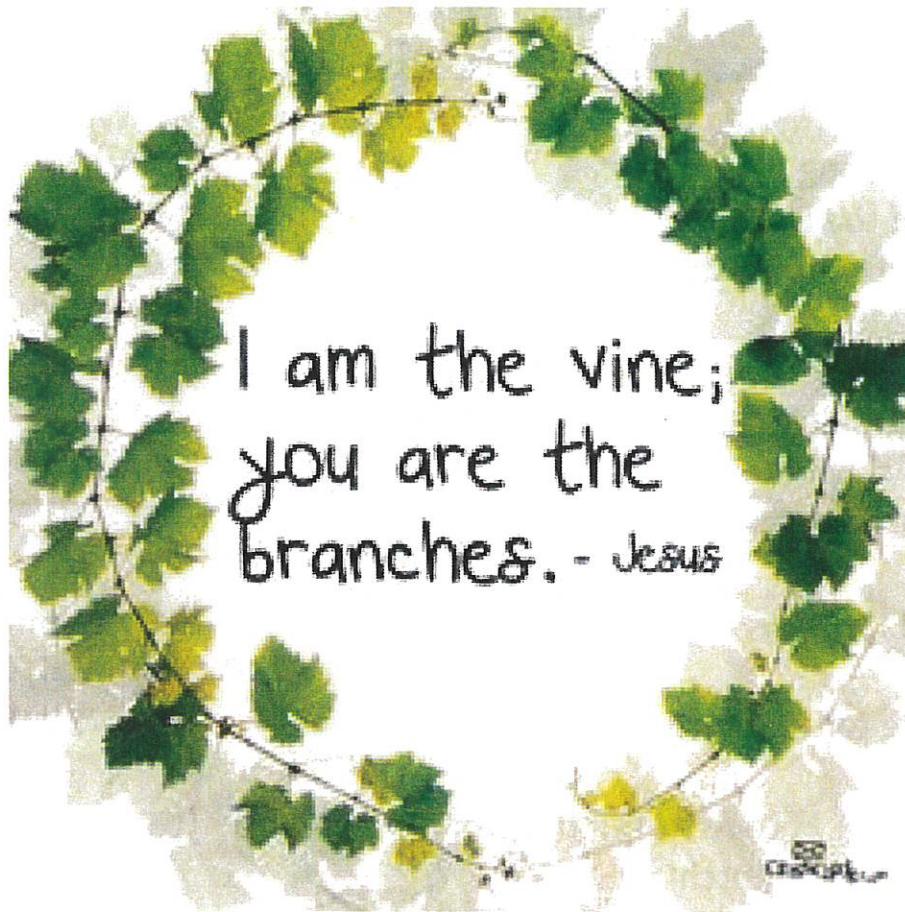


Grace Lutheran Church Welcomes You!



*By Grace you have been saved!
"We have decided to follow Jesus and
There's no turning back!"*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn

WOV Hymn # 674

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

Greeting

WOV Page 46

Scripture Song

WOV Page 47

Prayer of the Day

See Insert

The First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

See Insert

Psalm 22:25-31

See Insert

The Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

See Insert

The Gospel: John 15:1-8

See Insert

Gospel Acclamation

WOV Page 48

Children’s message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

WOV Hymn # 699

“Blessed Assurance”

Response to the Word

WOV Page 49

Offering

Offertory “I Love to Tell the Story” verses 1-3

LBW Hymn # 390

Prayers of the Church

WOV Page 52

The Lord’s Prayer

WOV Page 52

Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn

WOV Hymn # 671

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

Postlude



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Prayer of the Day

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the
slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before
its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

Acts 8:26-40

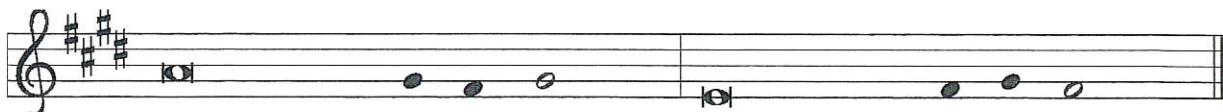
³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from
the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"

³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm



From you comes my praise
in the ¹ great assembly;
I will perform my vows
in the sight of those
who ¹ fear the LORD.

Psalm 22:25-31; tone 5

²⁶The poor shall eat ¹ and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD
give praise!
May your hearts ¹ live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn ¹ to the LORD;

continued

all the families of nations
shall bow ¹ before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs ¹ to the LORD,
who rules o- ¹ ver the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth
shall bow ¹ down in worship;
all who go down to the dust,
though they be dead,
shall kneel be- ¹ fore the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants
shall ¹ serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim
to genera- ¹ tions to come.
³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance
to a people ¹ yet unborn,
saying to them,
"The ¹ LORD has acted!"

Second Reading

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of

God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Gospel

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those

1 John 4:7-21

who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

John 15:1-8

We pray always for . . .

Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Becky Knake, & Haleigh Werner

We also remember in our prayers . . .

*Winfrida, Juliet, Vanesa & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring
in Tanzania*

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

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the
south office. Church office email grace68329@gmail.com*

Today 4/28/24

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Monday & Tuesday 4/29 & 30/24

Pastor @ Faith Forward Training – Des Moines, IA

Wednesday 5/1/24 Happy May Day!

8th Grade Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

Adult Education @ Grace Lutheran – 7:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 5/5/24

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Talmage Fire & Rescue Pancake Breakfast – til 1:00 p.m.

*Please join us for fellowship in the basement
following worship ☺*

Noisy coin offering will be collected Today.

75th Anniversary Celebration

It's exciting to open the envelopes with the 75th Anniversary Celebration forms. We just received a reservation from Eleanor (Miller) Haeffner and her husband Jack. They live in Lincoln and Eleanor was confirmed in 1957. Eleanor wrote "We are looking forward to the day. Thanks for the celebration." Yes, this will be an exciting day for those returning to Grace Lutheran and for all of us that worship here regularly.

If you haven't registered yet, please do so and encourage your family to register for the June 23rd celebration. This helps the committee continue to plan for the coffee bar and meal.

At this time, \$930 has been collected for the meal. Every Sunday in April a receptacle will be placed on the back table of the church sanctuary for donations for the meal expense. Any and all donations will go towards the 75th Anniversary Celebration meal.

Thank you!

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 participated in the past and again this year.

For 5 weeks, beginning April 14th, we will be collecting items that will be used to assemble 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.

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

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

Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)

Nail Clippers (Metal, attached file optional).

Mother's Day will be the last Sunday of the gathering, but items can be brought at any time.