Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

> Phone: (269) 945-9414 (269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music May 12, 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

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.

Welcome

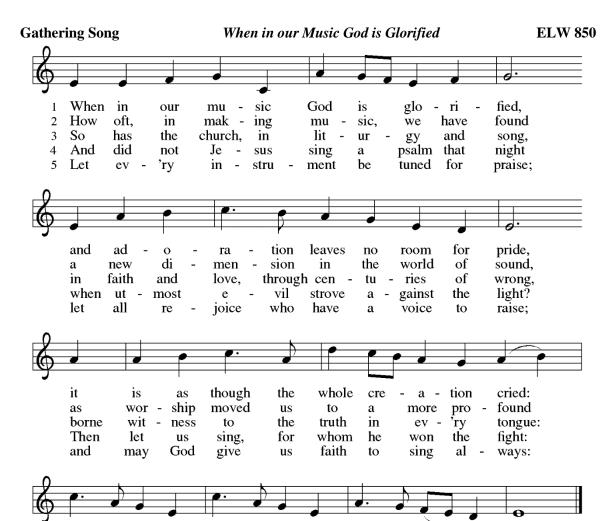
Gathering Music

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Please arise in body or Spirit

Easter Good News

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



Easter Greeting

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

al - le - lu

ia!

al - le - lu - ia,

And also with you.

Al - le - lu - ia,

Prayer of the Day

- Let us pray . . . Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil.
- By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Seventh Sunday of Easter Page 3

First Reading Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

L A reading from **Acts**:

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

Psalm: 1



Refrain



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!

²Their 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.

⁴It 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.

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

Second Reading 1 John 5:9-13

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

L A reading from **1 John**:

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

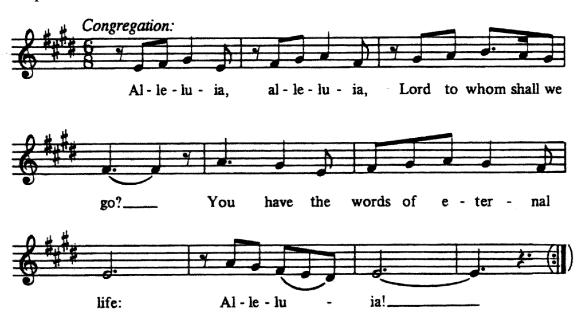
¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

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

[Jesus prayed:] 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; 8 for 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. 11 And 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. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

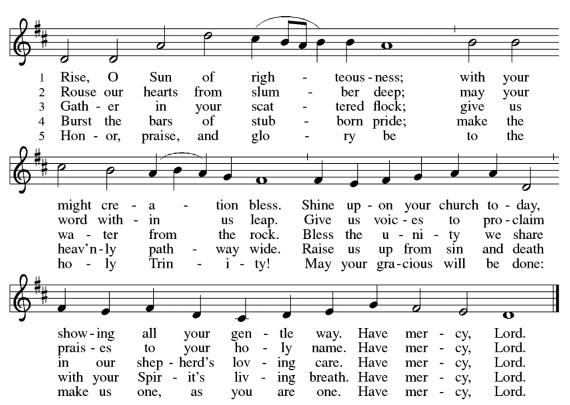
- P The Gospel of the Risen Christ.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Message

Song of the Day



Please be seated.

Prayers

We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Hear us, O God.** The assembly prays, **You give us new life.**

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence

A You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments, including Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companion Hope St. John's Parish, Oscoda; Solid Rock Bible Church, Delton, Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken. Hear us, O God.

Q You give us new life.

Seventh Sunday of Easter Page 8

- A Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.
- **G** You give us new life.
- A Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke)*. Hear us, O God.
- **G** You give us new life.
- A Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction especially Pastor Michael Anton, Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Diana Brown, Walter Brown, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Allison Domke (pregnancy), Bob and Bonnie Ehredt, the family of Wes Gillons, Lisa Golnek, Caitlyn Habben (pregnancy), Lorraine Handsbarger, Diane Hawkins, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Virginia Henion, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, Jan Northrup, Lisa Nurenberg, Corinna Palmer, Rick Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Annette Poholski, Patty Renne, Jennifer Rohr, Mike Shoemaker, Ron Smith, Barry Swanson, Al Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson. Hear us, O God.
- **You give us new life.**
- A Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. Hear us, O God.
- **You give us new life.**

Here other intersessions may be offered.

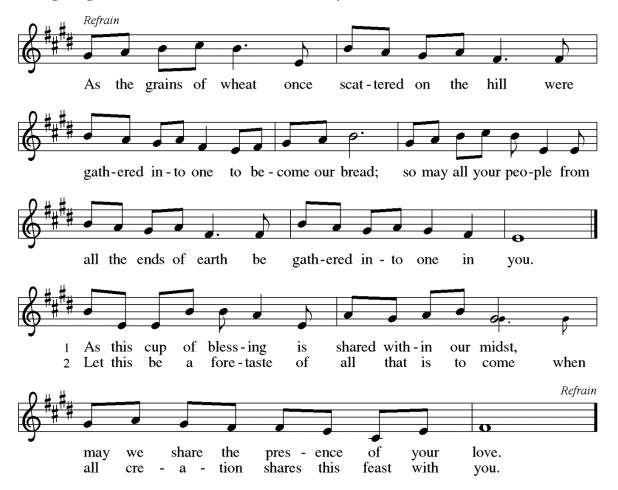
- P Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness.
- C Amen.

Please arise in body or spirit.

Sharing the Peace of God

- P The peace of risen Christ be with you.
- 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.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **@** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **■** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is our duty and delight, that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, through Jesus Christ who calls us to follow the way of humble service and love, and so, with the church on earth all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





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: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. 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.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith.



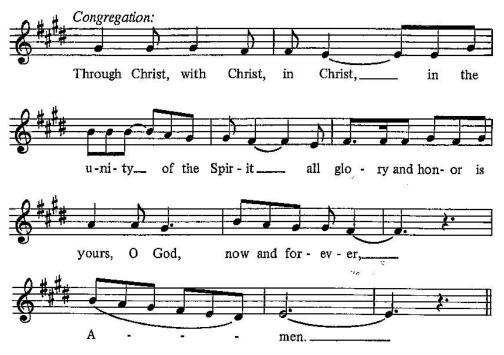
- Pour your Holy Spirit upon us as we share this meal in the body and blood of our Lord.
- Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful people until we feast at your table in glory.
- P Remembering, 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.



P 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.



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



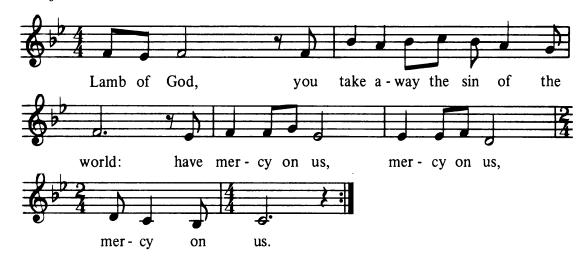
Lord's Prayer

- P 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 Taste and see that the Lord is good.
- Thanks be to God!

Lamb of God



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:







- 1 For the bread which you have bro-ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n-ly board,
- 4 In your ser vice, Lord, de fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo-ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord. by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal-low all our lives, O Lord. may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord. in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

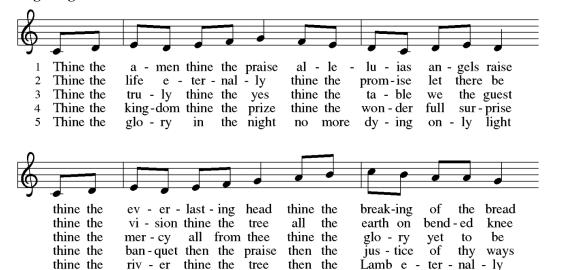
Prayer after Communion

- ⚠ Let us pray . . . Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.
- **Q** 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.
- **G** 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.





glo - ry thine the thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup gone the nail-ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead-ing gone the crv then the ring - ing and the sing-ing then the end of all the war glo - ry wel-come to thine the thine the sto - ry then the the least ho - ly bra - tion ju - bi - lee then the ho - ly ho - ly cel - e -



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed lift - ed up. sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed gone the high. liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more thine the ev - er more. then the won-der all in-creas-ing at thy feast feast. at thy thine the splen-dor thine the bright-ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

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.
- **9** Thanks be to God.

Postlude

United in Christ

The concept of the Trinity, one God, three in one, one in three, can be a little hard, sometimes, to get ahold of. But perhaps what scripture's witness to the Trinity boils down to is this: Jesus is in constant communication, continual, active relationship with the Father. The Father is in constant communication, continual, active relationship with the Son. And the Spirit is in and with and between both, always its own presence, but always, nonetheless, one in active relationship, one in ceaseless communication, with both the Father and the Son. Jesus prays that we may be "one" in the same fashion.

Conflict happens in the body of Christ all the time. Sometimes it is over matters of great significance: how we read scripture, how we are to conduct our lives, how the church is to think and act as it comes head-to-head with the constant pull and tug of the culture within and around it. Sometimes the conflict is personal. We resist the neighbor, and worse, out of hurt, anger, and anxiety. Sometimes the conflict can seem to be over a matter of pure nonsense: which way pickles should be sliced, and why they should be sliced that way.

Where and how, then, is our hope of being "one," as our Lord has so prayed?

It is in this: whatever our conflict, we belong to one another. Whatever our conflict, we are called to work at staying in active relationship, honest communication. We are not one, finally, when the issues between us wane, or cease. We are one because the Lord of life holds us together in the promise of his love even when powerful forces, at one and the same time, pull us apart. We are one because the body and blood of Christ have been given to each of us, and all of us.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

8:00 am
Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
Lector – Dave Neeb
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Paul Kuhlman

10:45 am
Assisting Minister – TBD
Lector – Jack Vos
Cantor – Mary Kuhlman
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Paul Kuhlman
Fellowship – Jeanette Markwart

Fifth Sunday Fellowship On June 30th the Social activities Committee is sponsoring a fifth Sunday fellowship time. Special treats will be available after the worship service. This will be a one service Sunday which will start at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing you!

Brat Sale the Brothers of Grace are having a pork brat sale benefiting the Alpha Women's Center. A reminder that if you have ordered brats they will be available for pick up on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>May 23rd between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.</u> here at Grace. Brats will be made on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>May 22nd from 5:00 p.m. until approximately 7:30 p.m.</u> The sign-up sheet to help is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. If you have questions or need an alternate time to pick up your order, please contact Joe Longcor.

Annual Grace Church Picnic You are cordially invited to the annual Grace picnic at the home of Phil and Amy Poholski on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 9th</u>. Hotdogs, condiments, chips, lemonade, and iced tea are provided. Please bring a lawn chair if you are able, and walking shoes if you would like to walk through the woods. If you are planning on bringing a dish to pass (which is optional) please use the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. The picnic is held regardless of rain or shine. We hope to see you there.

Blood Drive Grace will be hosting a blood drive on <u>Thursday, May 23rd</u>. The sign-up for helping and for donating cookies/juice is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. The Red Cross is very grateful to Grace for hosting donor drives. If you would like to donate blood you can use the Red Cross Donor App from the Apple or Google Play Stores or you can call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment. Thank you for supporting this event.

Women of Faith meet <u>Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.</u> A reminder that <u>we will **NOT** meet on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>May 28</u>, which is the day following Memorial Day. Please note our last session for this year will be Tuesday, June 11 and we will resume in the fall.</u>

Turkeyville Dinner Theater *Oklahoma* is now scheduled for this Friday, May 17th for those who have purchased tickets. We will be meeting in the church parking lot for a 10:30 departure. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Bill Freedlund.



Hand2Hand Program provides food over the weekend to students at Hastings schools. This is the last month to collect donations until school resumes in the fall. We are collecting donations of Slim Jims, Snack Pack pudding cups, granola bars, Yoo Hoo Chocolate Milk, applesauce cups, and ramen. This month's donations are due <u>Sunday</u>, May 19th. A big thank you to Patti Comp for leading this ministry of love

here at Grace, and to Green Street UMC for coordinating the collection and distribution of the donations. Thank you for your support over the course of the 2023-2024 school year to this valuable program. It is greatly appreciated.

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 breathes new life into us.

Stewardship Information

Please use this OR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 39 Views: 404

Weekly Giving: \$1,820.00 Budget Amount: \$4,366.17

Bottles & Cans: \$10.00

Grace Projects Goal \$25,252.00 Received To Date -\$ 2,255.00 Total Needed \$23,007.00

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$5.00

We welcome Pastor Paul Kuhlman as preacher and presider today. We are blessed with many pastors that are filling in as Pastor Scheck is taking time away seeking God's peace, healing, and transformation. We are thankful for God's Holy Spirit who sustains Grace Lutheran Church during this time of refreshment, renewal, and trust in God's guidance during this time.

Called to the Church Triumphant Our brother Wes Gillons entered the Church Triumphant on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Our sympathies to his family and friends.

Noisy Offering will be collected today to benefit Barry County Cares. You may place coins and other money into the silver bowl located in the front during the singing of the offertory song. Noisy Offering is taken every second Sunday.

Graduation Celebration Please join us next Sunday, May 19 following the second service to celebrate the graduation of Anna Scheck from the University of Michigan. Please join us.

Commitment Sunday is NEXT Sunday, May 15. We will fill out pledge forms for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This information will help Grace leadership balance anticipated income with the budget. In early June, the Committee will have a draft budget available for review.

The nursery is available weekly during the 10:45 worship service. Aurora Collins is our Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service. A reminder that the nursery will not be available on Sunday, June 2nd.

Adult Forum please join us at 9:30 with Joe Longcor leading the study.

Vehicle Needed Aurora, our nursery attendant, needs to borrow a car so she can take her driving test. If you can help, please call her at 269.953.5200. Seventh Sunday of Easter Page 19