

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 8, 2022
10:00am

Celebration of Baptism (based on *Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks*, Gail Ramshaw)

We bless you, generous God, for the gift of water—

for the oceans that surround the earth,

for the Chippewa and Eau Claire Rivers and other waterways that nurture the land,

for Dells Pond, Lake Altoona, Half Moon Lake, Prairie Lake,

and all places where our community is re-created.

We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.

We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.

We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with rain—

for those waters that nourish the plants and trees,

for dew that freshens dry places,

for water tables tapped by deep traveling roots.

We honor you, O God, for the waters you give us.

We honor you, O God, for the waters you give us.

We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism—

for the Jordan River where you celebrated your beloved Son,

for the water that baptized the believers on Pentecost,

for the water that poured at Grace Lutheran Church,

claiming generation upon generation,

for the waters we share with the whole church—Orthodox and Roman,

Anglican and Pentecostal, Methodist and Baptist and all who trust in you.

We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.

We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.

To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Sea of blessedness, Spring of salvation, Cloud of mystery,

Be all praise and thanksgiving, now and forever.

Amen.

Amen.

Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today! (Verses 1 & 4)

#369

Apostolic Greeting

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

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Now the Green Blade Rises

#379

Prayer of the Day

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's' Message

Reading: Acts 9:36–43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Because the Lord Is My Shepherd

Ralph Carmichael

Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything that I need.
He lets me rest in meadows green and leads me beside the quiet stream;
He keeps on giving life to me and helps me to do what honors him the most.
Even when walking thru the dark valley of death, valley of death,
I will never be afraid, for He is close beside me.
Guarding, guiding all the way, He spreads a feast before me
In the presence of my enemies He welcomes me as his special guest.
With blessings overflowing, his goodness and unfailing kindness shall be with me all of my life,
And afterwards I will live with him, I will live with Him, forever in his home, forever in his home.

Reading: Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Gospel: John 10:22–30

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn

Faith of Our Fathers

#813

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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of the Church

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

... God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

Offering

Now the Green Blade Rises

Robert J. Powell

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Have No Fear, Little Flock

#764

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Now the Green Blade Rises

Richard Hudson

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Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

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If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the “Our Ministry” section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

Televised Service

Sunday 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Thursday 1:30pm Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

Radio Service

Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713

