

Grace Lutheran Church

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God Doesn't Do Magic

It happens in the movies all the time: just as we are made to believe that all hope is lost and evil will triumph, suddenly the hero discovers a mystical phrase that will give him supernatural strength to defeat the enemy. Or the heroine finds a charmed sword that gives her the power to do the same. Believing in movie magic can be a welcome respite from the grind of everyday life. Knowing an enchanted word that keeps us impervious to harm sounds incredible—who wouldn't want that? Those moments may work in the movies, but they don't happen in real life.

Don't confuse Jesus' words in today's gospel with a magic spell or incantation. As Jesus prays for his disciples, he knows the suffering they will soon endure because they have come to believe in him. There is no way to avert what they will undergo; each one of his disciples is headed toward a certain and painful death just as Jesus is. Jesus knows these things cannot be prevented, but that isn't the point of his prayer.

Being in the world means bad things will happen to us. Crosses aren't special charms that keep evil away, and wearing one won't keep you from harm. Tragedies take place, people get sick, bullies victimize, the innocent get blamed. There are no magic words to prevent hardships or disasters. When Jesus prays for the Father to protect those who belong to him, he isn't asking God to keep those bad things from happening. The name of God was never intended to create force fields around us keeping bad things out. God and the one who comes in God's name make us one together with them. In this unity, life always triumphs in the end.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Our Participation Card has two sides to complete. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees.

7th Sunday of Easter

May 28, 2017

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

Gathering Music

We Are Called

ELW 720 (red book)

Greeting

☞ 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.**

Hymn of Praise

Now the Feast and Celebration

ELW 167

Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray . . . O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.

☞ **Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension.

☞ A reading from **Acts**:

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs

where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

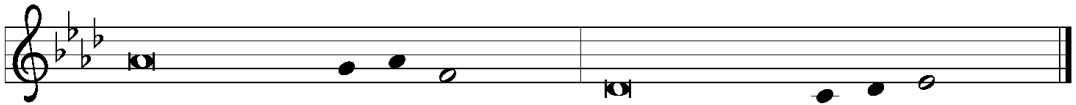
☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68:1-10,32-35



Sing to God, who rides up - on the clouds.



¹Let God arise, and let God's ene- | mies be scattered;
let those who | hate God flee.

²**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres- | ence of God.**

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who | rides the clouds;
I AM is that name, rejoice | before God!** ☒

⁵In your holy habita- | tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

⁶**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.**

⁷O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the | God of
Sinai,
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.**


⁹You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

¹⁰**Your people found their | home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.** ☒

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;
sing praises | to the Lord.

³³**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.**

³⁴Ascribe pow- | er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the skies.

³⁵How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed be God! 

Second Reading


1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others, because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

A reading from **1 Peter**:

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5,6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, - Lord to whom shall we



go? — You have the words of e - ter - nal



life: Al - le - lu - ia! —

Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

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

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

☞ The 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

I Come With Joy

ELW 482 (red book)

Nicene Creed

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

☞ **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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the

virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

Ⓐ Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Ⓐ We pray for the church. Keep us steadfast in your word. Shape us according to your will. Heal our divisions. Protect us from discord. Unite us in your love. Empower us for mission. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Ledge, Hope Church of the Brethren in Freeport; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul.* Hear us, O God.

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

Ⓐ For the earth. For forests and vineyards, marshes and springs. For grasslands and pastures, farmlands and orchards. Protect your creation from damage by earthquake, flood, wind, drought, fire, or hail. Hear us, O God.

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

Ⓐ For the nations. For those who govern and all who hold authority. For those who have been displaced by warfare, economic hardship, or disaster. Bring freedom, justice, and stability to areas of conflict. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, especially *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten.* Hear us, O God.

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

Ⓐ For those in need. For those who are anxious. For those who suffer abuse or neglect. For those who are hungry or homeless. For those who grieve and all who are sick. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, especially *Victoria Steadman, Danny Gillons, Sharon Duits, Jamie Coplin and Ingrid Morgan.* Hear us, O God.

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

Ⓐ For this assembly. Deepen our lives of prayer. Open us to the guiding of your Spirit. Fill us with compassion. Nourish us at your holy table. Strengthen us in service to our community. *We ask your blessing of discernment upon our Call Committee, and bless our congregation with endurance while we wait for our next Pastor. Pour out your spirit of courage and faith upon the leader who will receive your call of service to Grace, and let your will be heard clearly by all involved in this process.* Hear us, O God.

C (*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 Hear us, O God.

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

A With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died, especially our loved ones and those who have given their lives in service. Inspire us by their example and bring us to your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

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

P Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **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 out a Participation card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465 (red book)

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second and third staves continue the melody for the subsequent lines of lyrics. The lyrics are: 'As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.'



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

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.

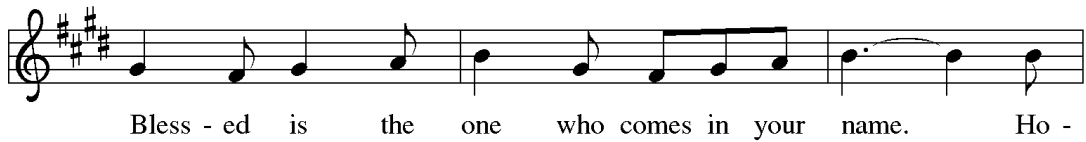
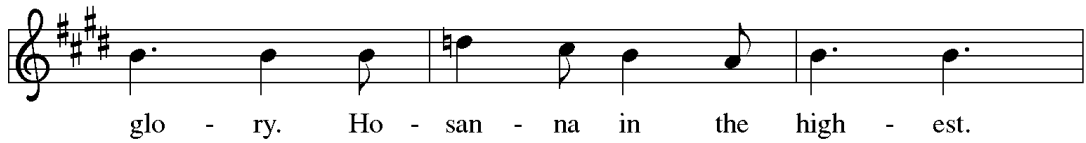
P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, oh God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



Eucharistic Prayer

☩ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

☩ **We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.**

☩ 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☩ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☩ Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

☩ **To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. Amen. Amen. 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

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us.

Additional Verses:

**You break the chains of hatred and fear:
You are the way of justice and peace:**

**You are the way of mercy and love:
You are the bread of life for us all:
You pour your Holy Spirit on us:**

Final time:



Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

All Are Welcome

ELW 641 (red book)

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

In Christ there is No East or West

ELW 650

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.

Sit

Congregational Announcements

Stand as you are able.

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.

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855 (red book)

Dismissal

- Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.
- Thanks be to God.**

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 119 Weekly Giving: \$2,853.00 Budget Amount: \$4,226.98

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar, saltine crackers, instant mashed potatoes.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, **May 29**, Memorial Day. Plan, instead to attend the Hastings Parade and dedication of the memorial renovations at the park.

Worship Service Time Change – Remember that today is the last Sunday for our regular worship schedule. **Beginning on June 4th**, worship times move to the summer schedule: 8:00 & 10:00 am

Victoria's vacation – Victoria will be on vacation **June 3 – 16**. We could use one more volunteer to answer the phones between 9 am – 12 noon.

2018 Gathering planning will take place between services on **June 4**. See Chris Bush if you have questions.

Ladies' Summer Bible Study: If you are interested in participating in a bible study on the concept of fruit as used throughout the bible, please contact Kate Watson (kp0027@gmail.com) to be added to the information distribution list. Dates and times are still TBD.

Graduation Celebration – Please join us Sunday, **June 11th** after second service to honor our 2017 graduates. We will be celebrating in the Fellowship Hall with cake and gifts for the graduates.

Brothers of Grace End of Year Fish Fry - we invite all men & boys 18 years and older to meet in the fellowship hall on Tuesday **June 13**, starting at 6:30 p.m. Fish and drinks will be furnished, BOG members are asked to bring a dish to pass. Please see the sign-up sheet located in the gathering area, so we know how many fish to catch.

Grace Prayer Walk & Park – special thanks to the Poholski's for opening their home to us last Sunday. It was a peaceful and enjoyable event.

Pentecost Sunday next Sunday at both the 8:00 & 10:00 am services. Let the Spirit fly!!!

Congratulations to Lance and Kayla (Pohl) Champaco for their marriage yesterday evening. May God bless your union.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, May 28

Worship 8:00 & 10:45 am
Adult Forum 9:30 am
Children's Church 10:45 am
Youth Group 6:00-7:30 pm

Monday, May 29

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, May 31

Prayer Group 6:00pm

Sunday, June 4

Worship 8:00 & 10:00 am

Today's Worship Leaders

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:45 am</u>
Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Vickey Argo
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Sandy Mosteller
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Hope Peck
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Gwen Hansen, Sandy Mosteller Joe Longcor
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	<i>Volunteers</i>	Doug/Diane Neeb
Children's Church		Traci Wales, Kristi Winick
Chancel Team	Karen Halstead	Jan Schreiner

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, June 4, 2017

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Traci Wales
Cantor	Mary Kuhlman	Kate Watson
Lector	Chris Bush	Carla Neil
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Clyde Watson
Usher	Randy/Brenda Teegardin	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	Eve Wright
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink