



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about **“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”**

*If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **10:30a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.*

THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 12, 2026

Today in Worship

We gather today still in the glow of the most joyous celebration of Easter. The sights and sounds of that celebration linger in our memory as Peter calls it today, “a living hope,” as enduring and strong as the certainty of our living Lord and the promised future of our own resurrection. We return to continue the Easter celebration because in the afterglow of the days since Easter Sunday, many still do not know that hope. Like the absent apostle Thomas, we still face what seems to be a hopeless world. Today we remember that our only hope is built on a divine Savior whose crucifixion wounds were endured for us and for all.



Ringing of the Bells

Announcements (10:30am Service)

Welcome

The Light of Christ

P May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The pastor passes the light from the Christ candle to the acolyte who now lights the other candles.

P The light of Christ.

C **Christ is our light. Thanks be to God!**

Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #470
"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

Invocation & Sentences

Rom. 6:9; Jn 20:29b; Ps. 145:1,5,6b

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P Alleluia! We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

G **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

P I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

G **On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate, and I will declare Your greatness.**

Confession & Absolution

P Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.

G **"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?**

Women: *"Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?*

Men: *"Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?*

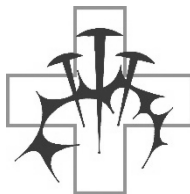
ALL: **"Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"**

P He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

G **Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. By our very nature we are sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins.**

Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Savior. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live out our lives on earth faithfully until that time when we, by His grace, join the company of heaven forever.

P God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and at His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Psalm 148



P Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the | heavens; *

C praise him | in the heights!

P Praise him, all his | angels; *

C praise him, | all his hosts!

P Praise him, | sun and moon, *

C praise him, all you | shining stars!

P Praise him, you highest | heavens, *

C and you waters above the | heavens!

P Let them praise the name | of the Lord! *

C For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.

P And he established them forever and | ever; *

C he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.

P Praise the Lord | from the earth, *

C you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

P fire and hail, | snow and mist, *

C **stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!**

P Mountains and | all hills, *

C **fruit trees and all | cedars!**

P Beasts and all | livestock, *

C **creeping things and | flying birds!**

P Kings of the earth and all | peoples, *

C **princes and all rulers | of the earth!**

P Young men and maidens to- | gether, *

C **old men and | children!**

P Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is
ex- | alted; *

C **his majesty is above earth and | heaven.**

P He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for | all his
saints, *

C **for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the
Lord!**

C **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son ***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | -ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Lutheran Service Book #477

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated
the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and
conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus
Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 5:29-42

“The apostles proclaim the Good News about Jesus, the Christ.”

L The First Reading for the Second Sunday of Easter is from Acts, chapter five.

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³ When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴ But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵ And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶ For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷ After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰ and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

"We are born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ."

L The Epistle Reading is from First Peter, chapter one.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Romans 6:9; John 20:29b

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

C Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

"Jesus appears to His disciples gathered behind locked doors."

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

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

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles Creed *8:30am service*

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of

God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

The Nicene Creed *10:30am service*

Message for Children from God's Word

Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book #720

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Responses after each petition:

P ...let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

The prayers conclude:

P O Lord, heavenly Father, give us all things good and beneficial to us and to our salvation, and keep us from all things harmful; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Offering

"Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'"

– Matthew 20:28



We encourage you to place your offering in the dropbox in the narthex before service. As the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord's Word this morning.

(10:30 a.m. Services continue page 11 of the Worship Folder.)



8:00 a.m. Service

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Closing Prayer

P Let us pray. O Lord, from Your goodness have come mercy after mercy. Give us one thing more—a grateful heart—that acknowledging Your goodness we may be made ever more confident of Your grace and content with Your mercy, until that day when all our labors shall cease, our doubts shall no more trouble us, and, with blessed Thomas, we shall wear the new and glorious flesh Jesus already wears; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Greeting of Peace & Announcements

Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #490
“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”*

This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service



Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

Preface *Sung*

LSB p. 160

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...

... evermore praising You and saying:



Sanctus *“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

LSB p. 161

Lord's Prayer *Spoken*

LSB p. 162

The Words of our Lord *Spoken*

LSB p. 162

Pax Domini *“The Peace of Our Lord”*

LSB p. 163

Agnus Dei *“Lamb of God”*

LSB p. 163

Distribution Hymns

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia”

LSB # 463

“The Day of Resurrection”

LSB # 478

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

LSB # 474

Thank the Lord

LSB p. 164

The Closing Prayer

P Let us pray. O Lord, from Your goodness have come mercy after mercy. Give us one thing more—a grateful heart—that acknowledging Your goodness we may be made ever more confident of Your grace and content with Your mercy, until that day when all our labors shall cease, our doubts shall no more trouble us, and, with blessed Thomas, we shall wear the new and glorious flesh Jesus already wears; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

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C Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #490
“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”*



Grace
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