

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St

Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

Worship Committee e-mail: gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com

Phone: (269) 945-9414

(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

Phantom Pains

After an amputation a majority of patients experience phantom pains. The arm is not there, yet he feels it cramping. The hand is gone, yet she feels it throbbing. The foot has been removed, yet he feels it twitching.

Today we meet the disciples, gathered together on the third day after the crucifixion, afraid they are experiencing nothing more than the phantom pains of grief. They had become one body, then on that gruesome day a part of their body was severed from the rest. On this day, Christ returns, but they think they know better. He is just a figment of their imaginations, a phantom pain of the way things used to be, a ghost.

We live in a world full of phantoms. City centers that once were thriving are lonely ghost towns. Forests and plains have been churned up and cut down and turned into housing developments. At our own Easter gatherings, members of the community who once were present are now missing.

In a phantom world we come to expect nothing but disembodied hope and fleeting memory. But God is not a phantom. We are witnesses to an Easter God who raised Jesus from the dead, who dressed Christ in flesh, and who is at work today. This Easter God is restoring places where creation has been cut off from creation, resurrecting our hollowed out, hazy, ghost town world and dressing the earth and all her creatures in flesh and bone, in life once again.

We are people who “look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come” (Nicene Creed). We have become accustomed to those phantom pains, but behold! This is no trick of the imagination. That which was severed from us has been restored. Alleluia!

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday and throughout the year. It's because of his death and resurrection that we are assured of forgiveness from our sins, and everlasting life with God. The liturgical colors are white, a color of triumph and glory, and gold, a color of joy.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able

Easter Proclamation and Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

P Holy people of God, given new life through the gospel of Christ, and enlightened by the Spirit: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Gathering Music

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367 (red book)

Responsive Litany of Easter Praise

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

A This is the day that the Lord has made;

C **we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

P The Lord is my strength and my song.

C **The Lord has become my salvation.**

A Open to me the gates of righteousness;

C **I will go through them and praise the Lord.**

P I shall not die, but live,

C **and declare the works of the Lord.**

A This is the day that the Lord has made;

C **we will rejoice and be glad in it!**



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
 When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray . . . 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.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 3:12-19

After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people 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.

☞ A reading from **Acts**:

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.”

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 4



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 dishon- | or 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 up- | on 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.** ☒

Second Reading

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.

☒ A reading from **1 John:**

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.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is
Oh,

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is
vic - t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Oh,

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

vic-t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Gospel Reading

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.

☞ The Holy Gospel, according to **Luke**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{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.”

☞ The Resurrection Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Message/Children’s Church

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message.

Message

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

Day of Arising

ELW 374 (red book)

3SE-7

Nicene Creed

A We confess our faith as one body in Christ Jesus:

C 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.

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

A Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, we pray for the church and its many expressions. Strengthen the National Youth Gathering planning team. Prepare the hearts and minds of the youth and adults who will experience your love this summer. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Central United Methodist Church in Lake Odessa, Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Lord, in your mercy,

C (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A Creating God, you gave us dominion over every living creature. Grant us wisdom to use our power to develop sustainable farming and housing practices. Slow down our rush to consume. Lord, in your mercy,

C (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A Merciful God, walk with all refugees who leave their homes to move to safety. Protect them on their journey. Greet them with hospitality. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten.* Lord, in your mercy,

C (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A Compassionate God, you heal us. For all who have not been granted the healing they desire and for all who cannot access the care they need, send social workers, doctors, parish nurses, and other caregivers. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, including *Sharon Duits, Nancy Woltjer, Lucy Gray, Jamie, Ryan, Kira and Julie Ann, Fred Kogge, Tim Lowe, John Glasgow, Audrey Burdick, Zues Duites, John Burdick, Bruce Sheets and family.* Lord, in your mercy,

G (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A God our provider, you call us to give generously. Bless the finance and stewardship teams of this congregation. Make us joyful givers of the time, talents, and treasures you have first given us. Lord, in your mercy,

G (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A Be attentive, gracious God, to the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Lord, in your mercy,

G (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

A God of our ancestors, in you we have our beginning and our end. We remember all the faithful departed. Enfold in a shield of peace all those who mourn. Hold them in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

G (sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.

P We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

G And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill it out and place a Participation Card in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

Stand as you are able.

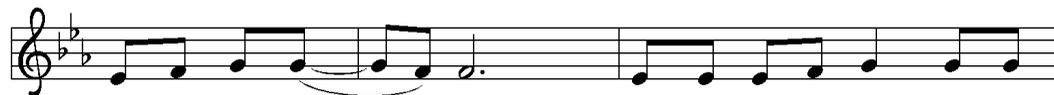
Offering Song

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 185 (red book)



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



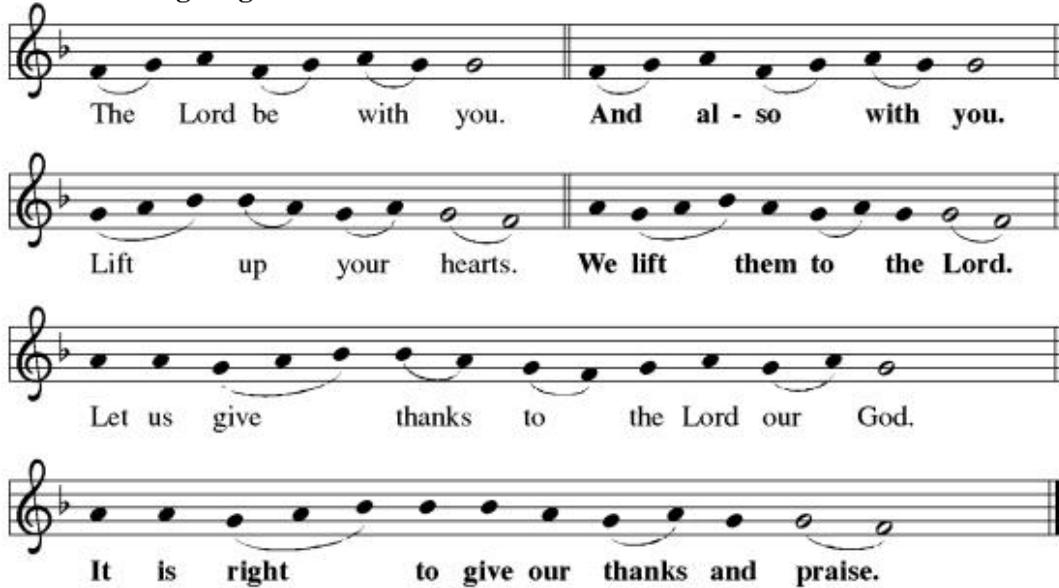
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples.

G Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

- ☐ Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
- ☑ **We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery.**
- ☐ We give you thanks for sending your Son, Jesus, to be our Redeemer.
- ☑ **We praise you for Christ, who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.**
- ☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- ☑ **Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.**
- ☐ Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
- ☑ **To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:

☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as 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.**

Invitation to Communion

☐ Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

Sit

Lamb of God



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

As We Gather at Your Table
Bread of Life, our Host and Meal
By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 522 (red book)

ELW 464

ELW 469

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A 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.

G **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.**

Congregational Announcements

Blessing

P May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

G **Amen.**

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Song

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

ELW 364 (red book)

Dismissal

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

G **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 88

Weekly Giving: **\$3,044.00**

Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of beef and chicken based soups (not chicken noodle or vegetable beef); chowders; butter beans; dried beans; juice in 64 oz bottles; canned salmon; julienne boxed potatoes; pie filling; shortening; flour; and sugar.

Dishes – if you are missing glass bakeware, 9x9 or 9x13, please check in the kitchen.

ELCA Military Personnel Prayer Book - Stop by the display table in the coffee fellowship area to learn how you can send a Lutheran Military Prayer Book to someone serving in the armed forces and/or write a note of support and gratitude to be included in one of the prayer books we will be sending out. Suggested donation for each prayer book is \$8-100 to cover purchase and mailing costs. If you'd like to bake some cookies for service personnel there is a place to sign-up for that also. Thanks for your support. Grace Outreach Committee

ELCA World Hunger boxes – can be returned to the office. Please have these returned by **April 29th**.

Congregational Care Committee will be meeting on Monday, **April 23** at 3:00 pm

Fifth Sunday – April 29 Remember, on 5th Sundays Grace only celebrates one service at 10:00 am, and the Adult Forum moves up to 8:45 am. April 29 is a 5th Sunday. Come and celebrate our unity together through this one worship opportunity.

Hastings Food Pantry - May 12th is the Stamp Out Hunger food drive. If you would like to participate, place a sealed, moisture proof bag of non-perishable groceries out by your mailbox on Saturday, May 12 and your postal carrier will pick it up and deliver it to the Hastings Food Pantry.

Vacation Bible School - We have chosen the curriculum for our Vacation Bible School program this year. We are using Group's Shipwrecked. Through this program we will witness how we are rescued by Jesus. Grace Church is thankful to the generous spirit of a member who paid for the initial materials that were ordered. Our Vacation Bible School at Grace will be during the evenings of the **week of July 22, 2018**. Please pray for this ministry we share in Jesus' name with children, youth and adults as an outreach to our community. We hope that you are willing to help in making VBS a time of learning and growing in God's grace revealed in Jesus Christ. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please talk to Pastor Ken.

Renovation Update The original debt amount for the purchase of new carpet was \$16,258.38. To date we have received \$7,250 in generous donations from our members. The remaining debt for the carpet is **\$9,008.38**. **We would be blessed if you would be willing to help pay down this debt we owe to ourselves.** Thanks for your consideration. If you would like to write a check, please remember to write 'carpet fund' in the memo line.

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Mark Anton	Vickey Argo
Lector	Chris Bush	Carla Neil
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Emma Peck
Usher	Dan & Gavin Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr. Children's Church	Melissa Patton	John/Mary Kleinbrink Shayna Gibbons
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich & Lisa Golnek	

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, April 22, 2018

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Kristi Winick
Communion Server	Melissa Patton	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Lance Ogden
Usher	Kay Marsh	Ed Domke
	Grayson Patton	<i>Volunteer</i>
Greeter/Coffee Hr. Children's Church	Mark/Jana Bishop	Doug/Diane Neeb Kate Wason
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich & Lisa Golnek	

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, April 15	Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am Children's Church 10:45 am
Monday, April 16	LACS rehearsal 6:15 – 9:30 pm
Tuesday, April 17	Council 6:00 pm GraceGram article deadline
Wednesday, April 18	Mutual Ministry 6:15 pm
Thursday, April 19	Clapper Kids 3:45 – 5:00 pm Grace Notes 5:45 – 7:00 pm
Friday, April 20	Décor painting party – Houston youth 6:00 – 8:30 pm
Saturday, April 21	Team Grace for Houston 5:00 – 7:00 pm