



Easter Season

Grace Lutheran Church

May 8 & 9, 2021

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

“We share God’s love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world.”

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Text: Henry van Dyke; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven. This selection is in the public domain.

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen, amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;
of heav'nly joy and earthly peace we sing.

We worship you, to you our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”
⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4)

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the
earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this,

that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY “What Wondrous Love Is This”

Text: North American folk hymn; Music: W. Walker; arr. Paul J. Christiansen. Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Fortress. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-708784. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.**

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

P: Let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

**We place upon your table, Lord,
the food of life, the bread and wine,
as symbols of our daily work,
according to your grand design.**

**Accept them, Lord; they come from you;
we take them humbly from your hand.**

**These gifts of yours for higher use,
we offer up as you command.**

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P: Let us pray...God of love,

C: you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...*(concluding)*... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise:...*(concluding)*...Blessing, praise, and thanks to you,
holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

HOLY COMMUNION

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

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COMMUNION MUSIC

P: Let us pray...Wellspring of joy,

**C: through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still
around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the
hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN “As Rain from the Clouds”

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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WE HAVE RETURNED TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

The same public health protocols that were utilized in the Fall are in place: masking, social distancing in the seating, no congregational singing, distancing on entering and leaving the sanctuary, no congregating in the office lobby before or after worship and as low touch environment as we can achieve.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream or recording.

PRAYERS

Kelly Pankey, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Betty Dulebohn, Paul Denstaedt, Gerald Lancaster, Charlotte Werth, Hannelore Duenkel & Family (Charlotte Werth's niece), Dorothy Hansen, Don, Verna & Tammy Furze, Larry Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Joanne Nicholls, Deb Nitchman's Family, Diane Prevost, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Allison, Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod staff, Amanda Lema (Betty Dulebohn's granddaughter), Lyn Marshall, Joanne Coughlin, Sylvia Rouech, Jimmy Lappan, Herb Schiller, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Genie Diamond, Laura Bleau, Sharon Anderson, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Joseph Hansen, and Scott Coddington.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).

Prayer concerns received by the church office by Tuesday each week will be included in the coming weekends bulletin. Please do have the person's permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than our congregation will know about it.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 5 LARCC parishes. This weekend we pray for the Lay Eucharistic Ministers at Trinity Episcopal Church. We also pray for this week's Synod Prayer Partners: Christ United Church/Dewitt, Rev. Terry Williamson and the 2021 Synod Assembly, Bishop Craig Satterlee and Ms. Sandy Schlesinger, Synod Council Vice President.

PERSONAL CARE KITS NEEDED

Lutheran World Relief has reached out to Grace. They are in desperate need of personal care kits. The discipleship committee is asking those that can to help. The items need for the kits follow:

- One bath size dark color towel
- 2-3 bath size soap bars (8-9 oz.) in original wrapper
- one adult size toothbrush, in original package
- one sturdy comb, no fine tooth combs
- one metal nail clippers

If you can purchase one complete kit and return the items to the church during office hours, before Saturday May 22, we can help to make a Christ-like difference in our community and world. Thank you, Phran Ludington and Dawn Anderson, Discipleship Co-chairs

CHRIST IN OUR HOMES DEVOTIONAL FOR APRIL-JUNE

Christ in Our Homes Devotional for April-June is available in the Office Lobby. Pick one up during office hours of Tuesday - Thursday 8 am to noon or call the office and we will mail one to you.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is open Tuesday-Thursday, from 8 a.m. - noon. We ask that you please wear a mask when in the building. Please log in on the sheets as you enter the Office Lobby. Please also log out as you exit the building, noting the areas of the building that you were in.

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,489.00
Weekly giving - May 2	4,194.00

We received:

26 envelopes, 22 Simply Giving recurring payments,
and 2 Give+ payments made from our website



Anniversaries of Baptism

May 4
Jerry Charter

May 5
Kody Bertrand

May 6
Michael Lang

May 7
Jeanne Pankey
Ella Sandula
Kady Sandula

May 8
Phran Ludington

May 9
Sheri Smith

May 10
Trevor Denstaedt
Taylor Hayward

May 11
Christopher Piontkowski
Stacey Piontkowski

May 12
Monroe Garant
Marjorie Weber

May 13
Joshua Engstrom

May 14
Logan Suszek

May 17
Wesley Garant
Hannah Kamyszek
Hope Kamyszek
Savannah Kamyszek
Kathryn Reynolds

May 19
Alexander Bauer

May 25
Lori Graham

May 27
Erica Wilson

May 28
Darlene Dekett

May 29
Jeffrey Welch

May 30
Terry Bertrand



May 1
Ethan McIntosh
James (J.J.) Timrick

May 2
Grace Kuligowski
Scott Lancaster
Harper Suszek

May 3
Chad Lewis
Beth Matzke
Craig Weise

May 4
Thomas (T.J.) Lappan
Mya Styma

May 5
Vicki Piontkowski

May 6
Dawn Anderson
Olivia Viegelahn

May 8
Matthew Anderson

May 10
Julie Townsend

May 11
Michele Amelotte

May 12
Rachel Chroninger
Taylor Chroninger
Nancy Platt
Peggy Tomaszewski

May 14
Lyn Schultz

May 15
Laurie Hansen

May 16
Jan Charter

May 17
Audrey Garant

May 18
Jacob Gapske
Karen Suszek

May 19
Michael McCourt
Rebecca Trelfa
Brett Werblow

May 22
Alexander Bauer
Pamela Kirchoff
Roger Pankey

May 23
Scott Coddington

May 24
Betty Bedford
Joanne Kindt

May 25
Polly Cook

May 26
Darlene Dekett
Stacey Townsend

May 29
Miriam Denstaedt

May 30
Gary Graham



Wedding Anniversaries

2nd Stephen & Janie Hansen
3rd Jeff & Sandy Welch
5th Jon & Mari Crow
10th Bob & Rosa Greene
17th Paul & Vicki Denstaedt
30th Eric & Emma Barber

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