

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



Join Us for
WORSHIP

By Grace you have been saved!

*"We have decided to follow Jesus and
There's no turning back!"*

Grace Lutheran Church

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

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.

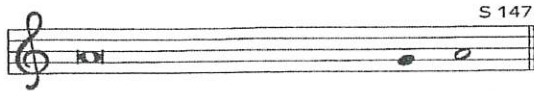
A: Amen. Assembly sits.

GREETING – (ELW p. 147)

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 - (ELW p. 147)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



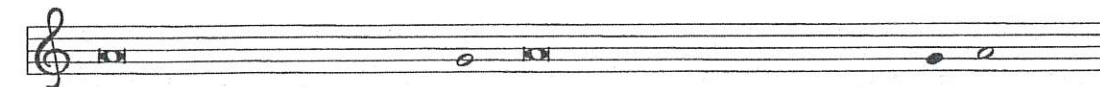
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



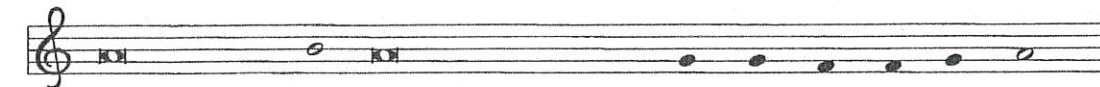
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



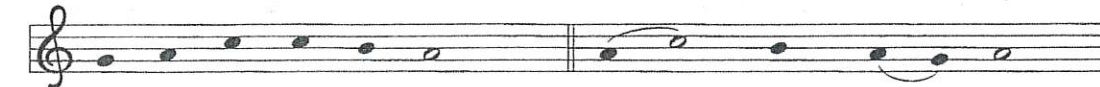
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE - (ELW p. 148)

Assisting minister S 148



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



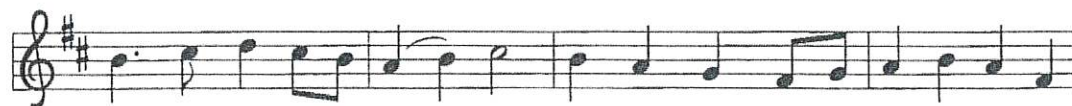
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Please see handout.

FIRST READING – Please see handout.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM - Please see handout and read responsively

SECOND READING – Please see handout.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – (ELW p. 151) *Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.*

S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The holy gospel according to

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – Please see handout.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

APOSTLES CREED – (ELW p. 105)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN - ELW #884 - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here
below;

Praise him above, ye heav’nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – (ELW p. 152)

Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER – (ELW p. 154) – *Please stand in body or spirit for 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,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING – (ELW p. 155)
Response after the blessing:
A: Amen.

DISMISSAL – (ELW p. 155)
Response after the blessing:
A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

SENDING SONG

POSTLUDE

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

Third Sunday of Easter

Gathering Song – ELW # 377 “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

Hymn of the Day – ELW # 539 “Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

Sending Song – ELW # 393 “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”

We pray always for . . .

*Louis & Grace Bentzinger, Gerry Brezenski, Linda Daniels, Julie Effken,
Elaine Hauberg, Kathi Johnson, Diane Roesener & Joan Wellensiek*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Juliana, Hassan, Jackline & Charles, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania

Announcements

TODAY 4/19/26 *Third Sunday of Easter*

Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

TUESDAY 4/21/26

Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day

WEDNESDAY 4/22/26

Kids for Christ – 4:00 p.m.

Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY 4/24/26

Tower Echoes Deadline

NEXT SUNDAY 4/26/26 *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Worship with Rite of Confirmation – 8:30 a.m.

No Sunday School

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

This morning we
welcome Nebraska
Synod Assistant to
the Bishop –
Amy Woods and
her husband Joel.

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)**

CONFIRMATION

Rite of Confirmation is next Sunday, April 26th.

Lucas Cropp, Jude Fricke & Hayden Wellensiek will make their Affirmation of Baptism and become confirmed members of Grace Lutheran Church.

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 12th, 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)

Sturdy Combs

Nail Clippers (Metal, attached file optional).

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

Graduating Senior Breakfast

You are invited to the Senior Breakfast to honor

Kaiden Dorn and Owen Weber on

Sunday, May 3, 7:30 a.m. in the Grace Lutheran Church basement. The students will share their future plans and The Piecemakers will gift each student a quilt.

If you plan to attend and/or if you would like to bring a breakfast food item, please contact Jody Wellensiek at 402-335-7121.



Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026

Prayer of the Day

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

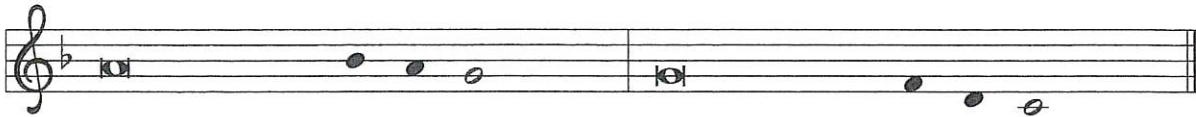
³⁶“Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name

of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Psalm

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; tone 2



I love the LORD,
who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
²for the LORD has given ¹ear to me
whenev- ¹er I called.
³The cords of death entangled me;
the anguish of the grave
¹came upon me;
I came to ¹grief and sorrow.
⁴Then I called upon the name
¹of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, ¹save my life.”
¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things
God has ¹done for me?
¹³I will lift the cup ¹of salvation
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people.
¹⁵Precious in your ¹sight, O LORD,
is the death ¹of your servants.
¹⁶O LORD, truly I ¹am your servant;
I am your servant,
the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me ¹from my bonds.
¹⁷I will offer you
the sacrifice ¹of thanksgiving
and call upon the name ¹of the LORD.
¹⁸I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people,
¹⁹in the courts of ¹the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
¹Hallelujah!

If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the

women had said, but they did not see him."

²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.