

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
APRIL 28, 2024  
9:30A

## Welcome!

**If this is your first time at Grace**, we invite you to fill out a "connect" card found in the pew rack and give it to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

If you prefer, scan this QR code so we can find out who you are! We look forward to connecting with you!



## Children are welcome in worship!

There are two Playgrounds: one in the front of the sanctuary and one in the back gallery. Playgrounds have pint-sized chairs and quiet toys.

## Nursery Care

(Ages 0-3 years)  
Open 9:15-11:30a  
The nursery is available and staffed by an adult. An usher can direct you to the nursery.

## Kids Connect

(Age 4 - Grade 3)  
Kids exit following Children's Message, and return following the sermon.  
*Bonehead is leading this week!*

## The Neighborhood

(Age 4 - Grade 5)  
Open 10:40-11:30a  
A space for free-play, creativity, and imagination.

## WELCOME TO GRACE

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran – we are so glad to have you with us this morning! A few pieces of orientation and welcome:

- Large-print bulletins and hymn selections can be found in a red binder as you enter the sanctuary.
- At the entrance to the worship space, kids will find books, crayons, and gadgets to use during worship, as well as children's bulletins.
- There are all-gender restrooms that can be accessed by exiting the sanctuary to the left and following a short hallway.
- If you wish to share a prayer, there are "prayer" cards in the pews. You can hand your card to an usher or leave it in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary.
- We welcome you just as you are! Grace is a Reconciling in Christ congregation, and we are committed to expanding, growing, and strengthening our welcome.

## GOD WELCOMES ALL

### PRELUDE

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Grace Bells

### WELCOME

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for water.

**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for baptism.

**We praise you, O God, for baptism.**

Amen, and amen.

**Amen, and amen.**

### OPENING SONG

*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!*

ELW #377 v1-3

### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life through the power of Christ's resurrection. **May we be open to the Spirit's pruning in every season so that we can bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of joy. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH A LIVING WORD

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Sarah

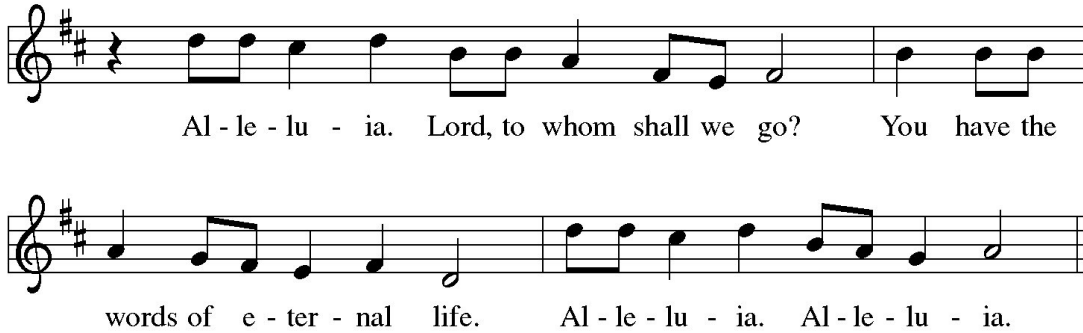
Noisy Offering is collected now; people of all ages invited to participate!  
 Afterward, children leave for Kids Connect; led by Bonehead today.

**FIRST READING**

1 John 4:7-21

**GOSPEL VERSE***Alleluia*

ELW Setting 3



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL**

John 15:1-8

(before) The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter 15.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

(after) This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON**

Pastor Sarah

**HYMN OF THE DAY***God the Sculptor of the Mountains*

ELW #736

**LITANY FOR THE EARTH***Adapted from Fran Pratt*

God, we lament the destruction that has been done,

**That we have permitted to be done;**

By our silence and inaction,

**And by our direct action**

To the Earth – your Creation.

**Forgive us, O God.**

Even now we realize that our home

**Is suffering,**

Its inhabitants are suffering,

**From lack of clean air and water,**

Lack of life-giving nourishment,

**Lack of safe habitat.**

Help us to become aware

**Of the needs of communities,**

Of the needs of generations to come,

**Of the needs of creatures and lands.****Hymnal Notes**

**ELW stands for Evangelical Lutheran Worship**, the red worship book in the pew racks.

**Page numbers (pg. 227)** indicate pages in the front of the hymnal.

**Hymn numbers (ELW #879)** indicate hymns in the back of the hymnal.

**ACS stands for All Creation Sings**, which is the newest hymnal in the ELCA. We do not have these hymnals in our worship space, so the music is printed in the bulletin.

Arouse in us a new compassion,  
**A new willingness to change,**  
A new understanding of the connectedness of all things,  
**And a new appreciation of the gift that is Earth, our home. Amen.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving and merciful God, **bring new life.**

#### SHARING OF PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS | INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,  
God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and  
your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are  
signs of your abundant grace. **Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish  
us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in our world,  
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

We give thanks for all  
expressions of  
generosity given in  
response to our  
generous God.

The offering plate is  
on the table outside  
of the worship  
space.

Use the QR code  
below if you wish to  
give online.



Scan me

### GOD INVITES US TO THE TABLE

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and  
join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

<i>Lamb of God</i>	Setting 3 pg. 146
<i>Adagio</i>	String Quartet,
Jack Morgan, Sam Morgan, Heather Olivier, Michael Olivier	
<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	ELW #733
<i>God of the Sparrow</i>	ELW #740

**BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray,  
 Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. **Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

**Holy Communion is celebrated** at every service, for Jesus says to his friends, "Do this in remembrance of me."

At Christ's table, all are welcome, no exceptions. Here, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the promise of new life in God.

Gluten-free wafers are on the small table in the center aisle. Grape juice is in the center ring of cups.

Children are welcome to commune at their parents' discretion. Anyone can come forward for a blessing.

If you wish to receive communion but are unable to come forward, please inform an usher, and a server will bring the meal to you.

# GOD SENDS US TO LOVE AND SERVE THE WORLD

All children are **invited** to walk out with the worship leaders during the last verse of the sending hymn to lead the words of dismissal.

## SENDING HYMN

*Let All Things Now Living*

ELW #881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

## BENEDICTION AND SENDING

In the name of almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, Mother of us all, **Amen.**

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Postlude On Creation*

Haydn

## GRACE NEWS & NOTES

### SUNDAY FORUM

**Today** - Boiler Replacement Task Force presents sustainable options for repairs/replacements  
May 5 - The Link/C.O.R.E. presentation

### CREATED TO BE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JUNE 17-20**, 9A TO NOON

Registration information for the June Vacation Bible School is at [graceofav.org/kids-events](http://graceofav.org/kids-events).

### GRACE LUTHERAN DISCOVERY CENTER ENROLLMENT DISCOUNT

Our new preschool partnership is open for enrollment! Visit [ladcfamilies.org/locations](http://ladcfamilies.org/locations).

**For a limited time, LADC is offering a \$1000 tuition discount for all new fall enrollments!**

### FREE JOLLY POPS CONCERT

**Friday, May 10**, 5:30-7:00p | Grace Church

To celebrate the grand opening of Grace Lutheran Discovery Center, everyone is invited to have fun at a live performance by The Jolly Pops and their musical puppets, cookie and party hat decorating, and more!

### KIDS PENTECOST CHOIR

Rehearsals immediately following worship on April 28, May 5, and May 12. We will sing on May 19th!

Ages 4 and up are welcome!

### BE A RAIN GARDEN VOLUNTEER

We need your help to install the garden in the north yard during May and June! Sign up to help using the QR code on the bulletin board. Please reach out to Corrie Walden if you have any questions.

Weather-permitting volunteer dates are May 4, 5, 11, 18, and June 1, 8.

### SCONE SALE

Support the Racial Justice Ministry with your scone purchase! You are invited to pre-order until May 5, and pick up your scones on Sunday, May 12, after worship. The order form is posted at [graceofav.org/news-and-announcements](http://graceofav.org/news-and-announcements). You can also order on Sunday mornings with cash or check.

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY: REVELATION WITH DR. JIM OLLHOFF

**Thursdays**, 9:30a through May 9 | Friendship Hall

### CARD CARE MINISTRY GATHERING

**Wednesday, May 1**, 1:30p | Alpha Omega Room

### GUATEMALAN BOOK DISCUSSION & MEETING

**Thursday, May 2**, 6:30p | Fellowship Hall

### GRACE BOOK CLUB MEETS

**Saturday, May 4**, 9:30a | Bonhoeffer Room

### PENTECOST GERANIUMS - ORDER TODAY! (LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MAY 5)

You only have two weeks to order your Pentecost Geraniums! You have the option to bring your flowers home on Pentecost Sunday after service, or donate them to be planted on the church grounds.

### THEOLOGY TUESDAY

**Tuesday, May 7**, 6:00p | Orchard Path Club Room

Not a class or a lecture! All are welcome to join in this casual evening for our questions and lively discussions. Bring your own dinner, drink, or snack to the Orchard Path Club Room. Contact Sue Swanson if you have any questions.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### GRACE STAFF

#### PASTORS

Sarah Rohde  
Reed Fowler

#### FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR

Lisa Sampson

#### CHURCH OPER. DIRECTOR

Lisa Wolf

#### CHOIR & BELL DIRECTOR

Steve Boehlke

#### ORGANIST

Sheryl Vande Kamp

#### CUSTODIAN

Payton Henderson

#### BUILDING/AV

Eric Rasmus

#### OFFICE ADMIN

Mary Culbertson

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
9:00a - 3:00p

### SAVE THE DATE!

Shared Leadership  
Meeting  
**Tuesday, May 14, 6:15p**

*Grace holds a CCLI,  
CVLI, OneLicense,  
and Augsburg Fortress  
Liturgies License.*

*Additional resources:  
Litany by Fran Pratt  
Mozart's Adagio arr.  
by Ryden  
Bells arr. by  
McFadden  
Postlude arr. by  
Callahan*

### Sunday, Apr 28

9:15a Nursery is open  
9:30a Worship  
Bonehead leading KC  
10:30a Fellowship  
10:40a Forum: Boiler Task Force  
10:40a The Neighborhood is open

### Monday, Apr 29

### Tuesday, Apr 30

6:00p Visitation Team Training / AO

### Wednesday, May 1

1:00p Al-Anon / Bonhoeffer  
1:30p Card Ministry Gathering / AO  
7:00p Bells Rehearsal / Sanct  
7:30p Choir Rehearsal / Sanct

### Thursday, May 2

9:30a Bible Study: Revelation / FH  
4:00p Grandparents HH / Zoom  
6:30p Guatemala Ministry / FH  
6:30p Survivor Resources / Bonh  
7:00p Clowns Across River / AO

### Friday, May 3

6:00p Singles Living Alone / Zoom  
7:30p AA / Alpha Omega

### Saturday, May 4

9:30a Book Club / Bonhoeffer

### Sunday, May 5

9:30a Affirmation of Baptism  
Service

## PRAYER AND CARE

### PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Pray for healing and wholeness for Linda, Dick, Bev, Phil, Larry, and all who are sick, lonely, undergoing medical treatment, and grieving.

Pray for our partner congregation, Mensajeros de Cristo Lutheran Church of Guatemala.

Fill out a Prayer Card and place the card in the offering plate or submit your prayer request at [graceofav.org/prayerrequests](http://graceofav.org/prayerrequests).

Contact Pastor Reed ([r.fowler@graceofav.org](mailto:r.fowler@graceofav.org) or 952-207-9547) to be part of the ministry of prayer surrounding our members and community, or if you are in need of a home/hospital visit.

## YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

We at Grace Lutheran Church are committed to being an affirming, loving and welcoming community of faith for all people. We believe the gospel is God's gift to be shared unconditionally regardless of age, ethnicity, race, national origin, family configuration or relationship status, physical or mental ability, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. Although our world can often be an unloving and alienating place, we rejoice in the diversity that has nurtured, enriched and challenged the life and ministry we share. We are committed to equity and inclusion, to the work of anti-racism, and advocating for marginalized groups and peoples. All are welcome to participate fully in the community of Grace Lutheran Church. Following the example of Christ, this congregation welcomes you exactly as you are.

*Adopted Nov.13, 2016 Revised and Reaffirmed Oct. 20, 2021*

