



Easter Season

Grace Lutheran Church

April 18, 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 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

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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

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 3:12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²[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?”

¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 4

The LORD does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

1 John 3:1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures.

Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 24:36b-48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

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

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY “Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

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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

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: 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.

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 “Lord, Be Glorified”

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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

GRACE IN-PERSON WORSHIP REMAINS SUSPENDED

On Wednesday evening, April 7, we received word that with COVID-19 cases in our area rising significantly and our hospital being stressed the resident pulmonologist Dr. Dan Maxwell's recommendation for his church, Trinity Episcopal, was not to resume in-person worship this weekend. With the heaviest of hearts, Grace's Council has made the decision not to resume our in-person worship here this weekend. It is out of an abundance of Christian care for our community and for health care workers that we make this decision. The local conditions will continually be evaluated and we hope and expect the return to in-person worship will be in the coming weeks. With increasing vaccinations and continued public health practices, this horrible pandemic is almost over. We all can be part of the solution to this pandemic for everyone by making our sacrifices for just a little while longer.

PRAYERS

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, Vicki Piontkowski, 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, Scott Coddington, and Cody Gustin.

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 RCIA/Adult Ed. at All Saints Catholic Parish. We also pray for this week's Synod Prayer Partner: St. Thomas Ev. Lutheran Church/Cheboygan, Rev. David Hueter.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In honor of Joel & Corinne Fraley's 45th wedding anniversary, April 17th.

ADULT CE FOR SUNDAY APRIL 18
Vaccine Patriotism vs. Vaccine Globalism

What is our Christian responsibility to care for others? And how do we balance that with care for our family? Or our community? What about the needs of other countries with much less resources than we have? How do we balance limited resources with an almost infinite need? Join us at 11 on Zoom as we discuss living out our Christian faith in the midst of our daily realities.

MARK BIBLE STUDY

With Mark the Gospel for this lectionary year, we will start a Sunday series on the Gospel on May 2 by reading through the whole gospel together . Then lessons on specific parts will continue on Sundays through June. The books for the series are \$12. Please contact Pastor Tom or the office by April 27 to order.

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

VIEW SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 AM ONLINE

Our Sunday morning worship service will be livestreamed. Go to www.gracelutheran-alpena.org for the link to the YouTube livestream. A recording of the service will be available for viewing anytime afterwards.

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.



Anniversaries of Baptism

April 1
Jon Carr

April 2
Kaitlyn Tomaszewski

April 3
Ruby Haske
Dorene Schultz

April 4
Norm Timm

April 7
Tyler Suszek

April 8
Don Cross

April 9
Patrick Daly

April 11
Shane Jaroch

April 12
David Hansen

April 14
Jeanette Chroninger

April 15
Anna Greene

April 21
Taylor Agius

April 22
Vicki Cripps

April 24
Donna Czarnecki

April 25
Jacob Gapske
Denise Timrick

April 26
Reed Lappan

April 27
Grant Anderson
Patrick McCourt

April 28
Mike Dekett
Chloe Hayward

April 29
Michael Herrmann
Sophia Kamyszek

April 1
Jim Clemens
Bryan Stafford
Larry Suszek

April 6
Janet Carlson

April 7
Robert Greene
Everett Haske

April 8
June Daly
Tyler McKenzie

April 9
Phran Ludington

April 10
Nicholas Schillerstrom
Logan Suszek

April 11
James Malaski

April 13
Jeanne Pankey
Piper Slominski

April 14
Kendra McInerney

April 15
Wesley Garant
Myles Granata
Alec Kennedy



April 16
Pamela Agius
Bruce Anschuetz

April 18
Alecia Lewis
Julie Troy

April 19
Ryan Reynolds

April 20
Connor Freel

April 22
Stacey Piontkowski

April 23
Mike Schiller

April 24
Madison Timmreck

April 25
Terry Bertrand
Jordyn Cieslik

April 26
Sharon Engstrom
Lorah Lappan

April 27
Nancy Amelotte

April 30
Molly O'Connor



Wedding Anniversaries

6th *Don & Verna Furze*

8th *Donald & Myra Cross*

12th *Rich & Sherie McTaggart*

14th *Dustin & Angela Crittenden*

17th *Joel & Corinne Fraley*

Michael & Donna Morgan

18th *Richard & Janet Carlson*

30th *Douglas & Staci Chroninger*

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 - April 11	7,535.00

We received:

20 envelopes, 21 Simply Giving recurring payments,
and 3 Give+ payment made from our website

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH **119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707**
Phone: Office 354-2640 Pastor's Home 356-8729 Pastor's Cell Phone 916-8759
Pastor: Rev. Thomas W. Orth ~ Web Site: www.gracelutheran-alpena.org
E-mail: pastor@gracelutheran-alpena.org officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org



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