

THE
CONVERSION
OF ST. PAUL



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
May 1, 2022*

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

Service of the Word via You Tube

(Based on Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting One)

Congregational responses are in bold print

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this wonderful evening of light, music, the Holy Word and fellowship. 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.

Gathering

Gloria Patri

Congregation and Choir sing.

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

Temple Talk

Linda Meyer

Welcome and Announcements

The congregation stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from sin
to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess

**that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved
our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake
of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive
together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God
strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *"We Are Called"*

#720, Page 5

We Are Called

720



- 1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
- 2 Come! O-pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
- 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God who calls us into service,
Transform us as you transformed Paul. Shape us into children who rejoice in knowing
and proclaiming you to the world.

Amen.

We sit.

Word

A reading from the Acts:

Acts 9:1-19a

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord,

Continued

I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus.

Congregation stands.

Gospel Acclamation

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

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

Repeat alleluia

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

Gospel: Matthew 6:24

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you O Lord.

²⁴"No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

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

Children's Message

Pastor Pingel

Sermon

Pastor Pingel

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: "By All Your Saints"

**#420, Pages 11 & 12,
Verses 1, 8 (Conversion of St. Paul), "Last" (3 verses)**

By All Your Saints



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,

Insert appointed stanza or this general stanza 2:

2 A - pos - tles, proph - ets, mar - tyrs, and all the no - ble throug
Last Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor - ship God the Son,



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!

who wear the spot - less rai - ment and raise the cease - less song—
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown

for these passed on be - fore us, we sing our praise a - new
till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.

and, walk - ing in their foot - steps, would live our lives for you.
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

Continued

Andrew, Apostle + November 30

3 All praise, O Lord, for Andrew,
the first to welcome you,
whose witness to his brother
named you Messiah true.
May we, with hearts kept open
to you throughout the year,
proclaim to friend and neighbor
your advent ever near.

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr + December 26

4 All praise for Stephen, martyr,
who saw you ready stand
to help in time of torment,
to plead at God's right hand.
O Jesus, born to save us,
grant us discerning sight,
that true till death we serve you
and witness to your light.

John, Apostle and Evangelist + December 27

5 For John, belov'd disciple,
exile on Patmos' shore,
and for this holy gospel,
we praise you evermore.
Praise for the mystic vision
these words to us unfold.
Instill in us the longing
your glory to behold.

Holy Innocents, Martyrs + December 28

6 All praise for infant martyrs,
whom you with tend'rest love
received from Herod's bloodshed
to share your home above.
O Rachel, cease your weeping;
they rest from earthbound cares.
Lord, grant us hearts as guileless
and crowns as bright as theirs.

Confession of Peter + January 18

7 We praise you, Lord, for Peter,
so eager and so bold,
thrice falling, yet repentant,
thrice charged to feed your fold.
Lord, make your pastors faithful
to guard your flock from harm,
and hold them when they waver
with your almighty arm.

Conversion of Paul + January 25

8 Praise for the light from heaven,
praise for the voice of awe,
praise for the glorious vision
the persecutor saw.
O Lord, for Paul's enlight'ning
we bless your name today;
come, shine within our darkness,
and guide us on our way.

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus + March 19

9 We sing our praise for Joseph,
your guardian, dearest Lord,
who, list'ning to the angel,
once saved you from the sword.
In temple, home, and workshop,
he led you, honed your skill.
So teach us, Christ our brother,
to do our Father's will.

Mark, Evangelist + April 25

10 For Mark, O Lord, we praise you,
whose fainting heart, made strong,
poured forth the faithful gospel
to animate our song.
May we, in all our weakness,
receive your pow'r divine,
and all, as fruitful branches,
grow strong in you, the vine.

Philip and James, Apostles + May 1

11 We praise your name for Philip,
blest guide to Greek and Jew,
and for young James, the faithful
who heard and followed you.
Oh, grant us grace to know you,
the way, the truth, the life,
and wrestle with temptation
till victors in the strife.

Matthias, Apostle + May 14

12 Lord, your abiding presence
directs the wondrous choice;
the lot falls to Matthias,
the faithful now rejoice.
May we as true apostles
your holy church defend,
and by your parting promise
be with us to the end.

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Hear us O God,
Your mercy is great.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Meal

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please greet those around you, remaining distanced, and offering a sign of peace to one another.

The congregation remains standing.

Offering

During this transitional time of Covid, the Offering is collected in the narthex (back of the worship space) as you enter the building prior to worship. An offering plate is on a table for your use.

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

Offertory Song

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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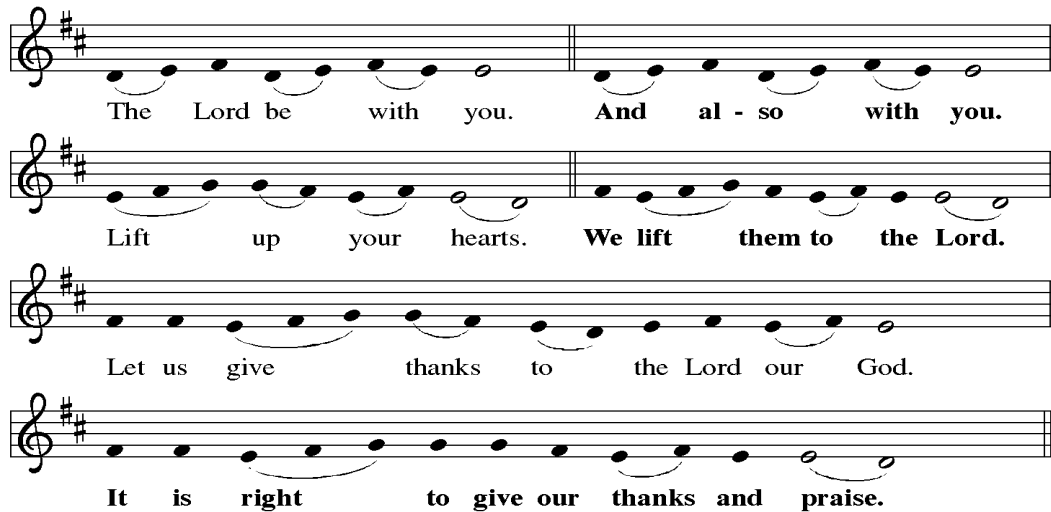
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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Living God,
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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:

S108

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

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

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

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

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

Amen

Lord's Prayer

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

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

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ dwells with us here.
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Thanks be to God!

“Lamb of God” may be sung.

S 112

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, grant us peace.

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.

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

Amen.

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

The Communion Blessing

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

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

**We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Sending

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

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

Amen.

Blessing

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

#380, Page 23, Verses 1, 3, 5

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

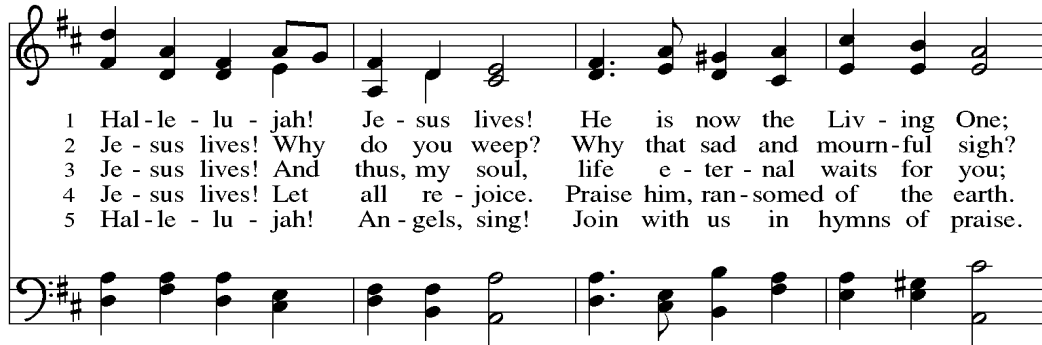
Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

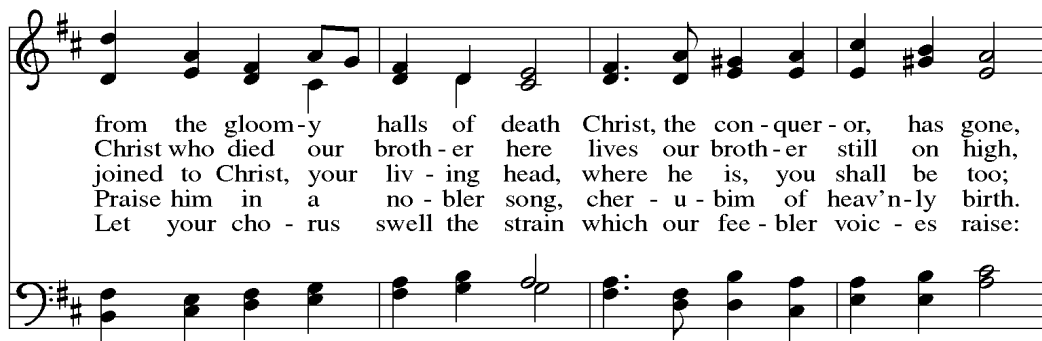
Postlude

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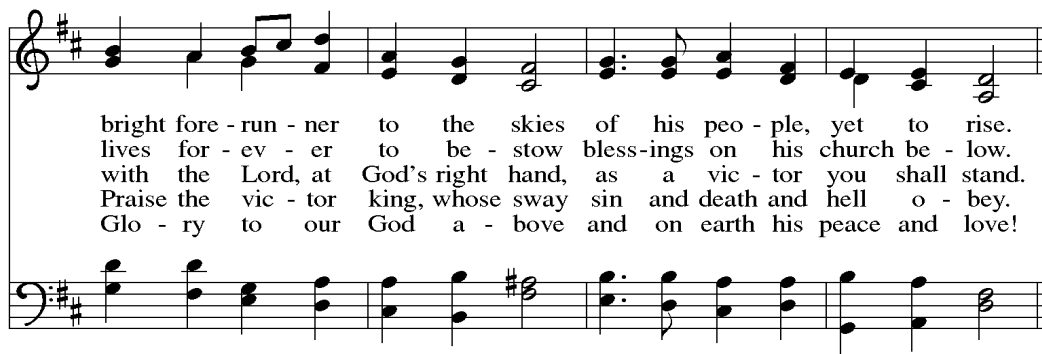
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



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



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



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

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



Worship Assistants

Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Altar Flowers:

Jim & Gloria Nelson

Altar Guild:

Glen & Lisa Gray

Assisting Minister:

Robin Crowder

Communion Assistants:

Cathy Crowder

Linda Meyer

Council Person of the Week:

Andrew Sell

Covid Monitor:

Bill Lucas

Offering Stewards:

Pat Brady

Robin Crowder

Ushers—11:00 a.m.

Ron Almarode

Lee Lynch



Altar Flowers

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Jim and Gloria Nelson, and in honor of their grandchildren: Mason, Lily, Emily, Blake, Charlotte, Lennon and Evie.

Next Sunday's Schedule and Lessons

May 8

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word via You Tube

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Paul Pingel,
Presiding and Preaching

Paul and Silas

Acts 16:16-34

Luke 6:18-19, 22-23



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*)

Cathy Crowder
Stephen Van Stee

Minnie Moyer

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

Jayshree Subramanian, Friend of Pastor Paul

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

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

Liz Ann Binns
Marie Brown
Bob Knemoller
Janet Parmer

Fred Brower
Phyllis Kite
Glenn and Flossie Myers
Lily Skelton

Barb Susen

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

Janice Collins, Friend of Grace

Nancy Delaney, Dave Delaney's Wife

Kyle Getler, Member Relative

Darren Graf, Son of Woody and Irma Graf

Regan Grant, Friend of Richard and Kathy Bump

Sandy Higgs, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Joshua Horn, Friend of Mike and Cindy Trauscht

Helen McClung, Cousin of Nancy Schwiesow

Dennis Naugle, Brother of Wendy Weller

Larry Spoon, Husband of Bonnie Spoon, Friend of Many

George Toop, Friend of David and Nancy Schwiesow

Curry Wilford, Brother-in-Law of Amy Warren

Douglas Williams, Friend of Sylvia Almarode, deployed to Kuwait for one year

Members/Friends Grieving
Family of Dr. James Comar, Friend to Many

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Congregation Members Throughout the Year

Ryan Blosser
Nathan Skelton

Alvin Jackson
Amelia Jones

Kathy Johnson

The Needs of the World

**The War between Russia and Ukraine -
For millions of refugees now in
Poland, Austria, etc.; for those
in combat; for peace**

For our nation: For civil discourse when
we disagree, for the common
good, for God's wisdom to prevail
in decision making

**For Westminster and Grace, welcoming
a Congolese refugee family of
eight this week!**

The great increase in mental health
cases in our nation

**Famine in the Horn of Africa—27
million at risk**

For victims of wildfires in Arizona,
New Mexico, and Texas

**Continued epidemic of shooting
Incidents in our nation**

The Church

**Pray for God's plan for Grace—our
life together and witness and
service to the Community**

Prayer for neighboring Lutheran
congregations: St. James,
Bethlehem, Zion and Bethany

Our Neighbors

Our neighbors on Arch Avenue,
Market Street and the YMCA.



Welcome to Worship! A letter was sent by email and U.S. Mail announcing a change to our masking policy at Grace:

- We will follow CDC "color" guidelines to determine masking at worship. If our area is in an Orange (high risk) condition, we will mask for worship.
- If we are in a Yellow (medium risk) or Green (low risk) condition: those who are not vaccinated or are immune-compromised are encouraged to mask, while those who are vaccinated and boosted are "mask optional, but welcome."
- This applies to Worship, Meetings, Classes, VMA, other users of the facility, etc.
- As of Wednesday, most of our "Sample Area" (Augusta, Nelson, Staunton) are in "Green", or in the low risk condition with Waynesboro in the "Yellow", or in the medium risk condition.



May 1 Reception—The All God's Children Group is excited to be hosting the opening of our lending library with our first coffee and cookies reception in the narthex after the church service on the first of May!

Come join us to talk about the many readings and discoveries we have made as we have opened our hearts and minds to becoming antiracist disciples of Jesus. Please share your thoughts with us and take a book home to read. Books for all ages are available.

Bob & Carolyn Barrette
Lisa Gray
Gordon Putnam
Karen VanStee

Kathy & Rick Bump
Linda Meyer
Nancy & David Schwiesow

All God's Children will begin discussing **His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope** by Jon Meacham on Monday, May 2, in the Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. Zoom is also available. New members always welcome.



Grace Congregation Meeting on May 15th - Sunday, May 15th after worship, we will elect new Council members who will begin their term June of 2022. A slate of five Grace members has been selected by Grace's Nominating Committee - Robin Crowder, Jack Eckstrom, Susan Myers, Steven Van Stee, and Karen Walck. By our Church Constitution, any other nominations must be presented in writing to Vivian Proctor, Grace Secretary, by Sunday, May 8th (with the nominated member's permission and bio).



Refugee Resettlement News. Things are moving quickly on the refugee resettlement front – we have been notified that a family has been assigned to our Westminster/Grace Resettlement Team! They are a family of six who are originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo. We know we originally announced we would be resettling an Afghan family, but the need was greater for helping this new family and the Spirit has led them to us. They are currently in the largest refugee camp in the world – one based in Tanzania. There are two parents and six children ranging in age from 9 months to 21 years. They will be flying to the U.S. on April 27, and we still plan to move them into the house on May 1. They will be staying for a few days in Harrisonburg reconnecting with a relative's family living in the area until May 1. We're currently gathering items to furnish the house and a list of needed items will be published this week and sent out by email to everyone so you can sign up for specific items if you would like to contribute. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Linda Meyer at lameyer@cfw.com or phone 540-256-2277.



Another opportunity to help Refugee children - Close to home, there remains a refugee crisis not often remembered; those of thousands of refugees from the nation of Haiti. A combination of multiple natural disasters and political instability, much of Haiti remains in crisis. Project Esperanza, a Winchester organization committed to teaching Haitian children in the midst of crisis, has for a number of years hosted a school for Haitian children in a refugee area in the Dominican Republic (<https://projectesperanza.giv.sh/>). Our CCE&J (Christian Coalition for Justice and Equity), in partnership with Christ Tabernacle, has pledged \$2695, enough to sponsor 4-1/2 students for the year (\$600/student; this compares to Virginia's \$5488/student/year number). Grace and Christ Tabernacle congregations are invited to contribute \$305 to allow us to sponsor 5 students fully (or more to sponsor a sixth)! Please make a check to Grace, memo line "Project Esperanza," and please give by Sunday, May 15th



Strategic Planning Committee Update - Proposed Vision Statement for Grace:

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

Think about this and how you would answer the following questions.

- What could we be doing to create and maintain the vibrant congregation described in the Vision Statement?
- What would your picture of Grace congregation look like in 2025?

Stay tuned – more to come!



Mission Endowment Fund Grants Available - Find information in the Narthex about Grace's Mission Endowment Fund, and a Grant application to make use of almost \$30,000 in funds for community, regional or national needs. As we heard from the March 27 Temple Talk, this your Fund to be a blessing at Grace! **Grant applications are due by May 8.**



New Member Class in May: We will schedule a New Member class for four weeks in May, choosing day and time that works best for those who are taking part. The Season of Easter is a wonderful time to celebrate our unity in Christ, and the purpose we have as Christ's Body in the world, working together on God's Mission for us in this world! Call the Church Office, or sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



ELCA Disaster Response—Ukraine—if you would like to help refugees in Eastern Europe, make a check out to Grace with “Eastern Europe Crisis” in the memo line. 100% of your donation goes to relief.



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.

LivingLutheran

Receive an ELCA magazine - to keep up to date with Lutheran news throughout the nation and world. The ELCA's magazine, Living Lutheran, is free online. Google livinglutheran.org to subscribe for the weekly, biweekly, or monthly e-digest which will email you articles and allow you to access past articles of interest to you.



Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food banks. We have made **twenty-six** deliveries thus far, twelve to Main Street United Methodist, and fourteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 2610 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Monday

Exodus 14:21-31
1 Peter 1:1-12
John 14:(1-7) 8-17
Morning Psalm 97, Evening 124

Tuesday

Exodus 15:1-21
1 Peter 1:13-25
Mark 14:18-31
Morning Psalm 98, Evening 66

Wednesday

Exodus 15:22—16-10
1 Peter 2:1-10
John 15:1-11
Morning Psalm 99, Evening 9

Thursday

Exodus 16:10-22
1 Peter 2:11—3:12
John 15:12-27
Morning Psalm 47, Evening 68

Friday


Exodus 16:23-36
1 Peter 3:13—4:6
John 16:1-15
Morning Psalm 96, Evening 49

Saturday

Exodus 17:1-16
1 Peter 4:7-19
John 16:16-33
Morning Psalm 92, Evening 23



**Life of Grace Church
May 1-8, 2022**

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	MEETING
Sunday	05/01	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Third Sunday of Easter <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Coffee Fellowship via Zoom
Tuesday	05/03	12:00 p.m.	Garden Club Meeting (Seminar Room)
Wednesday	05/04	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Backpacks (Stage in Fellowship Hall) Prayer Group (Chapel)
Thursday	05/05	8:30 a.m. Noon 7:00 p.m.	Grace Walkers (Meet in Parking Lot) Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall) CCE&J Group Zoom
Saturday	05/07	11:00 a.m.	Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday	05/08	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room) Fourth Sunday of Easter <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> <i>In Person and via You Tube</i> Pastor Paul Pingel Presiding and Preaching Coffee Fellowship via Zoom



**Members of Grace
Congregational Council**

Robin Crowder, President
Jerry Kite, Vice-President
Bob Barrette
Fred Biggers
Kathy Bump
Jean Morgan
Nancy Schwiesow
Andrew Sell
Amy Warren
Ron Almarode, Treasurer
Vivian Proctor, Secretary
Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary



Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor—Email: pastoringel@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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youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

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