

Christ
is
Risen!

Grace Lutheran Church
Hastings, Michigan

Second Sunday of Christ's Resurrection

April 19, 2020

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead every Sunday. 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.

WELCOME! We celebrate Jesus' resurrection by worshiping our Lord God today. We give God thanks for giving us life through Jesus Christ and we give honor and glory to our living God. We pray that you are refreshed in our worship and continue the journey with our Lord and Savior the living Christ.

Announcements

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music

Easter Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☞ Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- ☞ **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

- ☞ The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope, be with you.
- ☞ **And also with you.**



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n-ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray . . . Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt,
- C** **may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God’s plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

L A reading from **Acts:**

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.
²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16



¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other.”

**²All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land,
upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.**

³But those who run after | other gods
shall have their troubles | multiplied.

**⁴I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods,
never take their names up- | on my lips. **

⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup;
it is you who up- | hold my lot.

**⁶My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land;
indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night | after night.

**⁸I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken. **

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.

**¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave,
nor let your holy one | see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the | path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore. 

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

📖 A reading from **1 Peter**:

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

📖 Word of God, word of life.

👏 **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!

ELW 364

Stanzas 1 & 4

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.
Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

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

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

☐ The Gospel of the Risen Christ.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Time

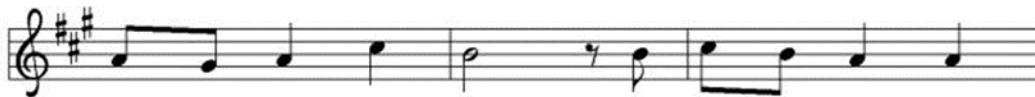
All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Silence for reflection



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Apostles Creed

- A** We confess our faith as one body in Christ Jesus:
☑ **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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

- Ⓐ Open the paths we ignore, O God, when we prioritize financial gain and convenience over listening to the groaning of the earth. Inspire all to care for the world you have made so that living things might thrive. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ Open the rooms we lock, O God, to those who live without a homeland or place of safety. We pray that generous nations offer refuge and peace for all. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military: *Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley, Carlos Garcia (Burdicks), Brandon and Stevi Kay Miller (McManaway), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls), and Julia Ehredt (Schrieners, Halsteads)*. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ Open the hearts we close, O God, to the cries of those in pain. We pray for those isolated physically or emotionally through incarceration, addiction, mental illness, chronic suffering, grief, coronavirus 19 and all in need, including *Gary Burdick, Penny Burdick, James Colvin, Kay Corrigan, Irene Corr, Sue Eifler, Mike Fruth, Karl Golnek, Delmer Hansen, Larry Hansen, Mike Hoppe, Phyllis Hoppe, Lee Hoppe, Richard Meade, The Michael Pruitt Family, Mike Shoemaker, Tim Sullivan, George Ulrich Jr., Jenni Ulrich, The Pat Wagner Family, Rusty Wilkins, Cameron, Vicky, Nora, Lynnze, and Tristin*. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ God of all generations, we praise you and thank you for children of all ages. From those who are days old to our oldest member here at Grace of 100 years old. We ask you to help us be open to your direction as we seek a Youth and Family Committee chair. We thank you for our interim chair. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially those who find themselves in harm's way. Hear us now as we lift our individual prayers that are spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Open the way to eternal life, O God, as we remember those who have died in faith. Free us from the fear of death, that we embrace the peace you have promised. Lord, in your mercy.

- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**

☐ With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

Offering of Gifts and Music

Offering Song

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

ELW 721



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



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.

Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.

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

Sharing the Peace

☐ The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

☑ And also with you.

(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)

Lord's Prayer

☞ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.**

Mission Minutes

Blessing

☞ Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

☞ The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.

☑ **Amen.**

Sending Song

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

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.**

A Rip in the Seams

Rather than saddling him with a disgraced reputation and besmirching his character by dubbing him “the great doubter,” would it not be nearer the truth to reconsider and rightly recognize Thomas as a “most sincere believer”?

It was an easy and unsurprising move for Jesus’ disciples to seize upon the idea that following their Nazarene teacher would make them great. After all, nothing and no one seemed able to put a stranglehold on his triumphs: not hunger, disease, or storm; neither demons nor priests. He was God-sent, God-empowered, God-blessed.

But there was a rip in the seams that held all the pieces of those disciples’ gathered hopes together: Jesus’ unstoppable talk of least and last, served and suffering, freeing and forgiving, dying and departing.

So, when their imagination of who God is and how God acts failed them; when priests and courts condemned and soldiers killed their would-be king, Jesus; when Joseph and Nicodemus wrapped his body and buried his corpse, and Mary Magdalene’s unimaginable announcement, “I have seen the Lord” (John 20:18), left them doubtful and frightened—they locked their doors. The Lord they imagined—the way of God they had hoped for—was dead.

If Jesus’ miraculous entry somehow through closed and bolted doors and his spoken word first revived the doubting disciples’ faith, it happened differently for Thomas, who was not with them. The disciples reported to him what had happened, choosing the same words spoken by Mary Magdalene that, just days before, had left them doubtful: “We have seen the Lord” (John 20:25). Courageously honest, inviting pious disrepute through the ages, Thomas dared to say that he believed Jesus’ own predictive words about serving and suffering, dying and departing. Thomas trusted that the Christ would bear the marks, embody the scars, and retain the wounds of an unimaginable God. A week later, on seeing the risen Lord, Thomas’s belief was confirmed. In sincere faith indeed he exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28).

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

April 19, 2020

Stewardship Information

Views: 142

Weekly Giving: \$6,455.00

Budget Amount: \$4,617.93

www.grace-hastings.org

Adult Forum will continue a study on the book of **Acts** on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Join us on the conference call, so we can share in discussion. Phone: 605-313-5981 Access Code: 772653#

Thank you to those who ordered Easter Plants. We only have 6 extra plants. These plants will go to the homebound (if we have access to people to give them plants) and are also being planted around the church, if the . If everyone pays that ordered, we made \$550.00, which will go toward the flower beds around the church – mostly for mulch. We thank Thrivent for their grant of \$250.00, which allowed Grace Lutheran Church to actually make the \$550.00, without this grant we would have only raised \$300.00. You can still pick your flowers up Monday through Thursday. Office hours are 9am – 3 pm *with the office closed at lunch from 12 noon until 1:00pm.*

We are still collecting our Lenten Coin boxes. Next week will be the last Sunday for us to collect these boxes for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America World Hunger program.

Christ in Our Home and Portals of Prayer are available. Pick up your daily devotional for April, May and June. These are provided by the Outreach Committee.

Grace Gram will be mailed to your homes by Thursday, April 23, 2020.

ACH is available. On our website, you will notice a donate tab. You can use your credit card or checking account. Look for the link on our website and a Grace Gram article that will tell you how to use it.

Congregation Council will meet this Tuesday via conference call. Phone: 605-313-5981

Access Code: 772653#

Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo

Lector – Joe Longcor

Cantor – Anna Scheck

Musicians – Cindy Olson, Kristi Winick, Anna Scheck and Ethan Scheck