Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 2:00 pm-6:00 pm

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music June 1, 2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2025

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 hearing Jesus tell us that we are one with God. With this message we realize that God walks with us, even when we have doubts. We also celebrate that Jesus is giving us his very body through broken bread. Let us celebrate God's presence in our lives.

Holy	Silence	is o	observed	as we	enter to	worship.
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Welcome

Gathering Music

Arise in body or Spirit

Easter Good News

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- A Risen Christ, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
- **Empower** us to bear witness to your new life.
- P Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus.
- **Q** Let us show your goodness and mercy.
- A Come among us again.
- **G** Breathe your life into us.
- P This is the day that the Lord has made;
- we will rejoice and be glad in it!



- 1 Crown him with man y crowns, the Lamb up on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir gin's Son, the God in car nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po ten tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own. whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn; rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau-ty glo - ri - fied. and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save. cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub-lime.





and hail him thy match-less king through all as e - ter - ni - ty. ev - er flows, the the root whence mer - cy babe of Beth - le - hem. but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys-ter-ies so bright. e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die. who died, shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty. thy praise glo - ry and

Easter Greeting

- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope, be with you all.
- And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

- A Let us pray . . . O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will.
- Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

L A reading from **Acts**.

¹⁶ One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴ Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

■ The word of the Lord.

⚠ Thanks be to God.





Refrain



¹ The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;

let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness sur- round the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

³ Fire goes be- | fore the LORD, burning up enemies on | every side. ⁴ Lightnings light | up the world; the earth | sees and trembles. ■

⁵ The mountains | melt like wax

before the Lord of | all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD, and all the peoples | see your glory.

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods! Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods.

⁸ Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice, because of your judg- | ments, O LORD. ■

⁹ For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth; you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

¹⁰ You who love the LORD, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of the wicked.

11 Light dawns | for the righteous, and joy for the hon- | est of heart.
12 Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's | holy name. ■

Second Reading

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

L A reading from **Revelation**.

¹² "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶ "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come. Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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

Arise in body or spirit.



Gospel Reading John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

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

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰ "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

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

Please be seated.

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

Song of the Day

Son of God, Eternal Savior

ELW 655



- 1 Son of God, e ter nal Sav ior, source of life and truth and grace,
- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth ers, so may we for oth ers live.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
- 4 Son of God, e ter nal Sav-ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race, Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give. hush the storm of strife and pas-sion, bid its cru-el dis - cords cease. Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo-ry, for your own will ev - er plead: Yours the gold and yours the sil-ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; By your pa-tient years of toil-ing, by your si-lent hours of pain, by your pray-ing, by your will-ing that your peo-ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need. we but stew-ards of your boun-ty held in sol - emn trust will be. quench our fe-vered thirst of plea-sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain. grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Please sit or kneel.

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 God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

- Melcoming God, you invite all people to come and encounter your love. Give your church open hearts and minds to embrace all who seek your presence. Increase the capacity for cooperation between denominations and congregations. Bless our leaders and partners, including Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and Kjersten, our synod companion Settlement Lutheran Church, Gowen; Country Chapel, Dowling; Delton Community Church; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken. Hear us, O God.
- **Q** You give us new life.
- A Creating God, your might is seen in storms and in silence. Where drought threatens, bring rain. Where waters flood, ease them back. Where fire, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado destroy, shelter your people and restore your land. Hear us, O God.
- **You give us new life.**
- Discerning God, fill the hearts of leaders with your passion for justice and mercy. Call the nations of this world to tables of peace and collaboration. Encourage governments to seek avenues of collective benefit and joy. Be with those who safeguard the world, including Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Seth Domke (Domke), Hudson Schick (Markwart), and Leopold Schick (Markwart). Hear us, O God.
- **Q** You give us new life.
- Abiding God, all people are held in your care. Accompany survivors of abuse, trauma, and exploitation. Strengthen our resolve to listen and advocate on behalf of all who are unnoticed. Hear our prayers for those close to our heart, especially Jennie Anderson, Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Bonnie Ehredt, Greg Franks, Lori and John Giacalone, Lisa Golnek, the family of Heather Gore, Larry Griswold, Joy Jenks, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Dana Lepien, Larry Maupin, Dawn McElgunn, Linda Melcher, Sandy Mikolajczyk, Martha Misak, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Kali Ranguette (pregnancy), Tammy Rodriguez, Dr. Michael Menolasino, Lynnze Rudesill-Nuyen Kathy Surratt, Ed Szumowski, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson. Hear us, O God.
- **You give us new life.**

- A Rejoicing God, be with this congregation as summer begins in the northern hemisphere. Keep travelers safe. Keep the vulnerable cool. Invigorate summer ministry efforts in our community, and support the well-being of children and young people. Hear us, O God.
- **Y**ou give us new life.

Here other intersessions may be offered.

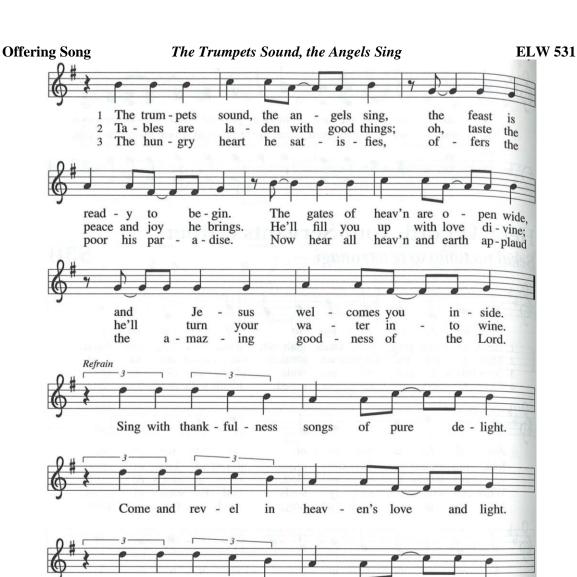
- A Loving God, the beginning and the end, you are with us throughout our lives. In gratitude for the saints who have died (especially Justin, martyr), we look toward your coming again among us. Hear us, O God.
- **You give us new life.**
- P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C Amen.

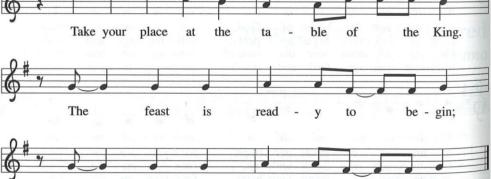
Please arise in body or spirit.

Sharing the Peace of God

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

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





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to be - gin.

the

feast

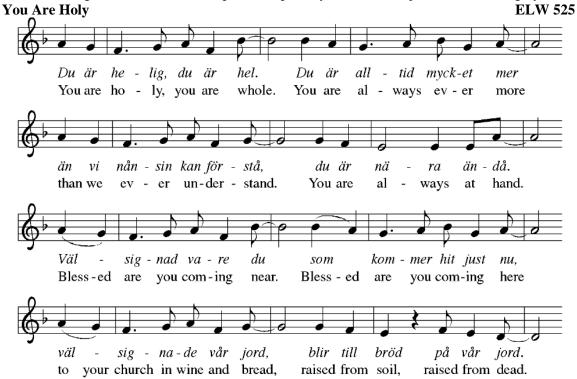
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Offering Prayer

- ⚠ Let us pray . . . Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace.
- **A**long with the gifts we bring, come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with your risen body in the world. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **2** 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



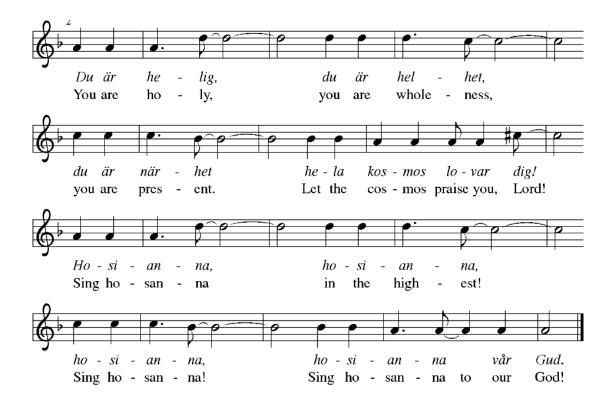


Table Prayer

P Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

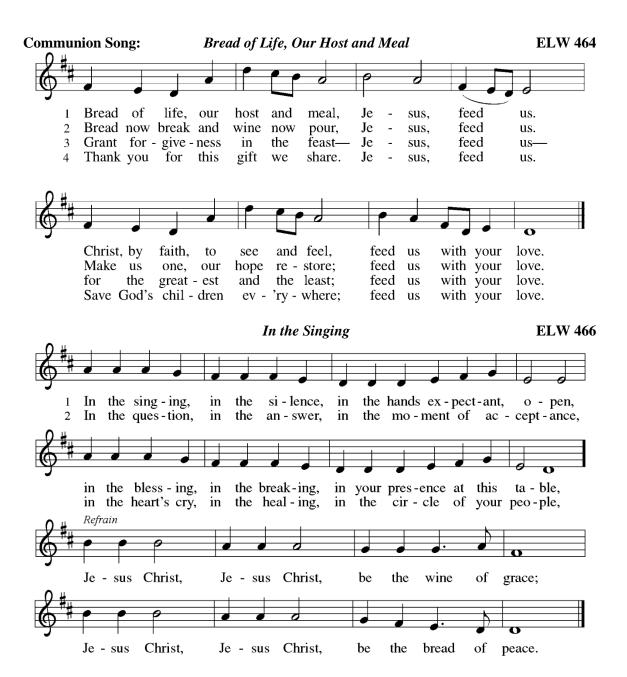
- P Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us 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!

Please be seated.

Lamb of God **ELW 336** but you hide, Son, sin to have no ly Your on -We laughed and cru - ci - fied. we of love Your gift should have died, but you Ι have lost. was so 3 this guilt - v to walk up - on him from your side sent we named a The hum - ble king died. he as him scorned your staff and by led your side to be me to brought Refrain God. of be - come the Lamb sod and O Lamb of sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. fraud and of God. lamb called a be rod and to God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me Christ, the Lamb of God. my Je-sus your pre-cious blood, in



Prayer after Communion

- Let us pray . . . Living God, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
- **Send** us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit.

Blessing

- P 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.
- Amen.

Sending Song

In Christ There is No East or West

ELW 650



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis ci ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



of love through-out one com - mu - ni - ty the whole wide earth. but gold - en cord close his ser - vice is the bind - ing hu - man-kind. liv - ing God are sure - ly kin All chil - dren of the him through-out all Christ-ly souls are the whole wide earth. one in

Dismissal

- Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Traci Wales Lector – Jack Vos Musician – Cindy Olson Cantor – Mark Anton Pastor – Frank Rothfuss Fellowship – Diane Neeb

Seventh Sunday of Easter Page 19

To Know God

After her very first day of Sunday school, a little girl went up to her father, looked him directly in the eyes, and said, "I love you, Daddy, because God loved me first." She then declared boldly, "First Jesus, four nineteen!" It took only a few seconds for her father to realize that her Sunday school lesson for the day was based on 1 John 4:19, which says, "We love because he first loved us." Amazing, that already on her first day of Sunday school this child of God had learned that love comes first from Jesus and then is to be shared.

Once we understand the principle that we love because God loves us first, it is not difficult to reach other related conclusions. We forgive because God has already forgiven us. We bless because God has already blessed us. We walk with others because God walks with us. These are bold statements of union with God.

Jesus, in today's gospel reading, is not afraid to say that he and God are one. And more than this, God's intent is that each of us is to be one with God as well. To know God is to know love. To know God is to know forgiveness. To know God is to know blessing.

What happens when we approach the altar on Sunday and receive the sacrament? When we receive the bread and wine, we take in Jesus. In taking in Jesus, we become everything that Jesus is. This is truly, albeit mysteriously, an embodied reality of union with God. What a gift!

It has always been God's desire to be reconciled with us—for us to be in a relationship of peace and wholeness through Jesus and to live the life of the Spirit by clearly sharing with others everything we have come to know about the One who created us. In sharing love with others, we then live a life that says "thank you" to God.

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The Clapper Kids End of Year Concert is this afternoon at 1:30 pm at the Woodland Meadows assisted living building. All are welcome to come enjoy bells, chimes, Boomwhakers and other rhythm activities. We could use a few more voices when we sing some traditional hymns for the residents and staff. Please join in the neighborhood fun! Any questions, please check with Kim Domke.

The Social Activities Committee will meet tomorrow, June 2 at 1:30 pm.

The Annual Church Picnic is on Sunday, June 22 at the Poholski's house. Food will begin at 12 noon. The Poholskis are providing hot dogs, chips, lemonade, and iced tea. Please bring a dish to share, and a lawn chair. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area soon.

The Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, June 9 at 3:00 pm.

The Executive Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 10 at 5:30 pm.

Seventh Sunday of Easter Page 20

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. 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 Jesus, who shares his very presence with us. Let us celebrate the life we have in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

We welcome Pastor Frank Rothfuss, while Pastor Ken, Laura and Anna are cooking for staff training at Camp Luther. We are blessed that Pastor Rothfuss is one of our retired pastors in the Greater Grand Rapids Conference. He is teaching the Adult Forum class today. His focus is about Christians who suffer.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 28	Views: 238
Weekly Giving: \$4,750.00	Budget Amount: \$4,366.17
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Cost of ALL materials for Landscaping Project \$789.31
Brat Sale Received To Date \$634.00
Gift Towards Landscaping Project \$200.00
Landscaping is Paid Off, Extra to General Fund +\$44.69

Grace Projects Goal \$ 25,252.00 Received To Date -\$ 4,550.00 **\$ 20,702.00**

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$50.00

Hand2Hand Thank you for generously supporting Hand2Hand throughout this whole school year! We helped 101 students who may be hungry over the weekends. Thank you for your support of this ministry. Hand2Hand will resume in the fall.

Women of Faith meets on Tuesdays at 11:00 am here at Grace. We are finishing up studying "Listening to God" on June 3 and 10. All women are welcome. Starting June 17, we will have summer meetings. These will be more casual, without an official study resource.

Brothers of Grace will meet on Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 pm. All men are welcome.

The nursery is available weekly during the worship service. Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service.

Parish Administrator is Anna Scheck; **office hours 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday-Thursday.** Cindy Olson will be the new parish administrator, as Anna will start a full-time job with the Barry Community Foundation on July 1st. Cindy is the PA-in-training!

Adult Forum Please join us after worship NEXT WEEK with Pastor Ken, with a study on Hebrews.