

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



*April 7, 2024*  
*10:00am*

## Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

Sonata No. 2: Largo in Eb Major

J. S. Bach

**Opening Hymn**

Thine Is the Glory

#376

**Apostolic Greeting**

**Hymn of Praise**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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## WORD

## Children's Message

### The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 4

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

arr. Jack Schrader

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known,  
When the people of the lord get down to pray:  
A door's gonna swing open and the walls come a-tumbling down,  
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.

You're gonna know it when the Lord stretches out His hand, and the people of the Lord get down to pray.  
There's gonna be a brand new song of vict'ry in the land, when the people of the Lord get down to pray.

And all the people sang: Lord listen to your children praying.  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**The Second Reading is from 1 John, chapter 1**

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 20 Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the others, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you don’t, they are stuck.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, ain’t no way I’ll believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

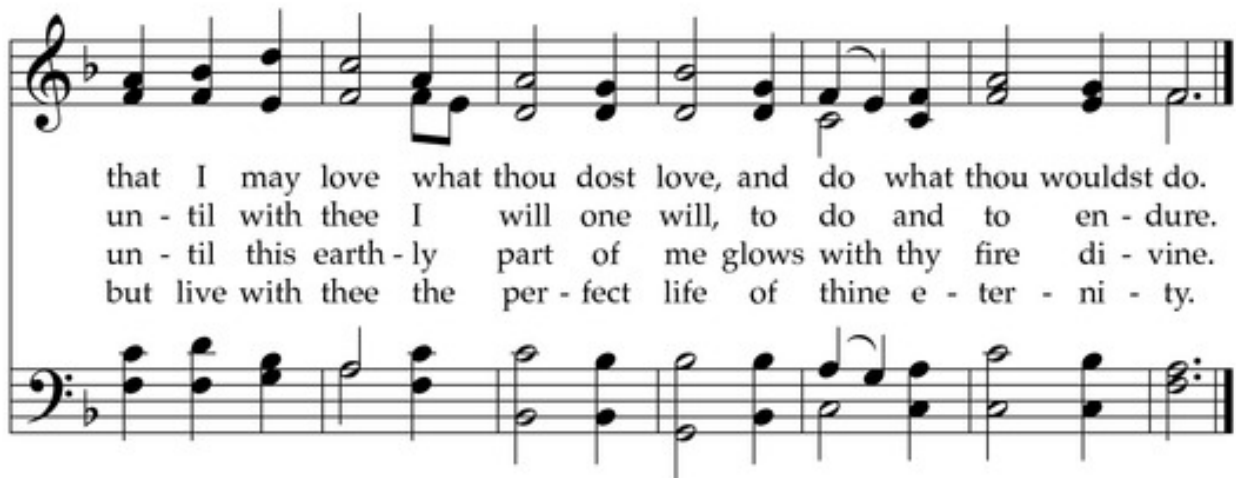
**Sermon**

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

# Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286



1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,  
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,  
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.  
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.  
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.  
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

## **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**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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## MEAL

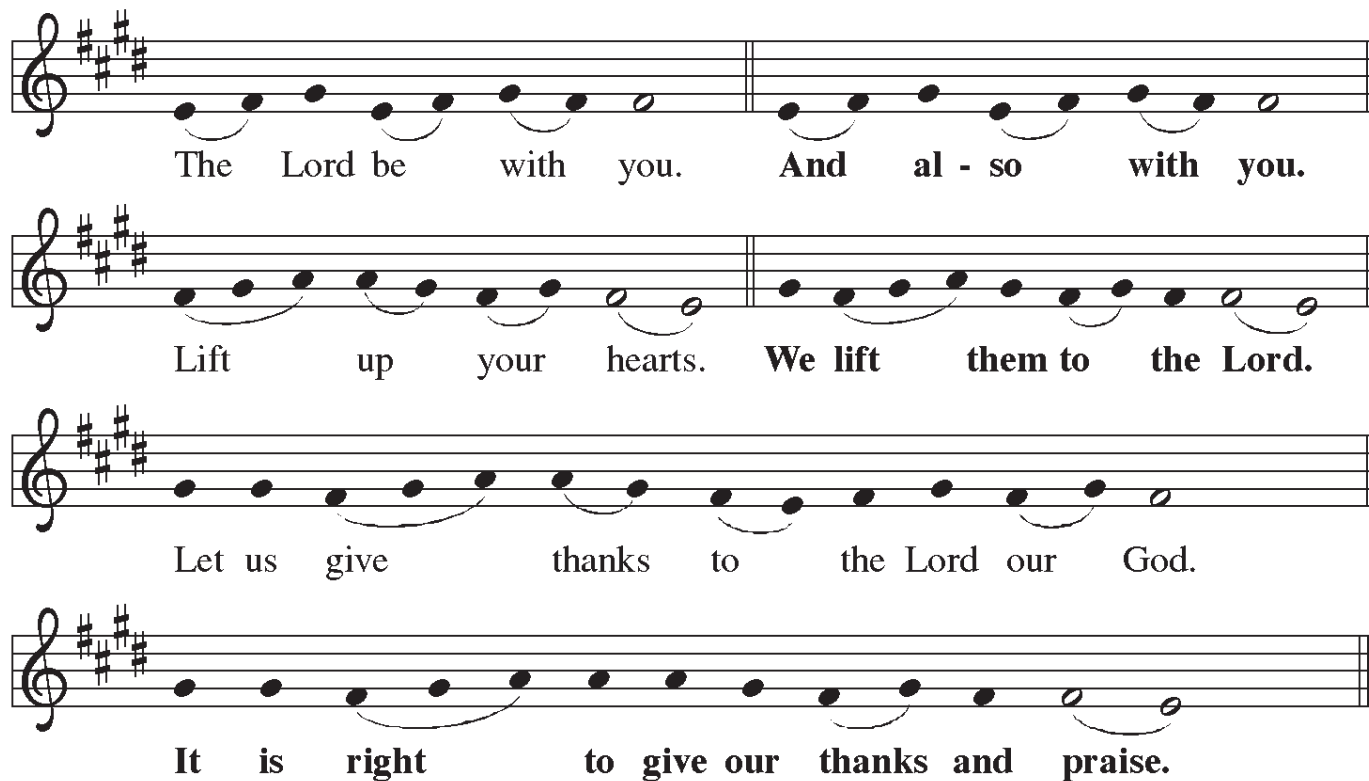
## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

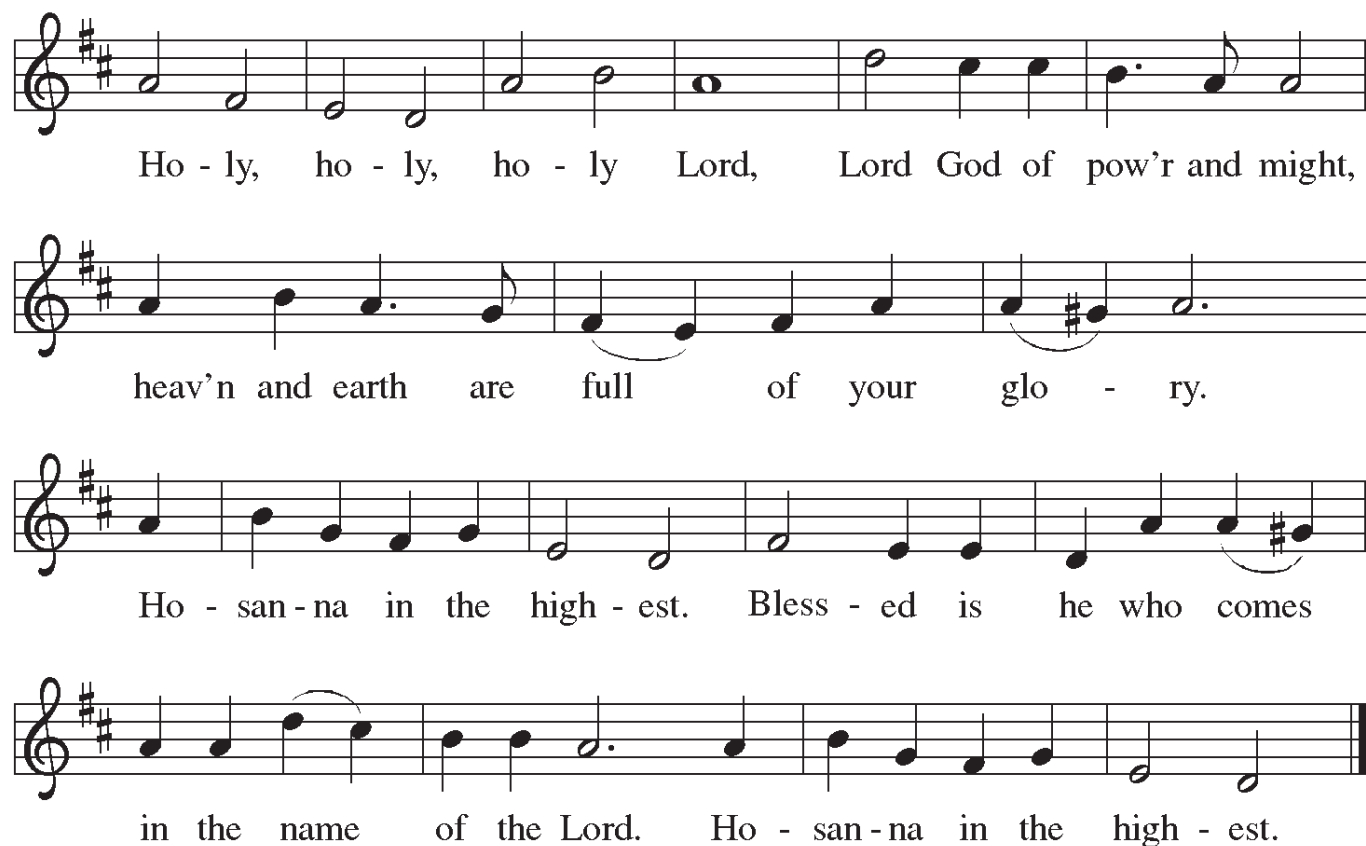
**Amen.**

## 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed 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 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.

### Communion

*Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.*



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

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

### Blessing

**Sending Hymn**    *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

#886

### Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### Postlude

*Sonata No. 2: Allegro maestoso*

*Felix Mendelssohn*

## Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY (7<sup>th</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

### MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am

### TUESDAY

Doug Radke Memorial Service – 11am  
Prayer Group – 11am

### WEDNESDAY

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

### THURSDAY

Strong Bodies – 1pm  
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

### SATURDAY

Eau Claire Area Ring Concert – 2pm

### SUNDAY (24<sup>th</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, ADRC,

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**Minister:** Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones

**Assisting Minister:** Pete Lokken

**Reader:** Ember Ewings

**Organist:** Wilma Hovland

**Choir Director:** Diana Cataldi

## Doug Radke Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for Doug Radke will be this Tuesday, April 9, at 11am. There will be a visitation on April 8 from 4pm to 6pm at Lenmark Funeral Home on 1st Ave, as well as another visitation on April 9 one hour before the service. There will be a light meal following the service.

## Sunday School

Classes will be held during the worship service following the children's message on the following dates:

- April 7
- April 21
- May 5
- May 19

## Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on Monday April 8th at 10am in the Lounge. All women are invited. Please contact Barb Piper if you are interested (call or text at 715-529-6900 or [bpiper2007@yahoo.com](mailto:bpiper2007@yahoo.com)). It is a morning filled with coffee, treats, fellowship and Bible Study.

## Family Choir

The family choir will be rehearsing and singing during the worship service on the following dates:

- Rehearsal: March 31; April 14 & 28
- Sing: May 12 & 19 (Music Sunday)

## Elaine Mann Organ Presentation

The Education, Youth and Family Ministry would like to invite you to a presentation given by Elaine Mann on The Historic Organs of Sweden. This will be on Sunday, April 21st, right after the 10:00 a.m. church service in the Parable Chapel.

## Noisy Offering

Time to Spring into action by bringing your coins for the Noisy Offering on April 14. 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 Food For The Poor.

Food For The Poor is grounded deeply in faith and aided by the generosity of donors and friends like you. Food for the Poor is able to feed millions of hungry children and families in primarily 17 countries in the Caribbean and Latin America.

## Eau Claire County

This past Thursday Eau Claire County held their employee appreciation breakfast in Grace Lutheran's parlors. Over 300 people were fed a hot meal. Several members of Grace helped make this event possible and we would like to thank them for their help.



2024-4-7

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The American Guild of Organists, Chippewa Valley Chapter

Presents the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual

## MARIANNA SCOTT SCHOLARSHIP RECITAL

Sunday, April 14, 2024  
2 pm

First Congregational Church, Eau Claire

Performers to include the 2023 Scholarship Recipients plus  
AGO members Lynn Emmons, Elaine Mann, Gary Steffenhagen, Judy Lies, Alana  
Laufmann, Donald Patterson, and guest Ryan Poquette



Freewill offering to benefit the scholarship fund



## Foot & Nail Clinic

Grace Lutheran will be hosting the Foot & Nail clinic this April 22 through 26. The event is free but appointments are required. You can sign up for appointments starting April 8 by calling the UW Continuing Education department at 715-836-3636.

## Eau Claire Ring

The Eau Claire Ring handbell concert will be held this coming Saturday, April 13. This year, Grace Lutheran Church will host the event. This free concert will begin at 2pm. All are welcome.

## Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers this week were given by the family of Margaret Hunstad in honor of her 97th birthday. Thank you.

If you would like to donate altar flowers, there are forms available in the entryway between the narthex and the parable chapel. Also, you can order flowers through our website by going to the GIVE page.

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org)

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: [pastorphil@grace-church.org](mailto: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/our-ministry> *Bulletins may also be found on the same page.*

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <https://bit.ly/49WLWPj>



Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org) or by calling the office at 715-832-9713