

# ✠ SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ✠

## May 23-24, 2020

### PRELUDE

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

C: **We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.**

**To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

“The Church’s One Foundation”

R654

### GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY *Unison*

**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### READINGS AND PSALM

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

*Today’s reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord’s conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

<sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

<sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,

James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

### **Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

*Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)*

<sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup>**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;  
I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup>**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup>**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup>**Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup>Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

### **1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

*Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.*

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup>Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.

<sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

### **John 17:1-11**

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all

people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup>“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. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>I 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. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>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.”

## **HOMILY**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

**R655**

### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

### **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

*(Response after each petition)*

**P:** Hear our cry, O God.

**C:** Listen to our prayer.

### **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.**

### **BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

**R656**

### **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**C:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Jim Dekett, Larry Nelson, Marge Weber, Vicki Piontkowski, Michele Amelotte, Bethany Popour, Joanne Nicholls, Gordon Hansen, Deb Nitchman's Family, Kay Zinsli, Diane Prevost, Tammy Furze, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Sharon Anderson, Laura Hyatt (Kristin Rich's partner), Rob VanCleave, Donna Schafer, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Kevin Reiser, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Bill Estlack, Nick Wittman, Barb Agius, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Yvonne Stoll, Joseph Hansen, Scott Coddington, Cody Gustin and the Nick Whitman family. **Prayer Concerns: We are still taking prayer concerns to be included in the weekly bulletin – now becoming weekly news and announcements and more. Please do have the persons permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than just our congregation will know about it.**

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED

With Governor Whitmer's order to Stay Home and Stay Safe, the church building is closed until May 28th. Look for information of a gradual reopening of the building and office hours soon. That is the building is closed but not the work of Grace Lutheran Church or the congregation of Grace. God's work goes on regardless of a building. The staff is now working from home as much as possible. We can now check the phone remotely for messages and will respond. Mail will be picked up daily and put in the office.

## WORSHIP RESUMING – HOPEFULLY JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> AND 14<sup>TH</sup>

Right now with the current information & guidelines we have from the CDC, the federal government, the state of Michigan and the local Health Dept as well as information from our Synod, ELCA denomination and various religious groups, remaining the same:

Grace Lutheran's Council has made the decision to resume in-person worship on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>.

If new information comes, we will reconsider this and let you know if it changes the decision and announce it widely.

It will be wonderful to be worshipping together again.

Even if Worship ***WILL NOT*** be the same as it was before.

The social distancing – the physical space – we need to keep with others.

In the sanctuary - meaning fewer people in the sanctuary  
and some watching the worship from the Fellowship Hall

The use of masks

no singing

how we will do communion

spreading people out over Saturday and Sunday Services

all will be changes.

Please come with a heart and mind open

to the ways we will be caring for each other in the new ways we do things

We do these things to care for other people

it is the gift we can give others as well as our selves.

It is our Christian service to them

## ONLINE WORSHIP RECORDINGS

From our website or Facebook page you can access a video that we have made of scripture, prayers, music and a meditation for the week. Please let others, family, friends and church members know about this. We hope these recorded services are meaningful. ***MANY PEOPLE ARE WATCHING*** From April 26<sup>th</sup> 148, from May 3<sup>rd</sup> 110, from May 10<sup>th</sup> 118, and from May 17<sup>th</sup> 96 views so far. It is GOD'S WORD and it needs to be out there. The world so needs to know of God's love and grace and peace and justice and strength right now. *THANKS*

## **RETURNING TO WORSHIP SURVEY**

Council has a survey that we would like you to complete to help us finish making our preparations for resuming in-person worship here in the building.

Please go to this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5QWX689>, which was also sent by email, and complete the quick survey online on Survey Monkey. Please complete and return it by next Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup>.

If you need a paper copy to fill out, please call the office. We will mail one to you.

## **ZOOM FELLOWSHIP**

In the meantime, we want to try something new and different. Have fellowship online with other church members. There is a computer platform called Zoom that you have probably heard about. We are using it for Council meetings and the Adult Christian Education class as are many other businesses and organizations and even families and friends to keep in touch, seeing and talking with each other.

You can use Zoom through your computer or laptop or smart phone or tablet.

Go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) to sign up

You will download the software to your device

There is a place to do a test meeting on your computer making sure it is working properly and you understand the couple of things you have to do.

It is really quite simply and works very easily. If you have any questions, feel free to call the church and leave a message. I or someone will get back with you and help you set it up.

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (ACE)**

ACE is going to spend this week's class reviewing the *DRAFT Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement: Discipleship in a Democracy*. This comes from the ELCA Church Wide Council as way to engage our faith in the community and world. A comment period is open until May 27 for members of the denomination that want to submit responses. If you are interested in joining in a Zoom ACE class, please email Pastor Tom and you will receive the copy of the draft Social Message and the information to join the class on Zoom.

## **DAILY DEVOTIONALS – CHRIST IN OUR HOME**

If you did not have the chance to pick your copy of *Christ in Our Home* daily devotional booklet, please let us know. Call or email and we will get a copy out to you. And as many have done if you have shared them with family, friends and neighbors in the past, we will mail them one also.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have changed any contact information since our last church directory, say have a cell phone as your preferred or only contact, do let us know so we have the latest info in the church office.

## **GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED**

Due to the difficulty in obtaining information necessary to complete the scholarship application, the committee has extended the deadline to June 1, 2020. Completed applications may still be emailed or mailed to the church office. Call the office (354-2640) if you would like an application mailed or emailed to you.

**DO YOU NEED A FACE MASK?**

Several church members have been making some for the hospital and are willing to make some for church members. Please call the office and let us know if you would like one. We will get one to you.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS**

Though the building is closed, mail is still dealt with daily. So offering envelopes can be sent in and they will be deposited.

**SIMPLY GIVING**

If you would like to set up a transfer from one of your bank accounts to Grace's, like automatic utility paying, give the office a call and Peggy will help set that up.

**GIVE +**

You can also go to our website and use the Give + link for a one time contribution or set up a recurring contribution through credit cards or bank account.

Thank you to one and all for your faithfulness in your stewardship toward God's work at Grace Lutheran.

**GENERAL FUND GIVING**

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,415.00
Weekly giving - May 10	3,820.00

***Thank you to all who have dropped off or mailed in envelopes and made donations online.***

**This week we received:** 14 envelopes and 2 new Give+ payments made from our website