

Christ
is
Risen!

6

Grace Lutheran Church
Hastings, Michigan

Fourth Sunday of Christ's Resurrection

May 3, 2020

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

I JUST WANT TO BE A SHEEP! Sheep are known for completely trusting their shepherd. The sheep hear the shepherd's voice and they trust, feel protected and know that they are secure around the shepherd. We Christians have this same gift of being taken care of through the power, love and strength of our Great Shepard – Jesus Christ. We see the goodness of God and we trust in the gift of life that we receive from God. We are empowered to be resurrection people of God, as we experience the gift of Jesus' saving power for us each day of our lives.

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 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.
- ☑ Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

☐ A reading from **Acts**:

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

☐ Word of God, word of life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Shepherd Me, O God

ELW 780

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from
death in-to life. life.

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 | *to stanza 4*

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2 Gent-ly you raise me and heal my wea-ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan-der the val-ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith-ful-ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ-teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e-vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

☐ A reading from **1 Peter**:

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

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

🔊 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

📖 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

Song of the Day

You Are Mine

ELW 581



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.

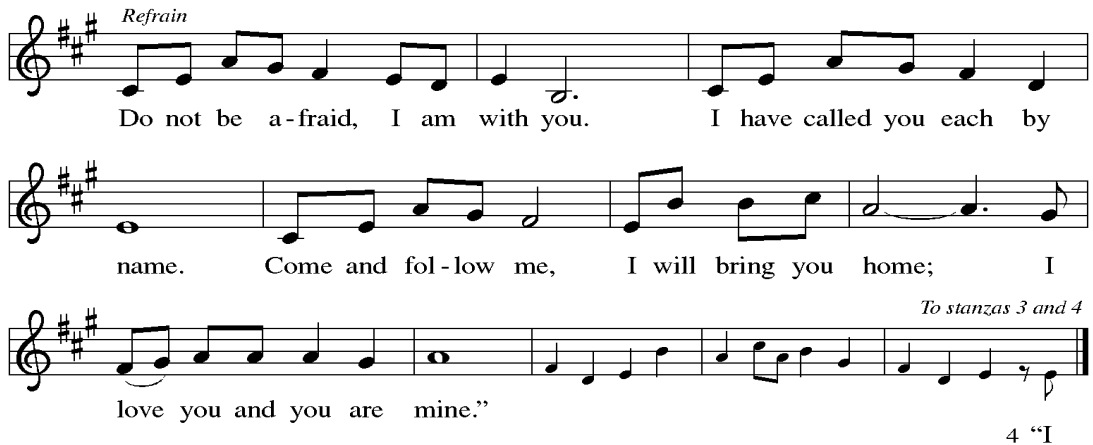


You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. To stanza 2
Come and rest in me. To refrain
all will know my name. To refrain
up, now walk and live! To refrain

Refrain



Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by
 name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I
To stanzas 3 and 4
 love you and you are mine.”

4 “I

Apostles Creed

- Ⓐ 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

We sing the prayer response and then the prayer petition is prayed, after each petition the prayer response is sung.



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

- Ⓐ Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

- Ⓐ Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants, David and Roseanne our synod companion churches, Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Petosky; Community Baptist Church in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* 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.**

- Ⓐ Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. 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.**

- Ⓐ Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. 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.**

Ⓐ Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering including *Gary Burdick, Penny Burdick, Ellie Clark, Ron Coplin, Irene Corr, Sue Eifler, Mike Fruth, Karl Golnek, Delmer Hansen, Larry Hansen, Mike Hoppe, Phyllis Hoppe, Lee Hoppe, Richard Meade, Mike Shoemaker, David and Victoria Steadman, Tim Sullivan, George Ulrich Jr., Jenni Ulrich, The Pat Wagner Family, The Leroy Westphal Family, Rusty Wilkins, those involved in medical care and research during this pandemic of coronavirus, 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.**

Ⓐ Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. 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.

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. 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



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

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

ELW 620



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my
4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain al -



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing
though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.
hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.
treas - ury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.
me in vain, and I am owned a child.

5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

6 How weak the effort of my heart,
how cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

7 Till then I would thy love proclaim
with every fleeting breath;
and may the music of thy name
refresh my soul in death!

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.

I Am the Gate

As he prepared to return home near the end of three years in a state prison, the man wrote to the church where, before his arrest, he had worshiped, attended Bible study, and played guitar in the music program. While an inmate, he went to chapel and showed up at Bible study on a regular basis. He was ready and hopeful to return to his faith community. Days before his release, he received a letter from the church: “We cannot allow you to fellowship with us until our mission committee meets to decide whether to admit you.”

“I am the gate,” says Jesus, the shepherd and the bringer of life. Jesus is the one who opens the way. For all who suffer rejection—barred from entrance and denied community because of who they are, how they behave, where they come from, what they’ve done, how they look, or what they believe—it is shocking to hear Jesus say, “I am the gate, and I came to bring abundant life to all my sheep.” We may think, *Really? Me? Can it be so?*

To the religious leaders who saw themselves as gatekeepers—the deniers and allowers, the definers and approvers, the deciders and assigners—Jesus voiced his graced rebuke: “No! I am the gate, and the gate is open. All with ears listening and hearts aching for mercy, come this way. Enough of those who kill your hope, destroy your spirit, steal your worth! Thieves and bandits, they are, in righteous disguise.”

And to the church, Jesus voices this nonnegotiable word: “I am the gate. The gate is open, bringing goodness and mercy to all. There are no exceptions and no exclusions. So, my sheep, pour my wine, break my bread, splash my water, serve my meal, spend my life, be my body, welcome all as my own. The gate is open.”

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
May 3, 2020

Stewardship Information

Views: 75

Weekly Giving: \$6,253.00

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#

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.

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.

Spring Flower Sale The youth are selling red Geraniums and Sun Patience plants for \$5.00 a plant. We are thankful that Cotants have promised 400 plants to us. Besides the **red geraniums**, we once again have Sun Patience (New Guinea) plants. This year the colors for the Sun Patience are **Electric Orange**, **Hot Coral**, **Royal Magenta** and **Tropical Rose**. There are order forms that are available, or you can call the church office to place your order.

When public worship begins, it will look quite different than our normal worship. Here are just a few changes that will take place. There will be more changes added to this list. Besides public onsite worship, we will continue our conference call and LIVESTREAM worship at 10:45 am.

Adult Forum will continue to meet on **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.**

Reminders:

Masks need to be worn.

Worship Folders will be available on a table near the Greeters.

Seating in the Sanctuary will be marked with social distancing in mind.

There will be no **paper, pencils or hymnals** in the pews.

Offering – There will be an offering plate near the entrance of the sanctuary, please drop your offering in the plate before or after worship; much like noisy offering. The offering plate outside the office will continue to be there, for those who do not come to onsite worship.

Passing of the Peace will take place with no physical touch or movement.

There will be **no Coffee Hour** when we first come back.

In the case that stay at home orders are extended, worship for May 17 will only take place online and teleconference at 10:45 am.

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Anna Scheck

Musicians – Cindy Olson, Anna Scheck, and Ethan Scheck

Pastor – Ken Scheck II