peter:

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John,
Glory to you O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

We sit.

Children's Message

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
 3 An an - gel clad in white they see,
 4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
Insert stanzas 5-8 if desired.
 9 On this most ho - ly day of days,

with heav'n - ly hosts to Christ our king:
 the faith - ful wom - en went their way
 who sits and speaks un - to the three,
 a - mong them came their mas - ter dear,
 be laud and ju - bi - lee and praise:

to - day the grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
 to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay, Al - le - lu - ia!
 "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee." Al - le - lu - ia!
 and said, "My peace be with you here." Al - le - lu - ia!
 to God your hearts and voic - es raise. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard,
 that they had seen the risen Lord,
 he doubted the disciples' word.
 Alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
 Alleluia!

6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
 and look upon my hands, my feet;
 not faithless, but believing be."
 Alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen,
 and yet whose faith has constant been,
 for they eternal life shall win.
 Alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
 Music: O FILII ET FILIAE, French tune, 15th cent.

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)



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.

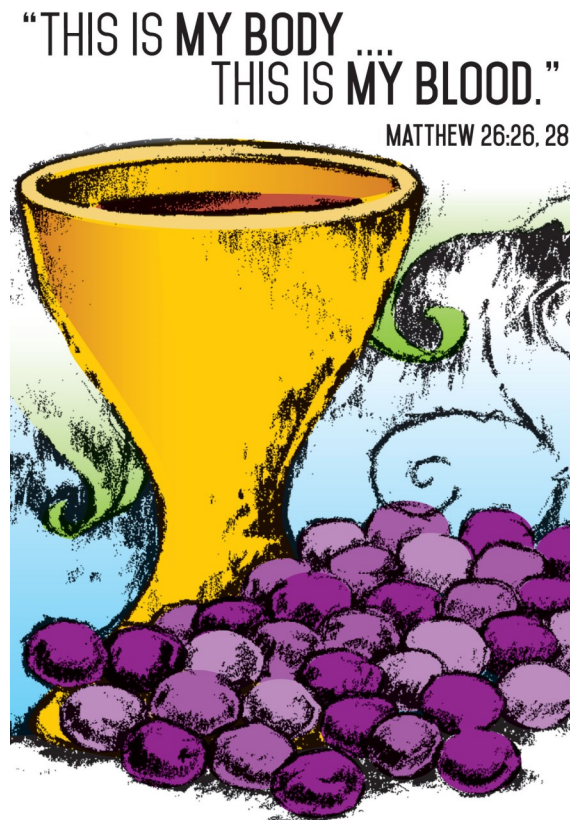


**Come to the
Table**

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

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: *"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"*

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Selected

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Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona

Refrain— sung twice each time

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

End

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

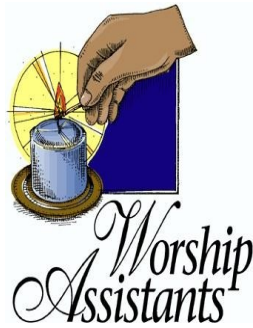
1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	Pat Giesen
Altar Guild:	Kathy Meicke
Assisting Minister:	Kathy Bump
Communion Assistant:	Karen Walck
	Lew Yobs
Council Person of the Week:	Jean Morgan
Offering Steward:	Pat Brady
	Robin Crowder
Ushers:	Fred Biggers
	David Proctor



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

**Next Sunday's Schedule and
Lessons**

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

Presiding and Preaching

Acts 2:14a; 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35



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*)

Bandy Family **Sandy Johnson**
Eleanor Sampson

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

Lindsey Coyner, Friend of Many Grace Members
Taunya McDonald, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Matt Olli, Brother-In-Law of Brian Lundstrom

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

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

Emily Almarode **Liz Ann Binns** **Fred Brower**
Marge Cloutier **Sandra Hoy** **Kathryn Johnson**
Phyllis Kite **Bill Lucas** **Glenn Myers**

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

Timothy Bradford, Friend from Christ Tabernacle
Janice Collins, Friend of Grace
Beth Hausrath Crickenberger, Friend to Many at 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

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

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
Bruce Joleaud, Brother-in-Law of Mike Trauscht
David Jones, Friend of Gail and Sandy Johnson
Jen Kearney, Friend to Many at Grace
Billy Mason, Family of the Carpers
Dot Metz, Sister of Marge Cloutier
Barbie Ostrander, Friend to Many at Grace
Steve Rolland, Father of Kathy Meicke
Ken & Letty Rosen, Friends of David and Nancy Schwiesow
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 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 Ellen Moyer, Member of Grace
Family of Isaiah Palm, Son of Lutheran Missionaries

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Sandra Hoy (4/18)

Maella Hilker (4/18)

Glenn Myers (4/19)

Jerry Kite (4/18)

Farrah Smith (4/18)

Trotter Franklin (4/20)

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)

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



Children's Sunday School begins next Sunday! Next Sunday, April 23rd, we begin Sunday School for children K-5 *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!



New Member Class at Grace! Those who have been attending Grace and are not members are welcome to become a part of Grace! We will begin a new member class beginning the week of April 27th (tentatively looking at Thursday evenings, but open to what works best for all who take the class), with the hope of a Pentecost or Holy Trinity Sunday (5/28 or 6/4) New Member Sunday. If you are interested please sign up on the Sign-Up Sheet in the narthex (back of the worship space).



A Celebration of Life for Marie Brown (Jane McGehee's and Janet Parmer's mother) will be held Saturday, April 29, at noon in Grace's Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.



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 waterbottles, and sunscreen if possible! All are welcome, but RSVPs are appreciated -click here to let us know that you can come! If you have questions, email stjohnewan.outreach@gmail.com



Mission Endowment Proposals are due TODAY! Approximately \$28,000 in funds can be used for YOUR proposals on how to distribute the funds locally, nationally, or internationally! See the information sheets and proposal form in the back of the worship space, or call the Church Office for a copy.



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.



The ELCA has been declared the whitest denomination in America. Want to learn more? Join us after church on April 23rd to hear our own Lily Pingel discuss her Roanoke College Senior Thesis: *A look at the Virginia Synod of the ELCA: One of the Whitest Christian Denominations in the United States*. Based on interviews with Virginia Synod pastors and surveys completed by synod church members, Lily will examine why the ELCA is so white and share steps being taken to promote diversity and inclusivity. Come to listen and discuss this important issue and enjoy some refreshments at the same time! Sponsored by the All God's Children discussion group.



Hospitality and Grace—Are you interested in learning more about Christianity and hospitality? Join us for a book/study group! We will read *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* by Christine D. Pohl (9 chapters, 187 pages). If interested, please contact Eric Hilker 978-793-9845, Pastor Paul Pingel, 540-216-4454, or Susan Myers, 434-760-1660.



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?"



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. Other future discussions will be Lily Pingel's presentation from April 23. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Rick Bump at rcbump0621@gmail.com to be added to our emailing list.



Blue Sunday, April 30—Encouraged to wear blue and engage in nationwide prayer for the child victims of sexual assault, sparking meaningful dialogue about child abuse and inspiring action to prevent it!



Hand Bell Choir—The choir is looking for ringers. Anyone interested, get in touch with Sam Moyer, 540-471-1059



Columbarium—As you make your final plans, remember that Grace has a Columbarium on the North side of the building. Each niche will hold two (2) of our brass urns, which are included in the cost of \$2,250 per niche. There are also Memorial Bricks available for the patio, which can be engraved with the name of a loved one who may be buried elsewhere. For more information, contact Bradley Keefer at 540-942-4290 or the Church Office.



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.



We Need Your Help at Grace! One of the blessings that God's Spirit gives us as a congregation is that we ALL have gifts, talent and time TO SHARE, which allows the ministry of Grace, and God's Mission for us, to continue. If you are not already actively assisting, please consider helping with the Altar Guild (contact Jean Morgan), Assisting Ministers (contact Donna Gum), Communion Assistants (contact Donna Gum), Offering Stewards (contact Pat Brady) and/or Ushers (contact Jack Eckstrom). You may also contact the church office.



Altar Flowers—Please consider signing up to provide Altar Flowers for Sunday services. You can either sign up on flower chart in the Nave or call the church office.



Reminder—Please have articles, etc. for **GraceNotes** to the Church Office by the 20th of the month for next month's publication. If you need more time, please send Nancy a note and let her know when she will receive it. In addition, please have announcements, etc. for **Sunday bulletins** to the Church Office by Wednesday morning. Nancy's email is: Grace.lc@comcast.net



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 16-23, 2023

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sunday	04/16	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Second Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class
Monday	04/17	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children Book Study (Conference Room)
Tuesday	04/18	9:30 a.m.	Pastor—Out of the Office Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday	04/19	10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.— 3:30 p.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Pastor—Out of the Office Prayer Group (Chapel) Encircle Regional Manager's Meeting (Fellowship Hall) Grace Women's Book Group Silk Road Yoga (Seminar Room) Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice
Thursday	04/20	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Newcomers Club (Fellowship Hall) Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J Zoom Meeting
Saturday	04/22	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	04/23	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Second 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

Daniel 1:1-21
 1 John 1:1-10
 John 17:1-11
 Morning Psalm 145, Evening 115

**Thursday**

Daniel 2:31-49
 1 John 2:18-29
 Luke 3:1-14
 Morning Psalm 147:13-21, Evening 113

Tuesday

Daniel 2:1-16
 1 John 2:1-11
 John 17:12-19
 Morning Psalm 146, Evening 116

Friday

Daniel 3:1-18
 1 John 3:1-10
 Luke 3:15-22
 Morning Psalm 148, Evening 138

Wednesday

Daniel 2:17-30
 1 John 2:12-17
 John 17:20-26
 Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 118

Saturday

Daniel 3:19-30
 1 John 3:11-18
 Luke 4:1-13
 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
Vivian Proctor, Secretary
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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