

Grace Lutheran Church

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Transitioning

For some women the most painful and difficult point in the process of giving birth is near the end of active labor, just before it is time to push. It is the point at which many women think they cannot bear the labor any longer. This phase is commonly called the *transition*.

Today Jesus announces that he is going away, and the community of disciples knows that things will not be the same moving forward. Jesus will no longer be with the disciples, but he will send the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, to join them. The disciples cannot bear it. It's a time of transition.

Between the community of disciples in John's gospel and the swarming crowds at Pentecost in the reading from Acts, we see the fullness of this transition. In the gospel we see the disciples devastated and sorrowful, unsure if they want to continue on without Jesus. Then we jump to the astonishment of Pentecost, when the Spirit of God rushes in like a mighty wind, making them drunk with joy. On the day of Pentecost there was no doubt that a page had turned and a new beginning had come to those followers of Jesus. We see the leap that is made from fear to freedom, from pain and loss to birth and life.

What is transitioning in your life? In your community? What familiar things are passing away and what new thing is God about to blow into your midst?

Transition almost always comes with pain and risk. Our hope is that the moment we do not think we can bear it any longer is precisely the moment that new life is taking hold. Do not be afraid of that which you cannot bear. It is a sign of the new thing the Spirit is bringing to birth!

Day of Pentecost

May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday is the commemoration of the Holy Spirit's arrival after Jesus' ascension. The Holy Spirit is represented by the symbols of fire, wind and dove. The color is red signifying fire.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

On this fiftieth day of Easter, the church gathers to celebrate the ongoing life of the Holy Spirit who is its breath, vitality, and inspiration. Through the Holy Spirit, the good news unravels age-old divisions among peoples and nations. In the waters of baptism, the Spirit gives us birth as brothers and sisters of Christ and unites people of different races, tribes, and ethnic groups. In the bread and cup of the holy supper, the Spirit nourishes our unity in worship and witness. Far from celebrating its "birthday" on this day, the church offers thanksgiving to God for the very one who continues to sustain its life in each new generation and makes its prayer possible.

Pre-Service Music

Celebration by F Gramann

Grace Notes

Wind Chimes by K Mitchell

Clapper Kids

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 The steadfast love of God, the life of Jesus Christ, and the growth of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Gathering Music

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

ELW 395 (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;

☞ we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Hymn of Praise

Glory Be to God



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray . . . Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world.

☞ Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Special Music

Seraphic Dances *by J Dare*
Lexie Watson

Grace Notes

First Reading

Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

📖 A reading from **Acts**:

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b



¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night.** ☒

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;
everything they | do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so | with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.** ☒

Second Reading

Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

☐ **A reading from Romans:**

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

We Eat the Bread of Teaching

ELW 518

Refrain



We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are



giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er



joined, the great-est and the least, we all are



one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.



- 1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
- 2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
- 3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her



hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-



ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion. par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing. bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

Refrain

When speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and described the difference the Spirit would make in their lives and in the world.

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

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said.] ²⁶“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

☞ 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

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

WOV 684 (blue book)

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

A Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

A brief silence.

A Lord of life, you baptize your people with the fire of the Spirit. Grace your church everywhere with your visions and dreams, so that as we testify, all will hear the gospel and call upon your saving name, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage, Church of the Nazarene in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Your creating Spirit renews the face of the earth. Bring to birth new life in the earth's land forms and waters. Awaken us from the slumber of neglect to show tender care for our home. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Your Spirit swept over the waters and you created the human family. Now we are divided, scattered like dry bones. Connect the nations with the strength of the Holy Spirit, so that all will live in hope. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson, Alexi and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley and Tyler Van Houten.* Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Your Spirit sighs with every need. Guide us in honoring the dignity of everyone and opening our lives to others. Pour your healing mercies into the lives of all who need your care. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A Your Spirit has called and gathered this congregation into life in Christ. Help us in our weakness, teach us to pray, search our hearts, and intercede for us, your beloved saints, according to your will. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, including *Steve Kaiser, Joyce Daugherty, Fred Kogge, Carla Wilson-Neil, Judy Schaeffer, Nancy Woltjer, Joanna Cremeans, Wendy Eifler, Barbara Macaully, Mary Golnek, Walter and Vickie Brown, Charlene Hall, Andy Lewis and Jada Love.* Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

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 Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A By your Holy Spirit you have called and gathered people from every nation under heaven. Gather us with all the saints at the heavenly banquet that has no end. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

☐ By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.

☑ 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.

**Holy Manna
Ringing Your Praise on High**

**Grace Notes
Clapper Kids**

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685 (red book)



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.



5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

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.

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

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

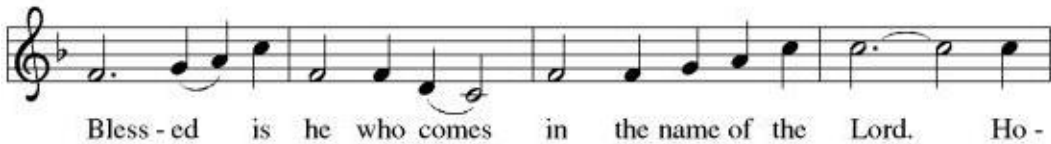
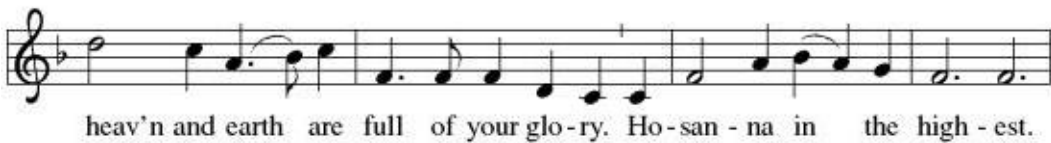
P Lift up your hearts.

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 right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

- P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
- C** **Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.**
- P** Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
- C** **Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.**
- P** Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
- C** **Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.**
- P** 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. O God of resurrection and new life:
- C** **Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.**
- P** Bless this feast.
- C** **Grace our table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.**
- P** Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.
- C** **We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:
- C** **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

- P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

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 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

We Are All One in Christ

I Am the Bread of Life

What Feast of Love

ELW 673 (red book)

WOV 702 (blue book)

WOV 701

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.
- C** **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** Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to newness of life, now and forever.
- C** **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

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

WOV 685 (blue book)

Dismissal

- A** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- A** Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Anyone, young or old, is invited to come up close to watch or participate in ringing the bells.

Mallet Madness *by K Mitchell*

Grace Notes

Campana Sonos *by K Wissinger*

Clapper Kids

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 89

Weekly Giving: **\$3,093.00**

Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of chicken and beef based soups (not chicken noodle). Also salad dressing (not mayo), mustard, Hamburger Helper, Spam, chili-no beans, salmon, corned beef hash, coffee, non sugar cereals (chex, cheerios, etc). Meijer has some terrific 10 for \$10 sales of Pasta Roni, Rice A Roni (not chicken or beef please), cake mix (not yellow), brownie mix, large juices and canned pasta.

Stewardship Commitment Sunday is today.

Worship schedule – the worship schedule for summer has been changed. All service times will continue on the winter schedule, ie, service will take place at 8:00 am and 10:45 am. This is in an effort to maintain continuity and alleviate any confusion for members as well as visitors.

Children's Church – today we celebrate a successful year of Children's Church with teachers, families, parents, grandparents and friends at a picnic after the 10:45 am church service.

Bells 'n Brass Concert – at Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church in Lake Odessa today at 3:00 pm.

Bell Choir at Thornapple Manor – the Bell Choirs will be playing for the residents and staff at Thornapple Manor on Tuesday, **May 29** at 6:15 pm. The public is invited to come worship with the staff and residents and enjoy the bell music.

Grace Prayer Walk or Relax Cook Out Sunday June 10th, after second service, at the home of Phil and Amy Poholski, 6810 Highlandview Dr, Middleville. What to bring – lawn chairs. Food will be provided: Hot dogs, coleslaw, baked beans, chips, desert, ice tea and lemonade. If you would like something stronger, say beer or wine, please BYO. For those that would like, we will take a walk through the woods on a mowed path. There also will be some yard games. If you have questions, contact the Poholski's 269-948-3655

Annual Meeting is scheduled to take place on Sunday, July 15, 2018.

Renovation Update The original debt amount for the purchase of new carpet was \$16,258.38. To date we have received over half of the amount, \$8,325, in generous donations from our members. The remaining debt for the carpet is **\$7,933.38**. **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	Chris Bush
Cantor	Jack Vos	Kate Watson
Lector	Chris Bush	Gwen Hansen
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Clyde Watson
Usher	Kay Marsh, Grayson Patton	Ed Domke, Mark Anton
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Mark/Jana Bishop	Doug/Diane Neeb
Children's Church		Tom, Hope, Emma Peck

Chancel Team Karen Halstead & Jan Schreiner

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, May 27, 2018

Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Joyce Daugherty
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Mark Anton
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Anton	Hope Peck
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Mark Anton, Joe Longcor Gwen Hansen, Sandy Mosteller
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	Eve Wright
Children's Church		Eve Wright
Chancel Team	Karen Halstead & Jan Schreiner	

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, May 20

Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am
 Children's Church 10:45 am
 Youth Groups to choir concert 2:15 pm
 Synod Assembly

Monday, May 21

LACS rehearsal 6:15 – 9:30 pm

Tuesday, May 22

Youth and Family 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Voice recital – voice students of Bob Oster
 -duets by Cindy Olson & Mary Kuhlman

Wednesday, May 23

Special Bell practice 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 24

Clapper Kids 3:45 – 5:00 pm
 Grace Notes 5:45 – 7:00 pm
 Stewardship 6:00 pm