



*In your
hearts
revere
Christ
as Lord.*

1 PETER 3:15, NIV

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
May 14, 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.”*



DO JUSTICE ...

love kindness ...

WALK HUMBLY

with our God.

MICAH 6:8



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.



Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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

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.

Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Page 7

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 7

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 7

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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 17:22-31

A reading from Acts:

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Continued

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

We read responsively

⁸Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹**who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;**

¹²you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

¹³**I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,**

¹⁴those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

¹⁵**I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

¹⁶Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

¹⁷**I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.**

¹⁸If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the LORD would not have listened.

¹⁹**But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

²⁰Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.

Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from 1 Peter:

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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 14:15-21

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 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.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

We sit.

Children's Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

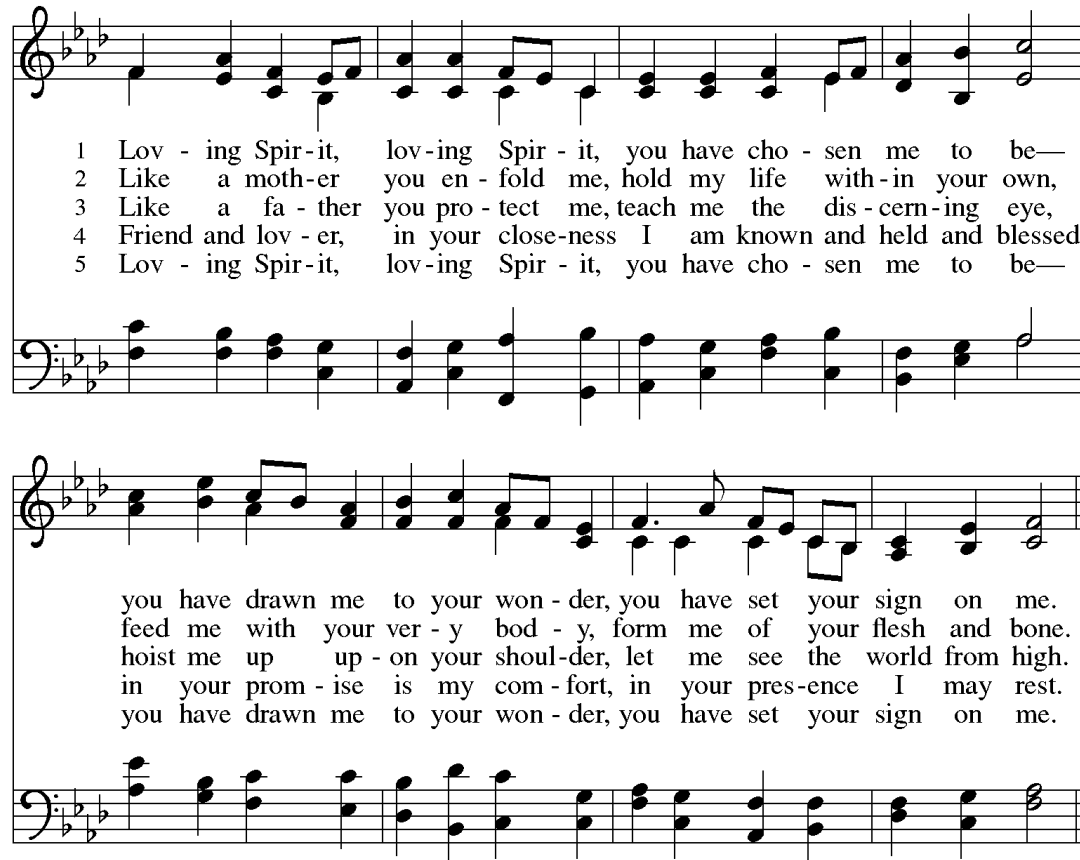
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day: "Loving Spirit"

#397

Loving Spirit



1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—

you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version
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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)



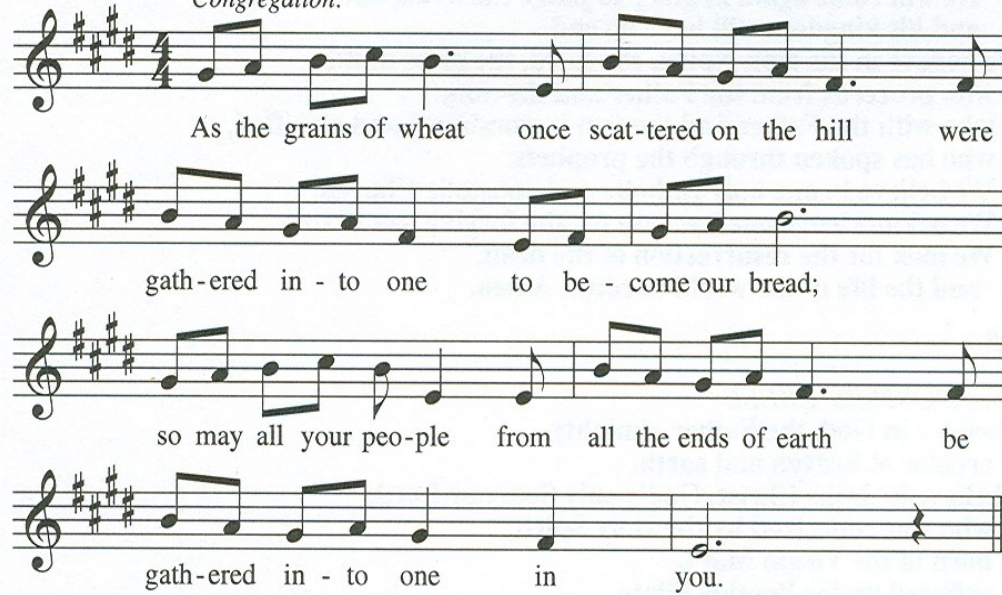
We stand

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.

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

Presider: *Congregation:*

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

Presider: *Congregation:*

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

Presider: *Congregation:*

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.



**Come to the
Table**

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

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: "Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove "

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Dismissal

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

Postlude

Selected

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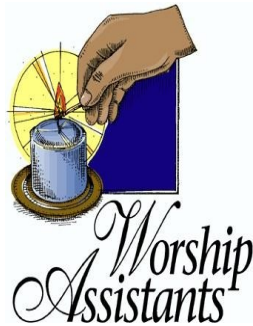
Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove

1 Come, gra - cious Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, with light and
 2 The light of truth to us dis - play and make us
 3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing way, nor let us
 4 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share full - ness of

com - fort from a - bove. Come, be our guard - ian
 know and choose your way; plant ho - ly fear in
 from his pas - tures stray. Lead us in ho - li -
 joy for - ev - er there; lead us to our e -

and our guide; o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side.
 ev - 'ry heart, that we from God may ne'er de - part.
 ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God
 ter - nal rest, to be with God for - ev - er blest.

Text: Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt.
 Music: HERR JESU CHRIST, MEINS, German folk tune, 15th cent.



Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:	Gail Johnson
Altar Guild:	Gloria Nelson Susan Myers
Assisting Minister:	Cathy Crowder
Communion Assistant:	Robin Crowder Linda Meyer
Council Person of the Week:	Stephen Van Stee
Offering Steward:	Pat Brady Vivian Proctor
Ushers:	Pat Brady Jean Morgan



*Chancel flowers this morning
are given to the Glory of God
and in memory of Tyrea H. Reid
and Myrtle F. Reid and Peggy R. Johnson
by their children and grandchildren*

**Next Sunday's Schedule and
Lessons**

May 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel

Presiding and Preaching

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11



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
Chris Jordan, Cousin of Mike Myers
Madawa Family, Friends of Grace
Scott Noble, Friend of the Proctors
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

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

Congratulations to High School and College Graduates!

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

Emily Almarode
Marge Cloutier
Sandy Johnson
Bill Lucas

Liz Ann Binns
Sandra Hoy
Jimmy Owens
Glenn Myers

Fred Brower
Kathryn Johnson
Phyllis Kite

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 Matt Olli, Brother-In-Law of Brian Lundstrom
Family of Bernell Trissel, Friend of the Hites

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Celebrating Birthdays

Jim Nelson (5/7)

Sharon Vorel (5/10)

Carolyn Barrette (5/10)

Lisa Gray (5/12)

Allison Fink (5/7)

Carolyn Barrette (5/10)

Jim Kite (5/12)

Richard Marshall (5/13)

Karley Hull (5/19)

The Needs of the World

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

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

Our President, Vice-President, Senators, Congress, Governor and local leaders as they work for the Common Good over power and control

Tornado devastation in Mississippi, Alabama and Virginia Beach; storms, flooding

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

The immigration crisis at our U. S. borders; refugees in the millions around the world

The Church

Grace's Strategic Planning

The United Methodist Church and our neighbor UMC churches in Waynesboro

Our Neighbors

Our Neighbors in the Berkeley Glenn Area



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 from Grace Congregation due today - Per our Constitution, in addition to the names provided by Council (see insert), Grace members can also offer nominations. The nominee must consent to be nominated, and their name(s) must be submitted in writing **today**. If you haven't yet contacted Nancy Dowdy, Grace Administrative Secretary, you can give your written submission to Pastor Paul, Council President Robin Crowder or Vice President Nancy Schwiesow.



Mother's Day - We give thanks to God for our Mothers, and other women in our lives who have offered their love, nurture and support to be a blessing to us, to their families, and to the community! And to our "Mothering God, who gave us birth... nurturing one [who] holds me close, so that in faith I root and grow..." (ELW hymn #735).



The Valley Music Academy would like to invite you to their Spring Concerts on Sunday, May 21. They will be having them at 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



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*).



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 rcbump0621@gmail.com to be added to our emailing list. The next meeting is Monday, June 15.



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

Hiker Ministry May 22 – Jun 17

We serve Appalachian Trail through-hikers through the “bubble” of time when they are going through our area from Georgia, heading to Maine, providing showers, a warm, dry, safe place to sleep, breakfast and snacks, and a Thursday evening dinner.

Needs:

1. **Snacks and breakfast foods** – particularly cereals, bread, fresh fruit, ice cream, cookies, etc. They can be left in the kitchen area of the Youth Room or at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays.
2. **Thursday evening dinners** – small groups of Grace members or community provide a dinner for hikers each Thursday while hikers are here.
3. **Volunteers to staff while hikers are here.** We are open from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. each day during that time except for Saturdays and Sundays. While we have volunteer coordinators who are on duty each day/night, volunteers from Grace and friends are needed to help with check-in each evening, staying overnight, and helping with check-out each morning. These are not difficult jobs and involve mostly greeting and orienting hikers as they come in to stay the night, showing them the ropes and rules, and supporting whatever needs they might have. **Please check the calendar on the table as you enter the sanctuary to see where volunteers are needed and to see the responsibilities.**

We ask for two volunteers for each shift, so you do not need to do this alone. The “shifts” are as follows:

- Check-in 5 – 8 p.m.
- Overnight 8 p.m. – 7 a.m. (and we provide comfy cots in a private Sunday School room, so you do not need to stay awake all night – the hikers usually go to bed pretty early too!)
- Check out 7 – 9 a.m.

The benefits include getting to know hikers from all over the United States and the world! We’ve had hikers stay with us who were from Canada, Israel, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, South Africa and many other countries. They are often on a personal journey of growth and healing and you can be a part of their journey and their story.

If you have any questions about the tasks involved, please feel free to call the church office (540-949-6171) or Linda Meyer (540-256-2277) or Jean Morgan (540-943-1929).



Congratulations to our Graduates

- ◆ **Kai Marley Blosser**, daughter of Ryan and Joy Blosser and granddaughter of Tom and Jane Blosser, is graduating from Harrisonburg High School and will be attending VCU.
- ◆ **Bayley Campbell and Landon Campbell**, twins of AC and Katie Campbell and grandchildren of Bill and Susie Kelley, are graduating from Waynesboro High School. Bayley will be attending Mary Baldwin University and Landon is planning a military career.
- ◆ **Jordan Driskill**, son of Ed and Susie Driskill and grandson of Tom and Carol Varner, graduated from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School with his medical degree (MD). He will be doing his residency in pathology at Cornell's campus of New York-Presbyterian Hospital. He also will continue to pursue his cancer research as part of the physician scientist training program in collaboration with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Rockefeller University.
- ◆ **Eileen Fillmore**, daughter of Dr. Robert and Kyra Goodrich and granddaughter of Chuck and Judi Goodrich, will be graduating from Marquette Michigan High School. After a trip to Europe this summer, Eileen will be attending the University of Northern Michigan in Marquette, where her father is a History Professor.
- ◆ **Lily Pingel**, daughter of Pastor Paul and Jill Pingel, graduated from Roanoke College with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Minor in Religious Studies. Lily will be attending American University in Washington, DC seeking a Master's in Public Policy.
- ◆ **Lily Skelton**, daughter of Nathan and Lindsey Skelton and granddaughter of Lee and Sharon Lynch, is graduating from Wilson Memorial High School and will be attending University of Mary Washington.
- ◆ **Josh (Nico) Traynor**, child of James and Krista Traynor and grandchild of David and Vivian Proctor, will be graduating from Western Albemarle High School Cum Laude and attending Piedmont Virginia Community College majoring in creative writing.
- ◆ **Jaxon Wilfong**, son of Kenneth and Keri Wilfong and grandson of Nancy Dowdy, is graduating from Waynesboro High School and will be attending James Madison University majoring in Economics.

We send our prayers that God's gifts will bless them to be a blessing in their work, life and faith!



Life of Grace Church
May 14-21, 2023

Day of the Week	Date	Time	Event
 Happy Mother's Day	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 In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School
Monday	05/15	7:00 p.m.	All God's Children Book Study (Conference Room)
Tuesday	05/16	9:30 a.m. 11:00—5:00 7:00 p.m.	Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall) Encircle (Conference Room) Council (Conference Room)
Wednesday	05/17	10:00 a.m. 10:00 .m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Prayer Group (Chapel) Encircle Regional Managers (Fellowship Hall) Grace Women's Book Group (Silk Road) Yoga (Seminar Room) Bell Choir Practice Choir Practice
Thursday	05/18	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Newcomers Club (Fellowship Hall) Grace Walkers Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J Zoom Meeting New Member Class (Conference Room)
Friday	05/19	9:00—5:00 7:00 p.m.	Encircle DEI Retreat (Fellowship Hall) Waynesboro High School Graduation
Saturday	05/20	11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall) Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconciliation (North Park)
Sunday	05/21	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:10 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Seventh Sunday of Easter Service of Holy Communion In Person and via You Tube Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Congregational Meeting Confirmation Class K-5 Sunday School



Monday

Deuteronomy 8:1-10
James 1:1-15
Luke 9:18-27
Morning Psalm 145, Evening 115

Tuesday

Deuteronomy 8:11-20
James 1:16-27
Luke 11:1-13
Morning Psalm 146, Evening 116

Wednesday

Baruch 3:24-37
James 5:13-18
Luke 12:22-31
Morning Psalm 147:1-12, Evening 9/118

Thursday

Ezekiel 1:1-14, 24-28b
Hebrews 2:5-18
Matthew 28:16-20
Morning Psalm 147:3-21, Evening 113

Friday

Ezekiel 1:28—3:3
Hebrews 4:14—5:6
Luke 9:28-36
Morning Psalm 148, Evening 138

Saturday

Ezekiel 3:4-17
Hebrews 5:7-14
Luke 9:37-50
Morning Psalm 149, Evening 114



CHURCH  COUNCIL

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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