

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Congregation echoes the pastor with each of these responses when indicated:

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

We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.

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

We come to you to worship you, now and forever.

May 7, 2023

10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Concerto II

J.S. Bach

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Hymn


Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

#553

Apostolic Greeting

Hymn of Praise (verse 1–women, verse 2–men, verse 3 and refrains–all)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:




Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain




hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Message

First Reading: Acts 7:55–60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸and
"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Johnson, arr. Dilworth

Lift every voice and sing,
 Till earth and heaven ring,
 Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
 Let our rejoicing rise
 High as the list'ning skies,
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
 Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
 taught us,
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
 brought us;
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
 Let us march on till victory is won.

God of our weary years,
 God of our silent tears,
 Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
 Thou who hast by Thy might,
 Led us into the light,
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where
 we met Thee,
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world,
 we forget Thee;
 Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
 May we forever stand,
 True to our God,
 True to our native land.

Stony the road we trod,
 Bitter the chast'ning rod,
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
 Yet with a steady beat,
 Have not our weary feet
 Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

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.

**The Gospel for today is from John the 14th chapter.
 Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus

said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

#816

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

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

The Redemption is Won

Otto Olsson

Offertory Prayer

Generous God,

in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

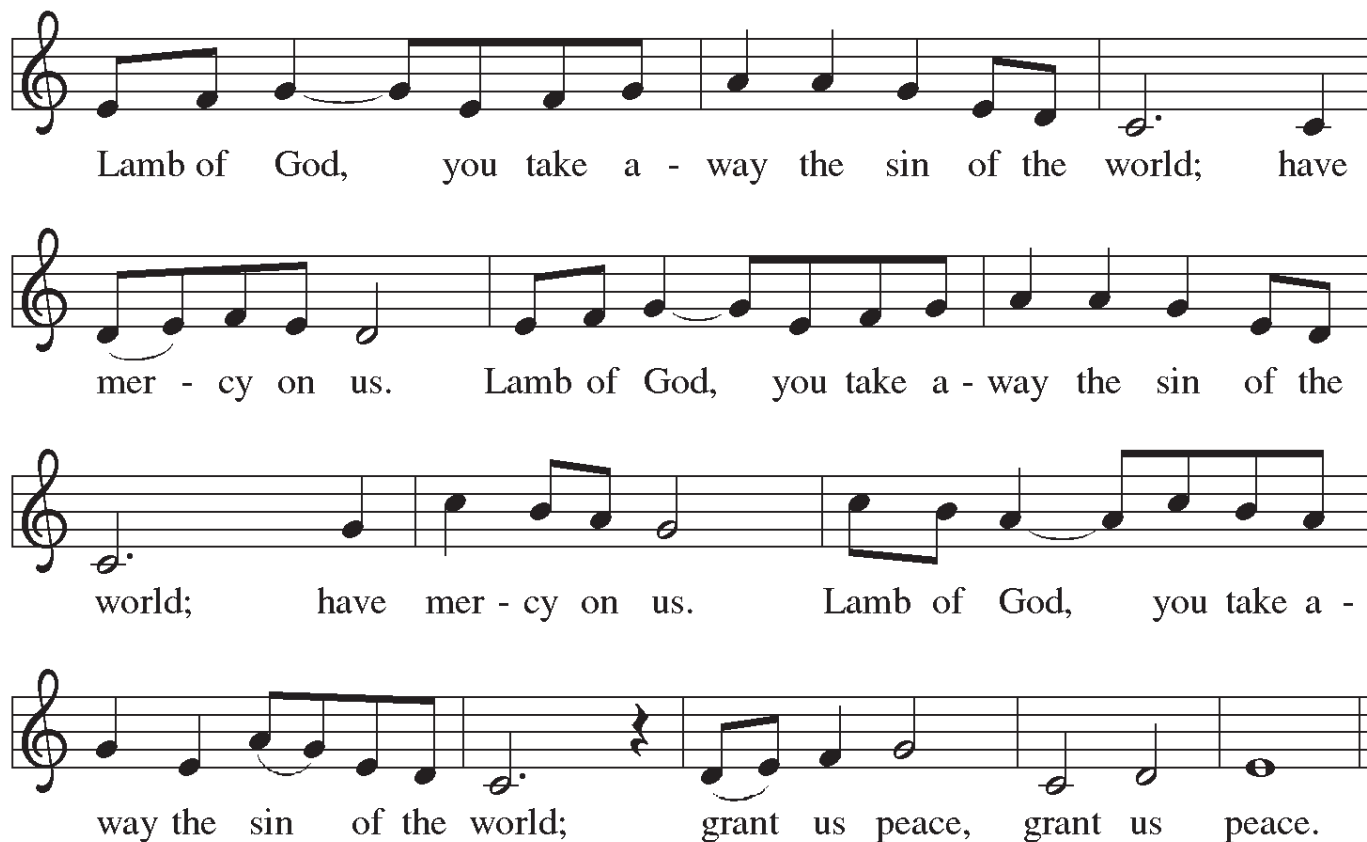
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic 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 debts,
 As we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation;
 But deliver us from evil:
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 Forever. Amen.**

Communion



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished
our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

#441

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Christ is Risen, Christ is Living

Robert Buckley Farlee

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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Organist: Elaine Mann

Assisting Minister: Molly Wilson

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

Reader: Arthur Grothe



Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (7th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am
Habitat Update – 11am

TUESDAY

Stepping On – 9:30am
Prayer Group – 11am

THURSDAY

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm
Scouts Spring Program
Kickoff – 7pm

MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am

WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 10am
Text Study – 12pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

SUNDAY (14th)

(Mother's Day)
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Quakers, Northwest Synod, Scouts, ADRC, Jonah

Habitat for Humanity Update

On May 7th after the service John Dawson will join us in the Chapel to give a briefing of where we are in terms of the Veteran Housing we hope to develop and to answer any questions you have. It will last for as long as it needs to, from 5 minutes to a half an hour.

Blessing Box



We continue to provide non perishable food as well as hygiene items in the Blessing Box located outside the front entrance. It is used extensively by our neighbors in need. Thank you for all your support!

With the arrival of spring, we will once again be collecting canned goods.

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet Monday May 8th at 10 am in the Lounge. All women are invited for a morning of fun, fellowship, food and Bible Study. We will use the May edition of the Gather Magazine. If you would like to join the circle or have questions, please contact Barb Piper 715-529-6900 or bpiper2007@yahoo.com.

Music Sunday and Reception

Music Sunday is almost here. On May 14 we will be having a special service honoring the music and musicians who bless us with their talents at Grace. However, May 14 is also Mother's Day and we understand that many of you have made plans to celebrate with your families.

Therefore, the reception to honor our musicians has been moved to the following Sunday, May 21, right after the service. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

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Beacon House

We will be providing evening meals for the families at the homeless shelter for these days: Sunday, May 14, Monday, May 15, Tuesday, May 16, and Wednesday, May 17.

Sign up sheets will be on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. You may choose what you wish to provide. Any suggestions for the Mother's Day Meal are welcome.

Call Barb Radke for further information at 715-835-3440

Paying forward our mother's love

Next week we will be serving the families that are currently without a shelter of their own and are living at Beacon house. We'd love to give them a beautiful cake and other special food for the day on Sunday and so we invite you to honor someone in your life by putting a dollar in the wicker basket on your way out of church today.

You may also sign up for the few slots that remain for the week's meals.

Sunday School

Sunday school will take place during the service right after the Children's Message on the following days.

- May 7
- May 21

Shepherd's Closet

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is having a Children's Clothing Give Away on May 10. If you are interested in helping, please see the poster on the General section of the bulletin board in the narthex for more information.

Noisy Offering

A Season for Change

Can you SPRING for a few bucks? Bring your coins for the Noisy Offering on May 21. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. Of course paper money and checks are welcome in any season! Our special offering will go toward Luther Park Bible Camp.

Luther Park is open year round for retreats and conferences located on a 100 acre site in Chetek, Wisconsin. It offers a Christ-centered camping experience for people of all ages. Luther Park was first established in 1932 and from sending generation of confirmation children to camp to helping with spring clean-up days, Grace has a long history of involvement.



SIGN UP for 9-to-DINE

Check your calendars so you are ready to sign up starting Sunday April 16th after the service in the Narthex. Other opportunities to sign up will be at the coffee hour (starting April 23st) and after services in the Narthex.

Dates are:

- May 19
- June 1
- June 3
- June 14
- June 15
- June 19

all @ 5:30 or 6:00

WELCA Ladies Retreat

Luther Park will be hosting a WELCA Ladies retreat June 7 and June 8. If you are interested in attending, please contact Andrew in the office and he will provide the information for signing up. You can call him at 715-832-9713 or email at info@grace-church.org.

Pastor Phil's Work in Guatemala

On June 4 th after worship, Pastor Phil will give a 45 minute long presentation on the work he does in Guatemala when we loan him to God's people there. Come and find out about this new way of making God's Word available to God's people in their mother tongues!

Memorials

Ron Huse gave in memory of Deloris Huse.

Anonymous and Margaret Hunstad gave in memory of Pastor Obert and Ella Lowe. Dave & Roxanne Gehring, Jeff & Deb Heath, Jim & Bev Page, Doug & Barb Radke, Marcia Smith, Tammy Tannler, and Ken & Lynne Ziehr gave in memory of Ella Lowe.

Dorothy Berg, Jeff & Deb Heath, David & Wilma Hovland, Norma Lionberger, Jim & Bev Page, Mitch & Barb Piper, Roger & Diane Pomplun, Joan Sather-Larson, Roger & Shirley Shepler, Tom Tealey, and Ken & Lynne Ziehr gave in memory of Bob Nelson.

Elizabeth Baribeau gave in honor of her sister Mary Panzer Thorp and in memory of her sister Jane Panzer Syverson.

Gordon Thorpe gave in memory of Dave Voss.

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

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org> go to “Our Ministry.”

Bulletins can also be found at <https://grace-church.org/> under the “Our Ministry.”

Recordings of worship services are also broadcast on:

- Televised on Sundays 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)
- Radio Service Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

If you missed one of our services, they are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ>

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