

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*

*Jesus*

*stood among them and said to them,*

*"Peace be with you." Luke 24:36*

*By Grace you have been saved!*

*Everyone is Welcome!*

*Taste and See that the Lord is Good,  
Let us rejoice together!*

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021

Pastor Jim Helgren

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Prelude & Announcements

Opening Hymn "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

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; 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.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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**

Kyrie: **C: response... "Lord, have mercy.**

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

The Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19

See Insert

Psalm 4

See Insert

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

See Insert

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

See Insert

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: ....The Gospel of the Lord"

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"

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

P: .... Lord in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

Offering

**C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather the harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful Father,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

The 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, the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy  
on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us  
peace.**

Distribution

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

**C: Amen**

**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has  
done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.  
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts  
of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Prayer – P: Let us pray...

**C: Amen**

Benediction

Closing Hymn                    "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Dismissal

***We pray always for . . .***

*Robert Armknecht, Bill Bohling, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels,  
Mary Goudie, Bruce Gerking, Axl Walters,  
our military men and women, their families and their leaders.*

***We also remember in our prayers . . .***

*Erick, Diana & Meshack, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.*



# Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 18, 2021

## Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

**Acts 3:12-19**

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God

raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

## Psalm

**Psalm 4; tone 8**



Answer me when I call, O God,  
defender <sup>1</sup> of my cause;

you set me free  
when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me  
and <sup>1</sup> hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>"**You mortals, how long  
will you dishon- <sup>1</sup> or my glory;  
how long will you love illusions  
and seek <sup>1</sup> after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD  
does wonders <sup>1</sup> for the faithful;

the LORD will hear me  
<sup>1</sup> when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and <sup>1</sup> do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence  
up- <sup>1</sup> on your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed <sup>1</sup> sacrifices,  
and put your trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying,  
"Who will show us <sup>1</sup> any good?"  
Let the light of your face  
shine upon <sup>1</sup> us, O LORD.**

*continued*

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness <sup>1</sup> in my heart,  
more than when grain  
and <sup>1</sup> wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie <sup>1</sup> down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD,  
make me <sup>1</sup> rest secure.

## Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

## Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled

fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

**Today 4/18/21**

Worship with communion – 8:30 a.m.

**Tuesday 4/20/21**

Funeral for Evelyn Effken – 2:00 p.m.

(Piecemakers has been rescheduled to 4/27)

Church Council – 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday 4/21/21**

Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday 4/22/21**

Tower Echoes Deadline

**NEXT SUNDAY 4/25/21**

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism for  
Kali Drake & Tucker Thomas

*May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the last Sunday School – Grab N Go style for the 20/21 school year. There is a basket at the back of the church with individual packets of Sunday School materials for you to take home thru May 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the south office. You may email the church office [grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com) NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS*

**You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613(cell)**

## **BASKETS OF PROMISE**

*The Women of Grace are again sponsoring the "Baskets of Promise" project for Lutheran World Relief. This has been a successful project and we thank everyone who has participated in the past and again this year.*

*For 5 weeks we will be collecting a different item that will be used to assemble the items for the Personal Care Kits. We will end the collection on Mother's Day as we honor these mothers by helping them ensure health for themselves and their families by being able to use these kits that we provide for them.*

*April 11 - Bars of Soap (4-5 oz.) Any brand in the original wrapping.*

*April 18 - Bath Towels (lightweight, maximum size 52" x 27", dark colors are recommended).*

*April 25 - Toothbrushes (adult size)*

*May 2 - Combs and Nail Clippers  
(Metal, attached file optional).*

*May 9 - **Mother's Day** - this will be the last Sunday of the gathering, so you can bring any of these items.*

*The above collection dates are suggestions. Items can be brought at any time and placed in the baskets located in the back of the church.*

*Last year we collected enough supplies to put together*

**100 kits.**

***Thank you to Thrivent Action Team contribution.***

**LET'S DO IT AGAIN!**