

The Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 4, 2025
9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion



"Be and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor: Dwight Hanson

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

In Holy Communion our Lord Jesus graciously invites those who have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to repent of all that separates us from God, and to receive His sacred and real presence for the forgiveness of sins.

In addition to wine, grape juice is also offered.

Children who do not yet receive Communion may come for a blessing.

Holy Communion will be offered as you kneel at the chancel rail.

Please take a moment to fill out the “Attendance & Communion” Registration Cards (located in the pew racks). Pass your card to the end of your pew.

P - Presiding Minister

A - Assisting minister

C - Congregation

* - PLEASE STAND

+ + +

Please silence electronic devices.

PRELUDE: ***“This Joyful Eastertide”*** ***(arr. by: Wood)***

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

C **Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***SHARING OF GOD’S PEACE:**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

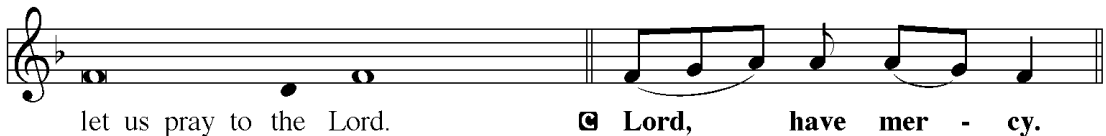
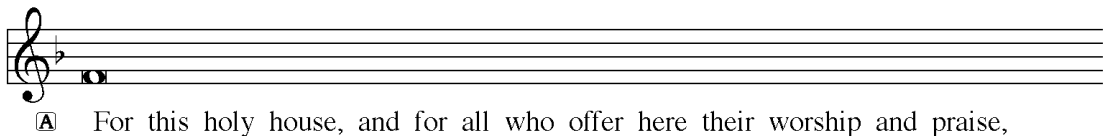
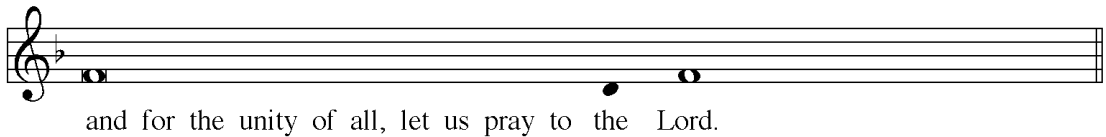
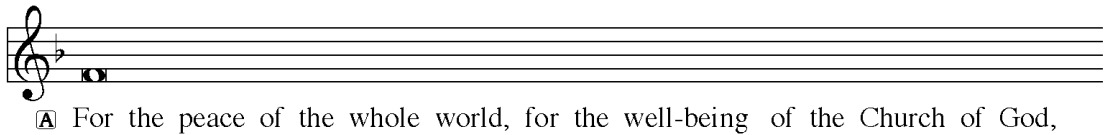
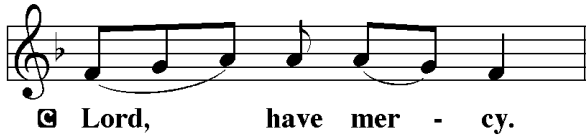
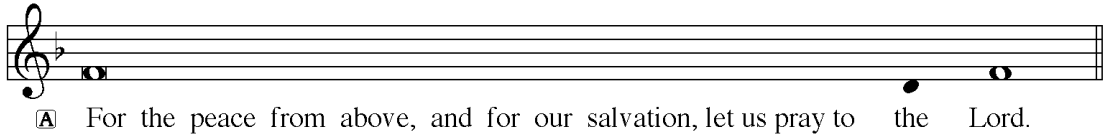
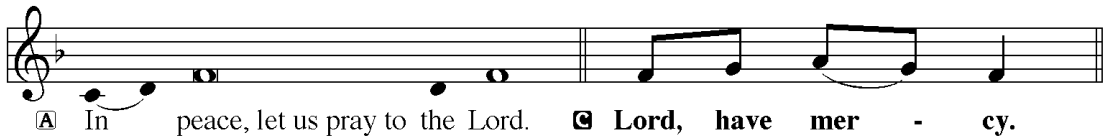
***GATHERING HYMN: “Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!” vs. 1,3,5 (LBW 147)**

***GREETING:**

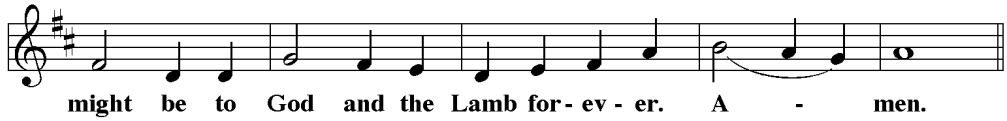
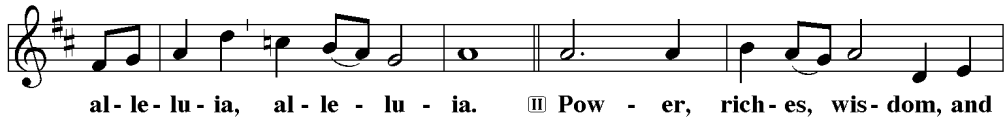
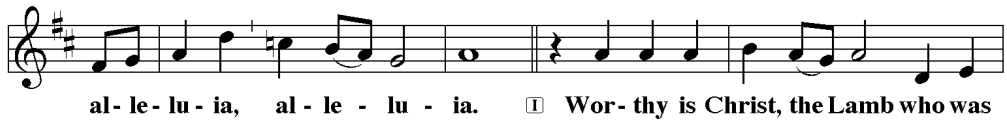
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

***KYRIE:**



***HYMN OF PRAISE: “This is the Feast” Women sing Part I; Men Part II**



Continued on next page

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P Heavenly Father, as we are restored and nourished by your Word and at your table, strengthen us to serve as your Son's body in the world. Grant that we, like Peter, may feed and tend the flock;
C **through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 9:1-22

A A reading from Acts:

¹Saul, 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 belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and

you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, 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, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came 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 he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 30

A ¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

C ²**O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

A ³You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

C ⁴**Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; give thanks for the**

remembrance of his holiness.

- A ⁵For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favor for a lifetime.
- C **⁶Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.**
- A ⁷While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed. You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”
- C **⁸Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.**
- A ⁹I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with the LORD, saying,
- C **¹⁰“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?**
- A ¹¹Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.”
- C **¹²You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.**
- A ¹³Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 5:1-14

A A Reading from Revelation:

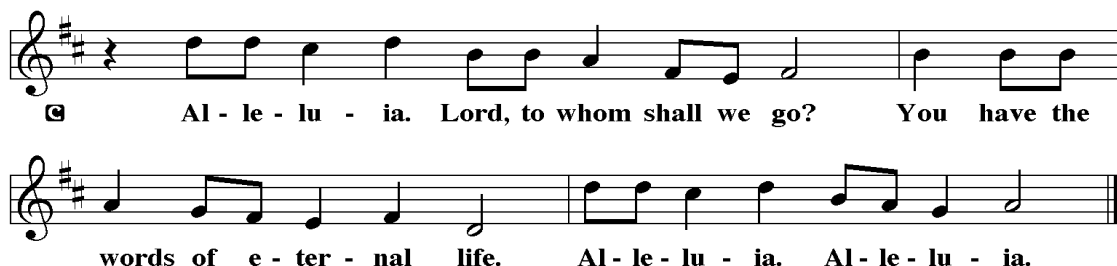
¹Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” ⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the

voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,
¹²saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and
wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every
creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in
them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor
and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!”
and the elders fell down and worshiped.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL VERSE:**



***GOSPEL: John 21:13-19**

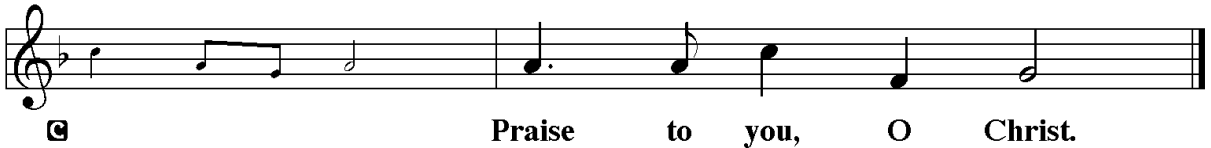
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.



¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was
now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from
the dead. ¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son
of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I
love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶He said to him a second time, “Simon,
son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.”
He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John,
do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you
love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young,

you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON: Pastor Dwight Hanson: Appearance and Reality

3rd Sunday of Easter; 5/4/2025; Grace Lutheran Church; Pastor Dwight Hanson
Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:1-14; John 21:13-19

Children's message: What have I got in my hand (a garden seed)? All we need is a little butter and salt, because this seed is for sweet corn. I know, we'll have to wait. It's just a seed, after all. But in that seed is the blueprint for the full life of a stock of corn. God's Kingdom can be like this, as well, like a bare seed, overlooked by the world, but precious and full of life. Jesus is God's Son, yet for most of his life he blended in with everyone else. The Heavenly Kingdom comes in humble ways, just like the baby in the Christmas manger. The world even tried to toss Jesus away. But the full-grown truth is that He is the risen Ruler of Heaven and Earth! He's in charge, AND he loves you! God doesn't overlook the little ones. Let's pray...

Appearance and Reality

Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. The tiny garden seed—hard, and seemingly insignificant in the hand—contains a shockingly intricate blueprint for what will be some day. Granted, getting to the point where it offers up its life-giving fruitfulness will mean going through some adversity along the way: the planting process; too much water; not enough water; too cold; too hot; greedy weeds gobbling up nutrients; and hungry critters of all kinds. The blessing of growth in this world does not come easily. This point could be a sermon unto itself.

But let's stay with that theme which runs through the readings for today, the miraculous nature of growth from humble beginnings. How easy it would be to overlook little, hand-held specks, or even throw them away with the trash. Yet all the while God has placed a mystery and a revelation right before our eyes. By His grand design, there's the initial *appearance* of a thing, and there's the ultimate *reality*.

As it is with nature, so it is with God's Church. A Sunday morning gathering of people is just a handful compared to the billions on earth, barely even noticed by such an important, busy world, for whom church may seem rather irrelevant. Yet, there's a powerful blueprint unfolding. We play our part, small though we may feel at times.

Appearance vs. reality comes through loud and clear in the Scriptures for today. In Revelation 5:5, we hear the proclamation, “*behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah.*” We can imagine the trumpets blasting and the knees bending, as all eyes turn to take in the majestic royalty, the spectacle of superior power. Then he

appears: “*And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain...*” (Revelation 5:6a).

Readers and hearers may have had some questions. Well, which is it: Glorious Son of God from Eternity, Light from Light, true God from true God, of one being with the Father, *or* lowly son of man, born of Mary, who lived on earth, suffered, was tortured, and died? Which is it, Mighty Lion, or humble lamb? It’s both, at the same time!

This old world would have welcomed, or at least respected, an obvious display of power and glory. Give us something dazzling, a diversion from the difficulties, or the boredom, or the anxiety. Show us a spectacle. Give us a mighty Lion’s roar!

But what did God do? He did come! But he cloaked himself like a bare seed, easily discarded, so that only faith would receive him—humble, simple trust. God knows that we fell into trouble long ago because we were dissatisfied and expected more. We think we want to be God. So, in the middle of humanity, with its relentless grasping, climbing, and assuming, Jesus came down among common people, regular folks. He came like a garden seed. It isn’t even smooth. The world just passes right on by in search of the next big thing. And we wonder why there’s so much restlessness and heartache.

Behold the Lion, who comes as a Lamb! *He* is worthy to receive blessing, honor, glory, and power. Thine is the Kingdom forever and ever. Like seed that’s easily cast aside, so comes the living Kingdom of God into our presence.

In just this way, consider Saul in our reading from Acts. There was the appearance, and there was the reality. Acts 9:4, “*Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?*” Yet Saul had to wonder what that could possibly mean. After all, he was just hunting down a few renegade men and women, religious trouble-makers who were upsetting the sensibilities of sensible people. The Jerusalem elite had decided to take out this rabble, this band of fishermen and broken people who claimed to have found healing and hope. A few quick campaigns should shut them down, bringing the situation under control.

The problem for the powers of the world, however sophisticated, is that the risen Christ, who will come again to judge the living and the dead, has a fondness for giving his Spirit, forgiveness, and love, to those who ask for it, folks like fishermen, widows, children, honest Roman soldiers, isolated lepers, and repentant tax collectors. He gathers them and redeems them. They make up part of his body

of faith on earth. As Saul went after them, Saul went after Him. “*But rise,*” the risen Lord commanded, “*and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do*” (Acts 9:6). So much for this super-confident persecutor calling the shots. Saul received an unexpected visit from the Lion!

Which raises the life-question for us: Who calls the shots? On what basis do we make judgments about what’s good and right, and what’s not? In a world increasingly mesmerized by grand spectacles, we may overlook very real miracles, like the kind hidden in simple seeds, that turn out to be not-so-simple, after all.

The Kingdom of God is among us, but it must be seen with eyes of faith, tended carefully. Who would have thought that the *risen* Lord, before ascending, would sit with his disciples, roasting fish at a lakeside campfire? There, he called the fallen Peter back into humble service, nothing glorious by worldly standards, just the feeding of God’s sheep and lambs (John 21:15-17). The everlasting realm comes in lowliness. Faith accepts the terms, smiling that God would operate in such a way. All the while a proud world dismisses and brings judgement upon itself.

God’s people, gathered as Grace Lutheran Church, come together on Sundays, in honor of the shocking surprise of the Resurrection. Here we understand that the sacred dwells in the ordinary, as we partake of the bread and wine that are more than meets the eye, and as we read, listen, sing, pray, laugh, cry, sigh, and perhaps even share our lives along with a doughnut in the fellowship hall. In other words, we celebrate the *reality* of God’s wise, gracious dominion, which is always more than we comprehend, even as it *appears* to be less than we expect.

Worship is about honoring the Lamb, who deserves all the glory and praise, who strengthens us in faith through so many means of grace. This is how the nations are healed. People who live in countries where Christianity is outlawed are willing to risk life and limb to gather for worship. They may not have any external resources to go on, except the memory of some Bible verses, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and maybe a few other essentials. Yet, how could one even begin to describe the strength derived from such a simple gathering? Maybe the little garden seeds shouldn’t be thrown away as trash.

In this life, God’s Church remains humble, easily overlooked. Jesus said that if the world wants to find him, the glorious Lord of Heaven and earth, he can be found among the faces of forgiven sinners, who bear his mark on their foreheads, and carry his Word in their hearts and on their lips. May the little seeds persist, and grow fruitful unto the harvest. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***HYMN OF THE DAY: “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” (LBW 328)
vs. 1,3,5,7**

***NICENE CREED:**

**C 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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 THE CHURCH:

A Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, all through the generations you have used imperfect but forgiven people to bear your perfect Word. By the power of the Holy Spirit, give us the courage and conviction of those who serve the risen Lord. Keep before our eyes the many sheep and lambs who need tending. And remind us of our own need to find our strength from you. So strengthened, use us as instruments of your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A As we pray for the needs of the Church on earth, we are thankful for so many brothers and sisters in Christ from all over the world, every tribe and nation. Inspire us to see our unity under the Lordship of Jesus. Keep us Christ-centered so that we can avoid the trap of being self-centered. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray for the needs of the world. Beginning with our own nation, watch over officials at every level. Grant them wisdom for the good of all. Inspire peace and justice amid the ravages of war. Strengthen all who seek to clean up or rebuild following storms. And we ask for protection over all who honorably stand in harm's way on behalf of others, and their families. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray for all who need healing in any way: *Greg Atkinson, Janet Barno, Beverly Childers, Vic Cross, Rob Dell, Gene Emrick, Elaine Fudge, Mark Gillespie, Don Houser, Neal Hughes, Barry Ingram, Lisa Kiracofe, Linda Lambert, Dick Lehman, Tina Leonard, Forrest Leyes, Doug McDade, Sally Mowell, Andy Proeschel, Dean & Mary Shetter*, as well as those whom we name silently in our hearts (*pause for silent prayer*). Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,

C Trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: “Let the Vineyards” (LBW pg. 66)**



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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

P Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.
C **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HOLY COMMUNION:**

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

P 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.

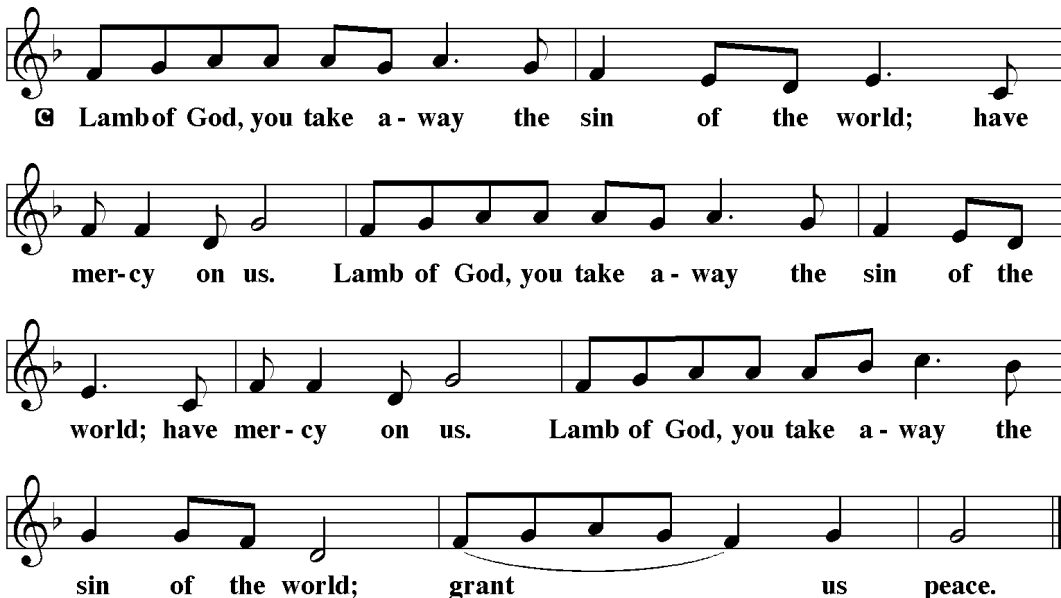
Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in My blood,
shed for You and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of Me.

***LORD'S PRAYER:**

C 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION AND BLESSING OF CHILDREN

COMMUNION HYMNS: “Lamb of God”



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.

“O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” (LBW 356)

“Now the Green Blade Rises” (LBW 148)

“O Savior, Precious Savior” (LBW 514)

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:**

P Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

***THE BLESSING:**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” vs. 1,3,5 (LBW 158)**

***DISMISSAL:**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Mother's Day Dinner & Family Game Night!

Friday, May 9th ~~ Dinner (Baked Potato bar & Salad bar) starts @ 6 p.m.

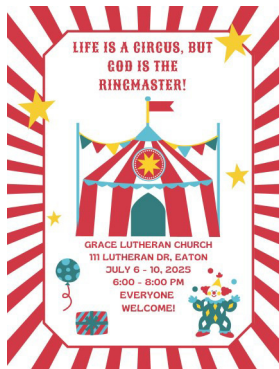
Side Dishes & Desserts Welcome ~~ A Surprise for all MOMs — Come and Join us for some of the best Fellowship around! Games for all begin at 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 11 is Mother's Day! We are being blessed with a special treat that day as the Sunday School children will lead our Worship — You won't want to miss it!

Sunday, May 18th following worship all members are encouraged to attend the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary.

Graduation Forms will appear in the bulletins over the next few weeks as well as in the May Grace Herald. If you have a graduate you would like to celebrate, please fill out a form (including a photo of the grad) and we'll have a special flyer in the June **Grace Herald**.

As Memorial Day approaches (May 26), let us truly honor/remember those who have been laid to rest as they served and protected us and our country.



HOLD THE DATES

The dates for Vacation Bible School have been revealed! **Sunday, July 6 through Thursday, July 10, 2025 6:00-8:00 p.m.** This year's theme is: "Life is a circus, but God is the ringmaster!" We need all the "Carnies" we can get. If you are able to help in any way, please join us on the following dates: **May 13, 20, 27 and June 3 and 10.** Come to one or all! If you have any questions, contact Tina Ebright—937-472-5663 or tinaebright5663@gmail.com

Restroom Renovation The restrooms on the Sunday school wing are now complete and usable!!! The demolition and remodeling of the restrooms on the east/office wing will begin within the next couple weeks.

The GRACE HERALD: If you have an article to submit to the **Grace Herald** newsletter, please submit it by *the 15th of each month.*

"COUPS FOR THE TROOPS"

Collects coupons up to two months expired, which are accepted overseas for our military personnel to use at the commissaries. Please place clipped or unclipped coupons in the box in the Narthex & the Fellowship Hall. Contact Becky Lenk with any questions you may have—937-416-8435. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church

111 Lutheran Dr., P.O. Box 86 - Eaton, OH 45320
Phone: 937-456-6258 Email: GraceEaton111@gmail.com
www.gracelutheranofeaton.com ~ ~ Like us on Facebook

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Friday: 10—1, 2—5

TODAY May 4, 2025—Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

10:45 a.m. Adult Education—FINAL VIDEO of The Death & Resurrection of the Messiah

10:30 a.m. Youth Sunday School

Monday May 5

Pastor's Day Off

Restroom (Office wing) Remodel

9:45 a.m. TOPS

6:30 p.m. Men's Disciple Group

Tuesday May 6

6:00 p.m. Men's Disciple Group

Wednesday May 7

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday May 8

7:00 p.m. Church Council & Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)

Friday May 9

12:30 p.m. Bulletin Production

6:00 p.m. Mother's Day Family Dinner & Game Night (FH)

Saturday May 10

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild for May: Amy Jackson, Barb Myers

Offering Counter for May: Carol Perry

Sunday, May 4– Easter 3

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Nancy Childs

Usher: Clayton Kiracofe

Lector: Tina Ebright

Communion Assist. Nancy Childs, Debbie McKinney

Sunday, May 11—Easter 4-Youth-Led Worship & Mother's Day

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Ron & Becky Lenk w/young person

Usher: John Kiracofe w/young person

Lector: Young Person

Sunday, May 18– Easter 5—

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Janice Barnes

Usher: John Barnes

Lector: John Barnes

Communion Assist. Jane Coggin, Barb Myers

Sunday, May 25—Easter 6

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Dorothy Stoltz & Debbie McKinney

Usher: Darryl Leyes

Lector: Barb Myers

Attendance & Stewardship — (\$4,187 needed wkly)

04/27/2025

79

\$2,676.44

Great Commission Outreach Partners:

World Mission Prayer League—Chris & Emily and family, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families, Abundant Grace, West Chester

Grace Lutheran Mission Endowment Fund: The purpose of this fund is to extend the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, apart from the general operation of the congregation. To learn more about our Mission Endowment Fund, please contact the church office and we'll give your question to the appropriate person.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY:

Fellowship & Education

- * **Refreshments** for all are served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship on Sundays.
- * **Youth Sunday School** begins with music in the last classroom of the education wing.
- * **Adult Education** takes place after Fellowship time. Dan Schultz is facilitating — **THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF THE MESSIAH Video Series by Ray Vander Laan** May 4 is the final session. Please join us in the fellowship hall after Worship. Coffee and snacks provided.
- * **Sunday S'mores**—a Middle School- & High School-aged Youth Sunday Evening Ministry. They meet every other Sunday at 6:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Friends are welcome. Tina Ebright is the moderator and she can be reached at 937-472-5663.

Adult Bible Studies (during the week)

- ♦ **The Phoebe Women's Bible Study.** They meet at 7:00 p.m. on the **2nd Monday of each month**. They have been studying a six-session study on **Not My Will, But Yours** (*A Bible Study on the Bound Will*). Contact Kelly Mt. Castle (937-336-1223 or email: Kelly.mtcastle@gmail.com).
- ♦ On the **Second and the Fourth Tuesdays of the Month:**
 - Wine & The Word** meets at 6:00 p.m. for a light meal (at the home of Carol Perry). They have been viewing the fourth season of ***The Chosen*** and discussing it afterwards. If you would like to join them, please contact Carol at 937-456-6683 or cbperry122@embarqmail.com
 - Lakeside Fellowship** (at the Lakengren home of Dan & Karen Schultz) begins at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to join this group, please contact Karen/Dan Schultz at 419-890-7965 or dkschultz52@yahoo.com.
- ♦ **The Wednesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m.** in the Meeting Room off of the Fellowship Hall. They are currently studying the Book of ***Ezekiel***.

These studies are open to any member and our friends. No prior Bible study background is needed. Please bring your Bible.

IN OUR PRAYERS

After 4 weeks we will remove names from this list. If you would like to keep someone on the list, please note their name on the back of the “Attendance & Communion Registration” form.

URGENT PRAYER LIST:

HEALING: (In Alphabetical Order)

Greg Atkinson: (Mindy Ramsey’s brother-in-law—He is undergoing tests)

Janet Barno: (Friend of Renee Kerr—has a collapsed lung & many complications after breaking her femur in November)

Beverly Childers: (Undergoing tests)

Vic Cross: (Son-in-law Paula Murray’s sister, Linda Johnson— he had an accident at work, multiple injuries. Prayers asked for recovery.)

Rob Dell: (As he heals from esophageal surgery on May 1)

Gene Emrick: (For strength & Comfort)

Elaine Fudge: (As she recovers from knee surgery)

Mark Gillespie: (Friend of Dan & Karen Schultz—As he deals with health issues)

Don Houser: (Husband of Dianna Houser—He is now under hospice care)

Neal Hughes: (Brother-in-Law of Darryl Leyes)

Barry Ingram: (Tiffany Ingram’s father-in-law—hospitalized last weekend for fluid in and around the heart/lung. He’s undergoing tests)

Lisa Kiracofe: (Prayers as she deals with breast cancer)

Linda Lambert: (She is undergoing testing)

Dick Lehman: (He has released to home and is having physical therapy)

Tina Leonard: (Daughter of Gerry & Barb Myers—Tina’s cancer has returned and has metastasized)

Forrest Leyes: (Darryl Leyes’ brother—having medical issues)

Doug McDade: (Son-in-law of Terry & Evelyn Good—recovering from illness)

Sally Mowell: (She is the friend of Daren & Karen Marshall —She’s been diagnosed with cancer)

Andy Proeschel: (Brother of Paula Murray —Follow up tests at Cleveland Clinic show improvement)

Dean & Mary Shetter: (Continued prayers that new medication continue to raise his red blood cell levels)

LONG-TERM PRAYER LISTTom & Patty Barnes, Mark & Debbie Emrick, Gordon Self, Jackie Steiner, Rhonda Paige Atkinson, Amy Jackson, Jean Bailey, Judy Newkirk, Mike & Judy Schamel, Suzan Pauley, Tim Lanthrop, Barb Goebel, Connie Coffman, Carmen Hasdorff, Martha Grimme, Tom Schamel, Amanda & Shayla Dell, Susan Root, Fran Kester, Teddi & Mike Watkins, Ruth Hardin, Jenifer Combs, Doug Davis, Pastor Dean & Sandy Haferman, Dave Brumbaugh, Scot Emig, Barbara Worley, Carolyn MacFadyen, Judy Jay, Will Suggs, Earl House, Barbara Lakes, Becky Hoskins, Kayli Johnson, Joe McHenry: and those serving in the military: Maj. Love Hartman; Capt. John Kettelman; SPC Brandon Mann; Brad Newkirk; Lt. Col. Kyle Hundley, Alex Pollitt, Airman, U.S. Air. Force.