

WELCOME TO GRACE: We rejoice over your presence this day as we gather in the Name and in the worship of our Lord. If you are a GUEST with us today, we hope you feel welcome in our church family and invite you to worship with us again. If you are interested in membership at Grace or want to know more about our church and our faith, please indicate your interest on the ATTENDANCE FORM in the pew.

Grace's Mission

✝ Sharing God's Grace

✝ Living His Word

✝ Making Disciples

Grace Lutheran Church is one of more than six thousand congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

We Believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the sole source for all Christian teaching and practice. *II Timothy 3:16*

We Believe "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*

We Believe "by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." *Ephesians 2:8-9*

We Believe our relationship with everyone is based upon Jesus' words: "Love one another as I have loved you." *John 15:12*

Child Care We care about your children. We encourage parents with small children to help them participate in our worship. We ask you to have your children go to the restroom and get a drink before the service, and refrain from leaving during worship, unless there is an emergency. We have available a cry room equipped with sound located at the back of the sanctuary. Children's bulletins with activities are available. A nursery is available for children age 3 and under. Ask an usher for directions.

Hearing Impaired For those who need assistance, please ask an usher for a wireless hearing aid. They are easy to use.

 **WORSHIP FOLDER** 
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 14, 2024
“EASTER PEOPLE REJOICE”

AS WE GATHER

Luke reports that at seeing the resurrected Jesus, the disciples “disbelieved for joy” (24:41). The theme of rejoicing is woven throughout the Scriptures. The psalmist exhorts: “Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” (66:1–2). The prophet Isaiah assures God’s people that they will have cause for rejoicing as he writes: “For the LORD comforts Zion; . . . joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (51:3). Paul writes to people who know of the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on that first Easter day: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The season of Easter is a time for joyous praise that begins now!

[If your health limits you, please don’t feel required to stand during the worship service.]



*In the Name of the
Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit*



✠ SERVICE OF PREPARATION ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN

(please stand for last stanza)

LSB 466

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear!
4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
You look for Je - sus who is not here.
He has a - ris - en this world to save.
Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go;
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;
Je - sus’ re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

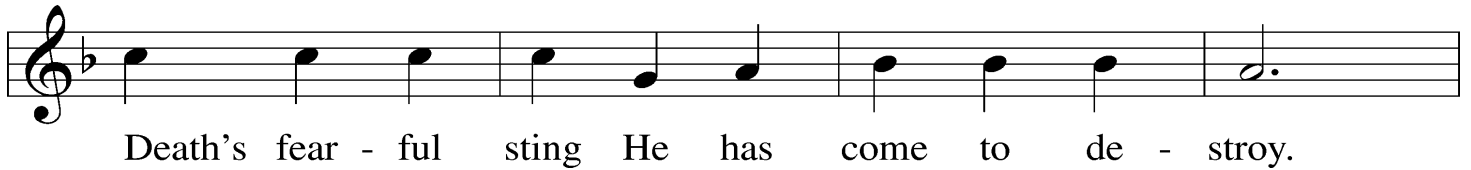


E - ven from death, E - dis - pel - ling its gloom.
And in its con - quest His might did show.
On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there.”
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won.”
He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

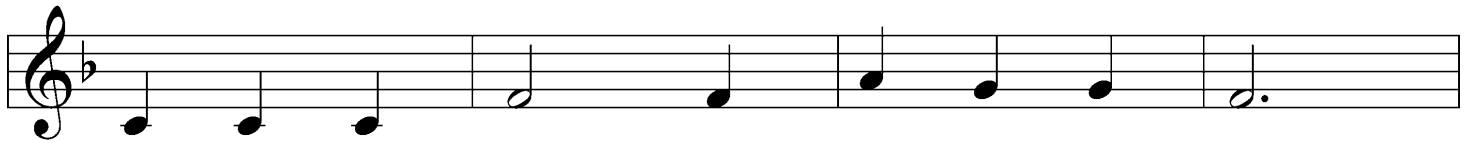
Refrain



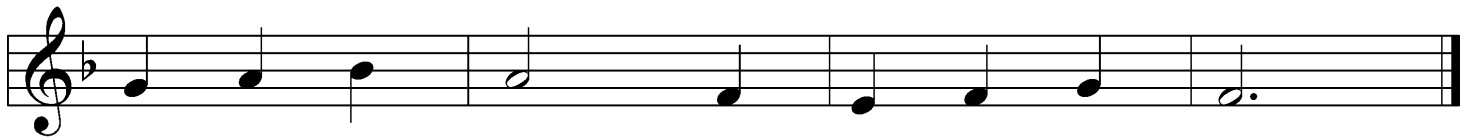
Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 204

“Gloria in Excelsis”



☐ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. “A - men!” our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ACTS 3:11-21

(Peter preaches in the heart of Jerusalem.)

¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?" ¹³"The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. ¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM

PSALM 4; ANTIPHON: V. 7

- P** You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.
- P** Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress.
- C** **Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**
- P** O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
- C** **How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**
- P** But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
- C** **the LORD hears when I call to him.**
- P** Be angry, and do not sin;
- C** **ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**
- P** Offer right sacrifices,
- C** **and put your trust in the LORD.**
- P** There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?”
- C** **Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”**
- P** You have put more joy in my heart
- C** **than they have when their grain and wine abound.**
- P** In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
- C** **for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**
- A** **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

EPISTLE

1 JOHN 3:1-7

(We are God's children now.)

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

(please stand)

(Tradition dictates that our eyes follow the cross. Please remain standing until the cross has been returned to its original position. The Gospel is read from the center of the church to symbolize the Gospel in our midst.)

VERSE AND ALLELUIA

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia. *Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32*



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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 24:36-49

(The disciples are witnesses of the risen Lord.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB 483

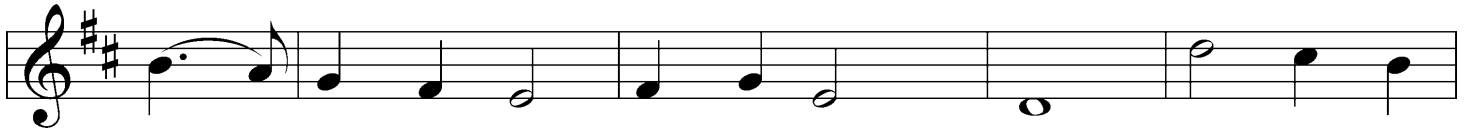
“With High Delight Let Us Unite”



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van-quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
His death has been death's un - do - ing. “And yours shall
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave,” Saith He, who
love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

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(please be seated)

SERMON TITLE: “*DOES PRACTICE MAKE PERFECT?*”

SERMON TEXT: *1 JOHN 3:1-7*

(please stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

(please be seated)

WE OFFER OUR FIRST FRUITS

(Financial support of Grace Lutheran Church is considered a privilege of membership. Although all offerings are welcome, we do not expect them from our visitors.)

VOLUNTARY

JOYFUL CHORUS

“Christ Is Risen, Christ Is Living”

(please stand)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with,

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

CLOSING COLLECT

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN TO DEPART

LSB 480

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”



1 He’s ris - en, He’s ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
△ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death’s pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den’s door.
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan’s do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.
For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.
With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

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POSTLUDE

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 *To God Alone Be the Glory* 
THOSE WHO SERVE

Presiding Minister Reverend Robert Pase
 Organist..... Virginia DeBerry
 Joyful Chorus Director Cindy Hilton
 Acolyte..... Kiernan Baker
 Elders Steve DeShaw / Josh Jones
 Ushers Mac Hall
 Todd Byars
 Pete Lufholm
 Altar Guild Cindy Hilton / Carol Massie
 Teller..... Mark Roush
 Nursery Alanna & Kate Stansell

GRACE PRAYS

We continue to pray for the following:

- Protection for our armed forces and strength for their families and Lt. Aaron Bell and his family.
- Wisdom for our nation’s leaders.
- Continued guidance and blessing for Pastor Pase.
- Continued guidance and blessing for Ms. Carol.
- Strength and commitment in tending our baptismal journey.
- Our Stephen Ministers.
- Our ECP.

ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS

❖ Charles Colgan, Jim Hill, Royce Parsley, & Melinda Richmond.

ILL OR RECOVERING

- ❖ Diane Richey (Carol Massie’s sister) had wrist surgery on 3/25. Therapy is going well.
- ❖ Walther Marcis (Pastor’s father-in-law) Tests scheduled to determine if he is a candidate for the TAVR procedure.
- ❖ Linda (sister of Rhonda Shutts) waiting on one more test. Then surgeon will decide if cancer is operable.
- ❖ Mike Barbian is now in Cimarron Place, Room #105.
- ❖ Charles Hall, (former JP in Midland & friend of Todd & Vicki Byars.) A doctor has been found to perform a procedure to help with his clogged artery! Date TBA.
- ❖ Mary Ann Johnson is in Hospice Care as of 4/4.



The flowers this morning have been provided to the Glory of God by

Matthew & Rachel Schimank

In celebration of our 8th wedding anniversary!
According to Matt, “Happy 8 years. Feels like 118.

Grace Lutheran Church – LCMS

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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ECP Office – (432) 694-3063

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Our Ministry Staff

Reverend Robert Pase, Pastor	425-9531
Carol Massie, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Life.....	638-4153
Mrs. Amy Hoppman, Early Childhood Director.....	894-7027
Ms. Victoria J. Crawson, Church Office Administrator	626-484-9723
Lea Keese, Parish Nurse.....	634-2580

Please see Grace in Action for the week’s calendar and other important information regarding the ministry of our congregation!