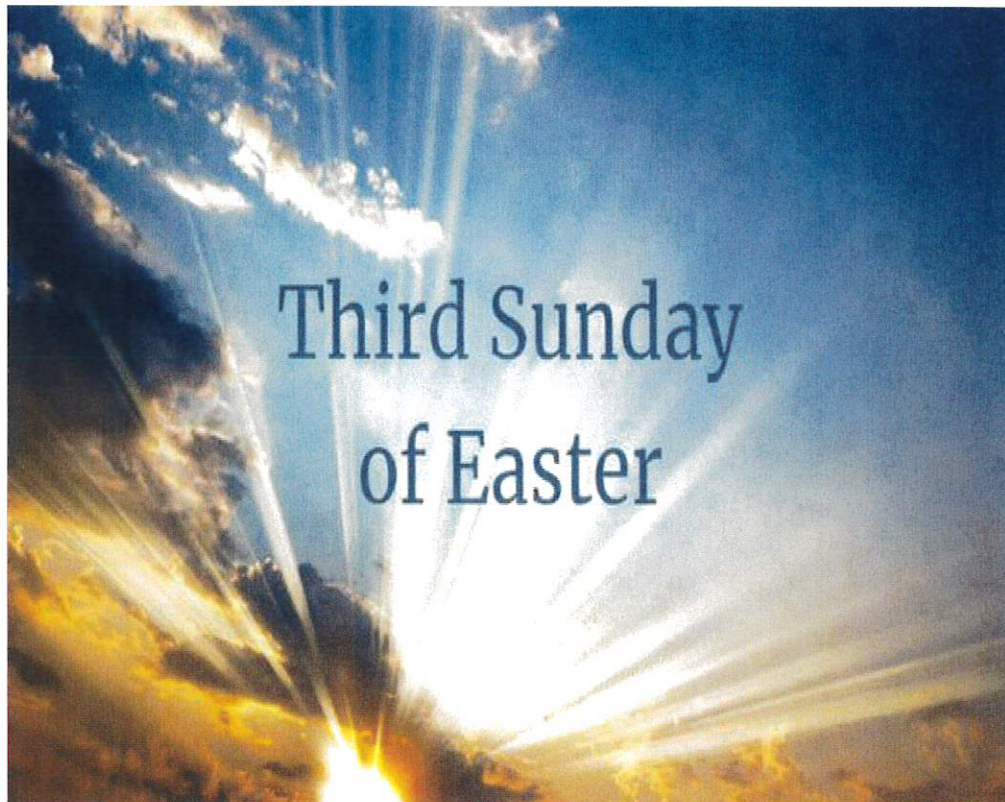


*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



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

Grace Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG - ELW #875 – “Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!” (Sing Twice)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - ELW p. 94 *Please stand in body or spirit to receive forgiveness.*

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

A: 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.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

A: 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

A: Amen. Assembly sits.

GREETING - p. 203

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

A: And also with you.

KYRIE - p. 203

HYMN OF PRAISE – P. 204a

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Please see insert. Response after the prayer: **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Acts 9:1-20 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 30 - Please see insert and read responsively

SECOND READING – Revelation 5:11-14 (not printed) Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – p. 205a



Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy gospel according to

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – John 21:1-19 Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ. *The assembly sits.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW #666 – “What Wondrous Love Is This”

NICENE CREED - p. 104

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 - p.206 Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

PEACE - p. 206 *Please stand in body or spirit*

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN - “Cultivating Love through Joy” hymn - ELW #860

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” – ALL verses

GREAT THANKSGIVING - p. 206

LORD'S PRAYER - p. 208

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.

LAMB OF GOD - p. 208

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION FOLLOWED by READING - p. 113

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.
Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

BLESSING - p. 209 - Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL - p. 209 - Response after the dismissal:

A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

SENDING SONG - ELW #825 – "You Servants of God"

Postlude

Announcements

TODAY 5/4/25 *Third Sunday of Easter*

Graduate Recognition Breakfast – 7:30 a.m.

Worship with Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Talmage Fire & Rescue Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SATURDAY 5/10/25

JCC High School Graduation – 2:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY 5/11/25 *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Worship– 8:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

We pray always for . . .

*Pastor Steve Billington, Linda Daniels, Char Helgren, Becky Knake,
Axl Walters, Joan Wellensiek, Andy Wellensiek & Haleigh Werner*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania

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

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

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

Our Heartfelt thoughts and prayer
to the friends and families of
Gayleen Eden.
Her funeral was held here at Grace
Lutheran yesterday.

Candles for Mosaic

Mosaic in Beatrice is requesting candles, new or used, stick, pillar or glass-contained for an employment opportunity for their residents. The residents will melt the candles down and then add saw dust. Finally, the mixture is poured into small cups to cool and be sold as fire starters. The fire starters can be used in both fireplaces and fire pits. The price is \$5.00 for 20 cups.

There is a box on the bench in the basement for collection of these candles.



Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Prayer of the Day

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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 9:1-6 [7-20]

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.

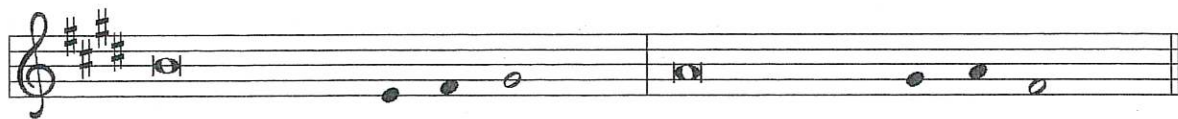
¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus

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, 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, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

Psalms

Psalms 30; tone 10



I will exalt you, O LORD,
because you have lift-¹ed me up
and have not let my enemies
triumph¹ over me.

²O LORD my God, I cried¹ out to you,
and you restored¹ me to health.

³You brought me up, O LORD,
¹from the dead;
you restored my life
as I was going down¹ to the grave.

⁴Sing praise to the LORD,
¹all you faithful;
give thanks in ho-¹ly remembrance.

⁵God's wrath is short;
God's favor¹ lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night,
but joy comes¹ in the morning.

⁶While I felt se-¹cure, I said,
"I shall never¹ be disturbed.

continued

Psalm, continued

⁷You, LORD, with your favor,
made me as strong ¹ as the mountains.”

Then you hid your face,
and I was ¹ filled with fear.

⁸I cried to ¹you, O LORD;

I pleaded with ¹my Lord, saying,

⁹“What profit is there in my blood,
if I go down ¹ to the pit?

Will the dust praise you
or de- ¹clare your faithfulness?

¹⁰Hear, O LORD,
and have mer- ¹cy upon me;
O LORD, ¹be my helper.”

¹¹You have turned my wailing
¹into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth
and clothed ¹me with joy.

¹²Therefore my heart sings to you
¹without ceasing;

O LORD my God,
I will give you ¹thanks forever.

Second Reading

Revelation 5:11-14 [not printed]

Gospel

John 21:1-19

After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them;

and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared 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.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt 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. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

TODAY'S READINGS May 4, 2025

Volume 56, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30.

TODAY'S READINGS (ISSN 1069-0166, USPS 009628) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Today's Readings, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1553. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$4.79 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day and psalm from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Psalm tone accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year C* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year C.