

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 15, 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 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (Lasst Uns Erfruen) **#367**

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.

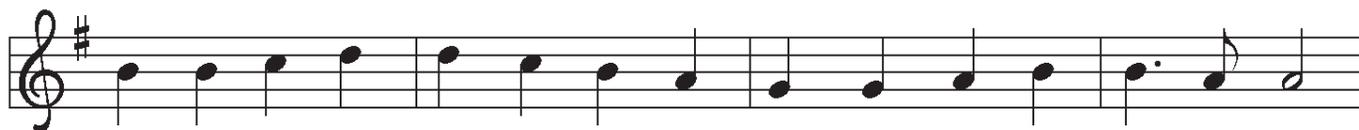
Cover Art: On Tuesday May 17th (Syttende Mai) Norwegians celebrate Norway's Constitution Day which was in 1814. This Smorgaasbordett platter painted by famous Norwegian rosmaler, Per Lysne, hung in the childhood kitchen of Margaret Pierson Hunstad. Mr. Lysne was born in Norway, but is credited with bringing the art of rosmaling to Wisconsin when he emigrated to Stoughton, WI in 1908.

Translation:

Smorgaasbordet er nu dattet – Ver saa god!

The table is now set – come and eat.

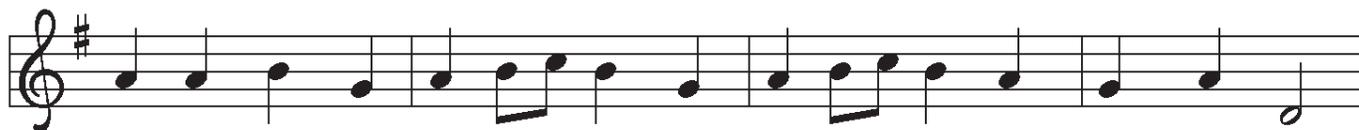
Hymn of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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 11:1–18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something

like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Reading: Revelation 21:1–6

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Bradley Ellingboe

My life flows on in endless song

Above earth's lamentation.

I hear the real though far-off hymn

That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,

While to that rock I'm clinging.

Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,

How can I keep from singing?

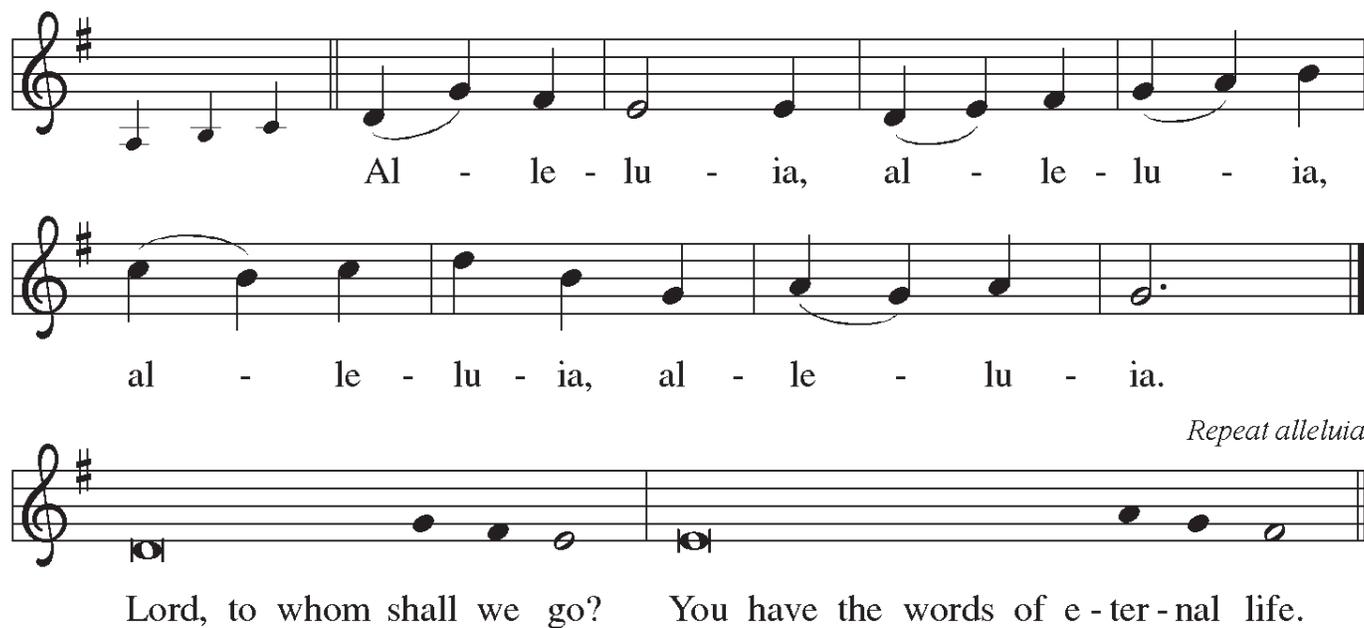
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing;
It sounds and echoes in my soul;
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest around me roar,
I hear the truth it liveth.
What though the darkness around me close,
Songs in the night it giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: John 13:31–35

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When [Judas] had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is seen for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him. The moment God is seen in him, God’s glory will be on display. In glorifying him, he himself is glorified—glory all around! “Children, I am with you for only a short time longer. You are going to look high and low for me. But just as I told the Jews, I’m telling you: ‘Where I go, you are not able to come.’ “Let me

give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn

What A Fellowship

#774

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

Lift High the Cross

Janet Linker

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

The Church of Christ in Every Age

#729

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Hymn to Joy

Christopher Uehlein

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Organist: Elaine Mann

Assisting Minister: Bev Page

Choir Director: Julie DeBoer

Reader: Molly Wilson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mask Reminder

Due to a number of Covid cases moving through our Grace Lutheran community, we have decided to require masks at our Sunday services once again. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Masks will be available at the door if you need one. Please ask the ushers for assistance.

We are alive and well!

Mark Twain is said to have responded to news that he had died with the quip, "Rumors of my death are greatly exaggerated!" Some people have apparently misreported to others beyond Grace that we are closing. (They have mistaken a simple GLC bylaw alteration as evidence that we are shutting down.) If you should hear this gossip, please respond, "Rumors of Grace's death are greatly exaggerated." I have pointed out to others that this makes no sense. We maintained strong financial commitment through a very difficult pandemic (thank you!); we received 21 new members during that same stressful time; we have strong and excited leadership; we have a new and talented family choir; we have continued to find ways to feed the hungry; many of our familiar activities are hitting their stride again; AND we are about to engage in a rigorous process of discerning what our mission is in this time and place. We are alive and well. Use your words to communicate all that God is doing among us!

New Staff

At our recent annual meeting we discussed the need for more extensive care of the church. The personnel committee is pleased to announce that our own Matt Wing has responded to the call and will be our primary custodian at Grace. Please thank and support Matt as he begins this work with us.

Sunday School

This Sunday, May 15, will be the last Sunday of Sunday School before the summer.





Picnic Fare for Families at Beacon House

Soon, we will be providing evening meals for the homeless families staying at Beacon House. The dates are June 2, June 3, and June 4 which are the Thursday, Friday and Saturday immediately following Memorial Day. We will serve sandwiches and other light food. The sign-ups sheets are posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex.

Thank You for your support.

Online Streaming Services

We are trying an experiment for those who have been watching our Sunday services on YouTube. During this month we will live stream the service on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ/featured>

This allows you to tune in and participate in the service as it is happening. Go that the link above after 10m on Sunday and you should find it. We are working on a way to have a link on the website. A bulletin in pdf form will be available on our website so you can speak and sing the congregational parts with those of us in-person. Later in the week, Bill will repost the service with hymn lyrics embedded and other refinements he makes after the service is over. TV and Radio broadcasts will continue as they have been. If you “Subscribe” to the YouTube and click on the bell to the right of the subscription button, you will receive alerts when we go live.

Luther Park Golf Outing

Luther Park is hosting a Annual Golf Outing to help raise money to fund Luther Park and Luther Woods. All proceeds from the event will help Luther Park and its ministry to reach youth and provide them with a positive Christian camping experience.

The event will be held on Thursday, August 11th, 2022 beginning at 9:00am. If you would like to participate, registration is \$50 per person. Play will be in teams of 4. You can create your own team with friends or play as an individual and be placed in a team with others.

If you would like to play, please follow the instructions to sign up at the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e49aea62fa2fb6-luther>

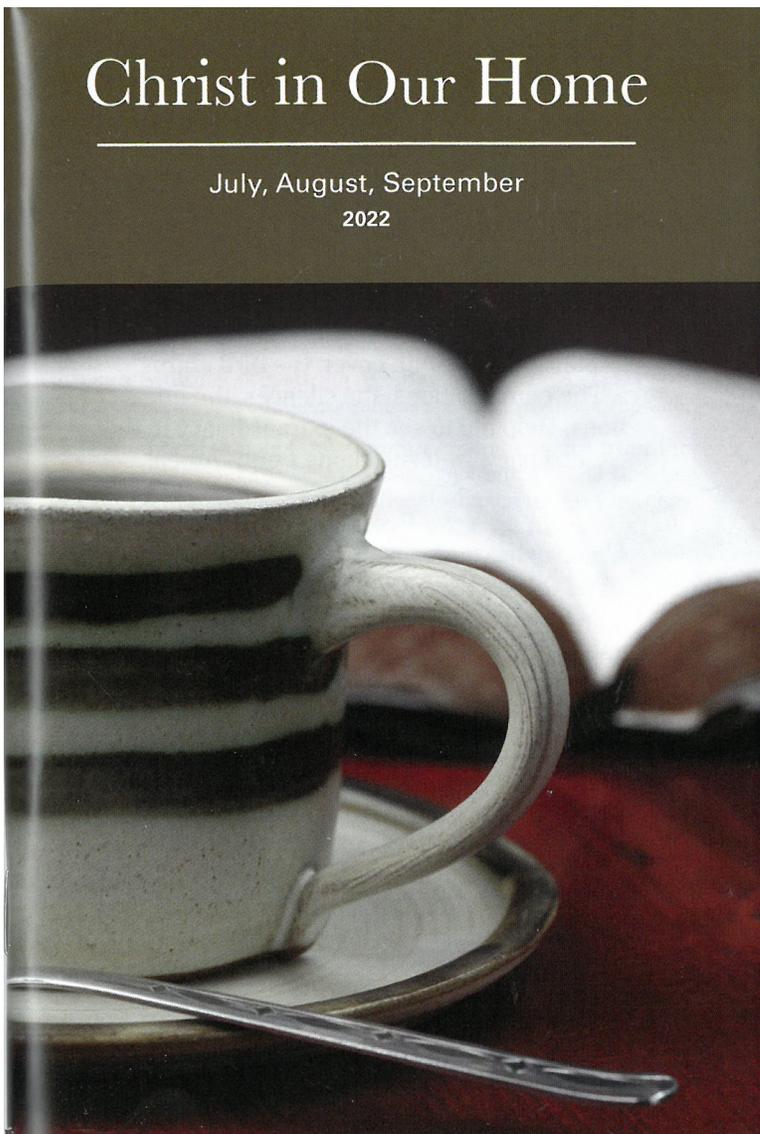
Celebration of Music at Grace

The worship service on May 22 will celebrate the gift of music with a special presentation by the choir. They will sing Gospel Mass, in which the words of the communion service are set to the rhythm and harmony of African-American music. The separate movements will be performed within the context of Holy Communion. This unique setting will be accompanied by piano, bass, and drum set with soloists from the choir.

In 1979, Robert Ray sat down to write Gospel Mass, an experimental work, for a one-time performance. To his surprise, the piece caught on and became a seminal work of African-American music, performed by choirs and churches all over the world.

The Pacibells will also play several numbers and Family choir will sing. There will be a reception following worship, in honor of all musicians at Grace.

We will be honoring choir director Julie DeBoer during the reception. Please plan to attend to thank her and bid her farewell. There will be a basket available for cards.



Christ in Our Home

The latest Christ in Our Home has arrived. They are available for free in the display rack by the friendship door, the magazine rack outside the church office, and on the volunteer desk inside the church office. Both standard size and large print size are available.

Bulletin Cover Art

We are always looking for members to share their creative talents with the congregation. Below is a list of upcoming lessons for the month of May. If any of these inspire you, please send in your creations and we will feature them on the cover of the bulletin.

- May 22 Acts 16:9-15 A woman named Lydia opens her heart to God (Also this is a day we celebrate musicians)
- May 29 Acts 16:16-34 Paul Heals a Woman and Sings Songs in Prison

Altar Flowers

Altar flower sign-up cards are available again. Pick one up in the entryway off of the Oxford Ave Parking Lot. Please choose a card for the date you would like, fill it out, and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. If you choose a

florist other than 4 Seasons, you will be responsible for bringing the flowers the morning of the service.

We are also trying out a new program. If you are giving electronically through Vanco, there is now an option to purchase altar flowers through Vanco's website or their mobile app. Please order at least a week in advance to give us time to process your request.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

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

