



Easter Season

Grace Lutheran Church

May 15 & 16, 2021

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

“We share God’s love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world.”

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

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: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

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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.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen, amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;
of heav'nly joy and earthly peace we sing.

We worship you, to you our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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.

⁵In 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.”²¹ So 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.”²³ So 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.”²⁶ And 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.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

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!

²**Their 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.

⁴**It 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.

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

1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

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.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord. I am coming to you.
Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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.

[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; ⁸for 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. ¹¹And 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 Our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY “Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

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APOSTLES' 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: Let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

**We place upon your table, Lord,
the food of life, the bread and wine,
as symbols of our daily work,
according to your grand design.**

**Accept them, Lord; they come from you;
we take them humbly from your hand.**

**These gifts of yours for higher use,
we offer up as you command.**

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P: Let us pray...God of love,

C: you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...*(concluding)*... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise:...*(concluding)*...Blessing, praise, and thanks to you,
holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

HOLY COMMUNION

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

*Text: Martin A. Seltz © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.
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COMMUNION MUSIC

P: Let us pray...Wellspring of joy,

**C: through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still
around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the
hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Bind Us Together”

Text and music: Bob Gillman © 1977 Thankyou Music.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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WE HAVE RETURNED TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

The same public health protocols that were utilized in the Fall are in place: masking, caring social distancing in the seating, no congregational singing, distancing on entering and leaving the sanctuary, no congregating in the office lobby before or after worship and as low touch environment as we can achieve.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream or recording.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In honor of Raylynn Suszek’s baptism, given by her family.

BAPTISM

We welcome Raylynn Angeline Suszek to the Lord’s family as she is baptized at our Saturday evening worship, May 15th. Raylynn’s parents are Cody Suszek and Jessie Kendziorski and her sponsors are Tyler and Stephanie Suszek.

PRAYERS

Kelly Pankey, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Betty Dulebohn, Paul Denstaedt, Gerald Lancaster, Charlotte Werth, Hannelore Duenkel & Family (Charlotte Werth's niece), Dorothy Hansen, Don, Verna & Tammy Furze, Larry Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Joanne Nicholls, Deb Nitchman's Family, Diane Prevost, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Allison, Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod staff, Amanda Lema (Betty Dulebohn's granddaughter), Lyn Marshall, Joanne Coughlin, Sylvia Rouech, Jimmy Lappan, Herb Schiller, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Genie Diamond, Laura Bleau, Sharon Anderson, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Joseph Hansen, and Scott Coddington.

Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).

Prayer concerns received by the church office by Tuesday each week will be included in the coming weekends bulletin. Please do have the person's permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than our congregation will know about it.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 5 LARCC parishes. This weekend we pray for the Christian Education Program at St. Paul Lutheran Church. We also pray for this week's Synod Prayer Partner: Evangelical Lutheran Church/East Jordan, Rev. Ken Lein.

PLEASE RECYCLE BULLETINS AND ENVELOPES

You can place your bulletin and communion wafer envelope in the labelled bin by the elevator as you leave the sanctuary. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mary Hughes is graduating from Wartburg Seminary on Sunday May 16 with her Master of Divinity degree.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

macaroni and cheese
individual breakfast cereals
pancake mix and syrup
paper products - paper towels and toilet paper
baby foods
bread
quick easy meals for one

NO MORE PLASTIC BAGS PLEASE

As we do not have any current projects using plastic bags at this time, **we ask that you do not drop off any more plastic bags at the church.** Please continue to recycle them at other locations where they are still being collected. Thank you for understanding!

PERSONAL CARE KITS NEEDED

Lutheran World Relief has reached out to Grace. They are in desperate need of personal care kits. The discipleship committee is asking those that can to help. The items need for the kits follow:

- One bath size dark color towel
- 2-3 bath size soap bars (8-9 oz.) in original wrapper
- one adult size toothbrush, in original package
- one sturdy comb, no fine tooth combs
- one metal nail clippers

If you can purchase one complete kit and return the items to the church during office hours, before Saturday May 22, we can help to make a Christ-like difference in our community and world. Thank you, Phran Ludington and Dawn Anderson, Discipleship Co-chairs

FLAT SHEETS NEEDED FOR QUILTING GROUP

The quilters will be needing flat sheets in good used condition for future use. Sheets may be dropped off at the church any time.

CHRIST IN OUR HOMES DEVOTIONAL FOR APRIL-JUNE

Christ in Our Homes Devotional for April-June is available in the Office Lobby. Pick one up during office hours of Tuesday - Thursday 8 am to noon or call the office and we will mail one to you.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is open Tuesday-Thursday, from 8 a.m. - noon. We ask that you please wear a mask when in the building. Please log in on the sheets as you enter the Office Lobby. Please also log out as you exit the building, noting the areas of the building that you were in.



Anniversaries of Baptism

May 4
Jerry Charter

May 5
Kody Bertrand

May 6
Michael Lang

May 7
Jeanne Pankey
Ella Sandula
Kady Sandula

May 8
Phran Ludington

May 9
Sheri Smith

May 10
Trevor Denstaedt
Taylor Hayward

May 11
Christopher Piontkowski
Stacey Piontkowski

May 12
Monroe Garant
Marjorie Weber

May 13
Joshua Engstrom

May 14
Logan Suszek

May 17
Wesley Garant
Hannah Kamyszek
Hope Kamyszek
Savannah Kamyszek
Kathryn Reynolds

May 19
Alexander Bauer

May 25
Lori Graham

May 27
Erica Wilson

May 28
Darlene Dekett

May 29
Jeffrey Welch

May 30
Terry Bertrand



May 1
Ethan McIntosh
James (J.J.) Timrick

May 2
Grace Kuligowski
Scott Lancaster
Harper Suszek

May 3
Chad Lewis
Beth Matzke
Craig Weise

May 4
Thomas (T.J.) Lappan
Mya Styma

May 5
Vicki Piontkowski

May 6
Dawn Anderson
Olivia Viegelaahn

May 8
Matthew Anderson

May 10
Julie Townsend

May 11
Michele Amelotte

May 12
Rachel Chroninger
Taylor Chroninger
Nancy Platt
Peggy Tomaszewski

May 14
Lyn Schultz

May 15
Laurie Hansen

May 16
Jan Charter

May 17
Audrey Garant

May 18
Jacob Gapske
Karen Suszek

May 19
Michael McCourt
Rebecca Trelfa
Brett Werblow

May 22
Alexander Bauer
Pamela Kirchoff
Roger Pankey

May 23
Scott Coddington

May 24
Betty Bedford
Joanne Kindt

May 25
Polly Cook

May 26
Darlene Dekett
Stacey Townsend

May 29
Miriam Denstaedt

May 30
Gary Graham



Wedding Anniversaries

2nd Stephen & Janie Hansen
3rd Jeff & Sandy Welch
5th Jon & Mari Crow
10th Bob & Rosa Greene
17th Paul & Vicki Denstaedt
30th Eric & Emma Barber



Calling All Graduates!!!

Are you, or is someone you know, celebrating a graduation this year?

Please drop the information off at the church office or email the office at **officemanager@gracelutheran-alpena.org** including the name, graduation date, institution of learning, and future plans of the graduate.

We would like to acknowledge our graduates!

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,489.00
Weekly giving - May 9	3,969.00

We received:

18 envelopes, 11 Simply Giving recurring payments,
and 1 Give+ payment made from our website

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