# **Grace Lutheran Church**

239 E North St Hastings MI 49058



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Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music May 1, 2022

# Third Sunday of Easter May 1, 2022

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Prelude

Barry County Flute Choir Teri Neeb, Jackie Wasson, Sharon Jones, Danielle Sherman, Kim Domke, Jane Kalin, Joanne Tobias

Deep River Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho Down by the Riverside Just a Closer Walk with Thee arranged by Francesco Leone arranged by Francesco Leone arranged by Francesco Leone arranged by Francesco Leone

Welcome to our Gospel Worship Scrvice



Shall We Gather at the River ELW 423

#### Arise in body or Spirit

#### **Easter Greeting**

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

#### **G** And also with you.

#### **Easter Good News**

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- **G** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- A This is the day that the Lord has made;
- **G** we will rejoice and be glad in it!
- **P** The Lord is my strength and my song.
- **G** The Lord has become my salvation.
- A Open to me the gates of righteousness;
- **G** I will go through them and praise the Lord.
- **P** I shall not die, but live,
- **G** and declare the works of the Lord.
- A This is the day that the Lord has made;
- **G** we will rejoice and be glad in it!

#### **Prayer of the Day**

- ▲ Let us pray... Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might.
- By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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 9:1-6

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

L A reading from Acts:

<sup>1</sup>Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

African American Spiritual

### Second Reading

# **Revelation 5:11-14**

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

**L** A reading from **Revelation**:

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

- **L** The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation** 

Give Me Jesus

**ELW 770** 

#### **Gospel Reading**

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

- **P** The Resurrection Gospel according to **John**.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

- **P** The Gospel of the Risen Christ.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Message

#### Song of the Day

I'm So Glad

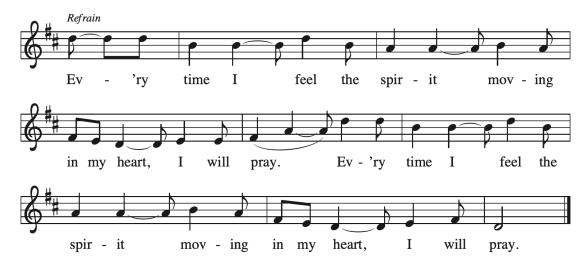
#### Welcoming of New Members

- A reading from Exodus: The LORD said, "I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared." (Exodus 23:20).
- In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of the church. God has brought you to Grace Lutheran Church. Here at Grace, you will learn and know God's loving purpose for you and for all creation, as we grow in mission in the name of Jesus Christ. God has blessed you in other communities of faith, and we look forward in our journey together, as we witness God's Holy Spirit guiding us into the mission field.
- Let us pray, Eternal God, we thank you for Patti Comp, Pauline Obasi, Al and Claudia Throop, Tim Kemper, Paul and Mary Kuhlman, Greg Franks, Larry Hansen, and Mary Ohler. We look forward to sharing blessings with them, as they are a blessing to us and look forward our getting to know them better, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C Amen.

#### Prayers

We sing the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, Hear us, O God. The assembly will sing:



A Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence

- A Holy One of new beginnings, fill us with new life. Send us into the world as you sent your apostles Philip and James, to invite people to come and see your wondrous acts in Christ. Be with all leaders of the church, especially: *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companion Trinity Lutheran Church, New Era; Hickory Corners Bible Church, Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.
- **C** Eve'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
- A Revive ecosystems along coastlands that have been devastated by natural forces and human negligence. Reestablish plant and animal life that purifies air and water and that feeds humans and other living creatures. Hear us, O God.
- Eve'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
- Accompany laborers who get little rest from their work. Give them hope when they struggle to produce what they need. Give all who labor fair treatment and just wages, especially: *Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas) and Julia Ehredt (Schrieners, Halsteads).* Hear us, O God.
- **G** Eve'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
- A Restore all people who cry to you for help especially, Jenny Anderson, Amber Andrews, Veronica Baarson, Helen Brown, Wally Burzynski, Ron Bush, Cherie Clements, Patti Comp, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Gene and Julie Fogarty and family, Mike Fruth, Greg Franks, Lorie Gladyness, Karl Golnek, Lisa Golnek, Hannah Gutenmorgen, Larry Hansen, Judy Heil, Mike Hoppe, John Kleinbrink (heart), Bill Melcher, Gloria & Ron O'Beirne, Darlene Olson, Phil Poholski (recovery), Ken Plourde, Mike Shoemaker, Susie Smith, George Ulrich Jr., Sharon Varkula, The family of Lois Von Seggern, and Carol Vos. Turn their mourning into dancing, clothe them with joy, and put a testimony of healing and praise on their lips. Hear us, O God.
- **G** Eve'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
- A Be present to faithful ones who are persecuted for following you. Sustain them by your faithfulness and give them strength in the name of Jesus.

(You may share your prayers at this time) Here other intersessions may be offered

- ▲ Join our voices with angels, creatures, and all the saints in praising Christ and bestowing upon him all blessing and honor and glory. Reveal Christ's glory to us and through us in our worship. Hear us, O God.
- **C** Eve'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray, Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
- In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- **G** Amen.

#### Sharing the Peace of God

- **P** The peace of risen Christ be with you.
- **G** And also with you.

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

#### **Offering Prayer**

- A 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.

#### **Great Thanksgiving**

- **ℙ** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.

■ Lift up your hearts.

- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **Table Prayer**

- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful 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.
- **B** By dying on the cross, Jesus has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
- 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:
- **G** Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
- **C** This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

▶ With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.



- P Pour your Holy Spirit upon us as we share this meal in the body and blood of our Lord.
- Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful people until we feast at your table in glory.
- Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Amen, Come Lord Jesus; Amen, Come Lord Jesus.



Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains are scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Amen, Come Holy Spirit. Amen, Come Holy Spirit.



P All glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever.

#### **G** Amen.

#### Lord's Prayer

- Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- 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** Holy things for holy people.
- One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God.
- **P** Taste and see that the Lord is good.
- **G** Thanks be to God!

Special Music will be shared during communion distribution.

# **Prayer after Communion**

- Let us pray . . . Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.
- **C** Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **Mission Minutes**

#### Blessing

- P 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.
- **C** Amen.

# Sending Song

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is over I'll fly away to a home on God's celestial shore I'll fly away I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away When I die, Hallelujah, by and by I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have grown, I'll fly away like bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away When I die, Hallelujah, by and by I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then I'll fly away To a land where joy shall never end I'll fly away I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away When I die, Hallelujah, by and by I'll fly away Yeah, when I die, Hallelujah, by and by I'll fly away

#### Dismissal

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

PostludeO When the Saints Go Marching Inarranged by K. AgioritisAssisting Minister – Vickey ArgoLector – Mark AntonMusician – Cindy OlsonPastor – Ken ScheckNo Fellowship food this week, because of the Quilt Show. Coffee is available.Join us for a meal!

#### The After Gospel

The gospel of Jesus is a wonder. It is *there*, it is *here*, it is *now*, rising up to meet us in the morning after, in the days after, in the years after . . . after all we'd hoped for, waited for, lived for. After all we'd dreaded or feared or suffered has taken leave, run its course, faded, or fled, the gospel of Jesus stays; it rises to find us in the morning.

All the scattered reports told in the four gospels, the reports of where and how Jesus showed up after the day of resurrection, by whom and with whom he was seen—and also not recognized—are a kaleidoscope of wonder. There is no pinning Jesus down, no single story. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John each tell it a little—or a lot—differently: Jesus in Galilee, Jesus in Jerusalem, Jesus in a closed room, Jesus on an open road, Jesus talking with a woman, Jesus meeting with the men, Jesus at the sea, Jesus on the mountain. But what they all have to say with one accord is this: Jesus is *there*, is *here*, is *now* in a moment, the morning after, the days after, and the years after.

Nowhere is *after* a more beautifully affectionate wonder than on the shores of Tiberias, where Jesus had found disciples before, and where he now—again, still—finds them after.

"Children," he calls to them out on the water (John 21:5). "Children." Such intimacy in the way he beckons. "No fish?" All night empty nets. All night no fish. Then, the morning after: Jesus with a fire *there*, Jesus with fish *here*, Jesus with bread *now*. "Come." After all their hoping and waiting and living together, the dread and fear and suffering they had shared together, Jesus follows them and finds them with their nets empty. "Come and have breakfast" (v. 12). This is the beautiful wonder of the gospel of Jesus for the morning after.

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#### **Stewardship Information**

Attendance: 69 Weekly Giving: \$970.00 Views: 190 Budget Amount: \$4,163.28

Welcome to worship today! We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the risen Christ who forgives and makes us new.

**Property Committee Meeting.** A reminder that the Property Committee is having a meeting on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Phil Poholski at 269.908.03384.

#### Grace Lutheran Church is seeking a Nursery Attendant during the 10:45 worship service.

**Rummage Sale. TODAY** is the deadline to sign up for workers to help set up, run, and share some time for a rummage sale, which will help raise funds for the victims of war in Ukraine. Spots still available to work are:

Monday	1 spot from 12 noon – 4 pm.
Tuesday	2 spots from 8 am $-$ 12 noon; 2 spots from 12 noon $-$ 4 pm.
Wednesday	2 spots from 8 am $-$ 12 noon; 3 spots from 12 noon $-$ 4 pm.
Thursday	2 spots from 8 am $-$ 12 noon; 2 spots from 12 noon $-$ 4 pm.
Friday	2 spots from 8 am $-$ 12 noon; 1 spot from 12 noon $-$ 4 pm.
Saturday	3 spots from 8 am – 12 noon; 2 spots from 12 noon – 4 pm.; 6 spots 4-6 Cleanup

If we do not have enough workers, the Rummage Sale will be cancelled.

Replace, Repair, Renew Campaign. As you may know we replaced our mower and chest freezer		
and repaired our heating system in the fellowship hall. Total cost for these items is listed below:		
Mower	\$3,900.00	
Freezer	\$620.09	
Heating Repair	<u>\$638.00</u>	
Total:	<b>\$5,158.09</b> We are seeking funds to pay ourselves back for these expenses.	

Renew: \$4,841.91. When the \$5,158.09 is paid back, we will begin collecting for the renewal part of the campaign, as we were told the heating system is needing to be replaced in the fellowship hall. We thank you for your partnership in keeping our building a functioning ministry tool in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Life Together.** Strengthening relationships within the Congregation. Join us next week at 9:30 am, as we begin our series of sharing life together. We will hear from immigrants (or their immediate family) among us. Our first presenter is **Ed Markwart**, who presents: *A long road from Poland and Germany*.

**Spring Flower Sale \$6.00 each.** Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> is our pickup day starting at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Orders due May 11, 2022.

**Community Garden.** Grace is exploring the possibility of partnering with Emanuel Episcopal Church to create a community garden. The garden would be housed on our church property. If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Randy Teegardin or Brenda, our parish administrator.

**Called to the Church Triumphant** Lois Von Seggern. Lois was called to be with her Lord on Thursday, April 21, 2022. Messages of sympathy and support can be sent to Jeff Von Seggern 615 Town Center Drive, Apartment 9, Middleville, MI 49333.

**Welcome New Members.** We are pleased to welcome Patti Comp, Pauline Obasi, Al and Claudia Throop, Tim Kemper, Paul and Mary Kuhlman, Greg Franks, Larry Hansen, and Mary Ohler into our Grace family. Thank you for contributing items to the welcome baskets and make sure to say "hello" during our after-worship meal today.

**Annual Church Cookout** You are cordially invited to the Annual Church Cookout on June 12th after second service at The Poholski home. Please bring lawn chair and dish to pass. Address: 6810 Highlandview Dr., Middleville.

**Synod Assembly** is Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>. Bill and Lorraine Freedlund, Anna Scheck and Pastor Ken are attending this one-day assembly on Zoom. Please pray for the church, as it meets to do the church business on this day.

Committee, Officer, Staff and Pastor Reports are due to the office by June 1.

