

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT



April 6, 2025
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 *O Lamb of God, Most Holy*

J. S. Bach

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen

In the mercy of almighty God,

Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority,

I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Hymn *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

#597

Apostolic Greeting

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all 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

WORD

Children's Message

The First Reading is from Isaiah the 43rd chapter

- ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,

or consider the things of old.

¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading is from Philippians, chapter 3

Paul writes: ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin,
a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the
church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More
than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ
Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as
rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness
of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the
righteousness from God based on faith.

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his
sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection
from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press
on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not
consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind
and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the
heavenly call of God in Christ

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem *Come Down, O Love Divine*
Come down, O Love divine, Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter draw near Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

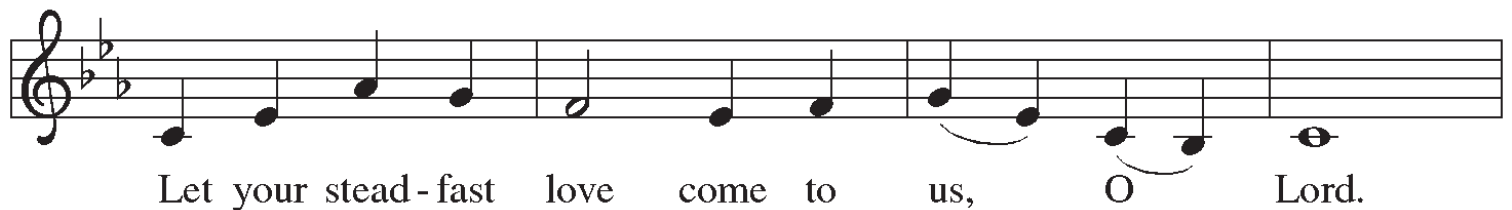
William H. Harris

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become min inner clothing:
True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
For none can guess its grace, till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation



The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 12 Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him.

³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

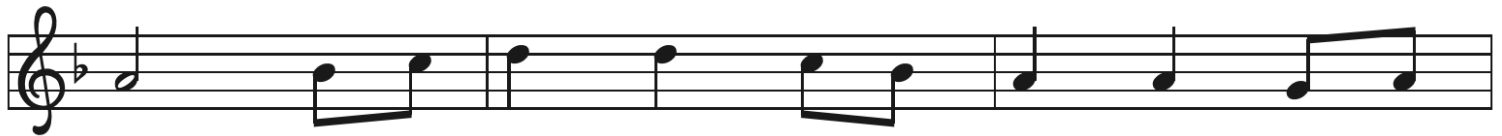
Holy Woman, Graceful Giver: John 12



1 Ho - ly wom - an, grace - ful giv - er, proph - et,
 2 How the fra - grance filled the dwell - ing! How the
 3 Lov - ing - ly Christ stilled the scoff - er who would
 4 Though dis - dained or though con - test - ed, acts of



ser - vant, and be - liev - er, Mar - y with the oint - ment
 act of beau - ty well - ing blest all those with - in the
 grasp - ing guard the cof - fer, point - ing to a hid - den
 love are nev - er wast - ed: beau - ty is a face of



jar, sought by Christ, by scorn un - daunt - ed, knelt in
 place! How the act of pure de - vo - tion, whis - p'ring
 trove: not all trea - sures gain and pro - fit, feed the
 God. Grace - ful Mar - y, by your giv - ing, you have



love, his feet a - noint - ed for his com - ing bur - ial
 of his com - ing pas - sion, blest the heart of Christ with
 poor, and feed the spir - it acts of beau - ty, acts of
 shown a way of liv - ing: acts of beau - ty, love, and



hour, for his com - ing bur - ial hour.
 grace, blest the heart of Christ with grace!
 love, acts of beau - ty, acts of love.
 good, acts of beau - ty, love, and good.

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

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

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
Amen.

MEAL

Offering

If You but Suffer God to Guide You

Georg Boehm

Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Great Thanksgiving*



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.

Jesus, Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

#339

Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *You but Suffer God to Guide You*

J. S. Bach

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My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 597

Holy Woman, Graceful Giver

Christ, the Life of All the Living 339

Come Down, O Love Divine, William Harris, ©1965 Novello and Company

Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Bev Page

Reader: Mitch Piper

Organist: Elaine Mann

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (6th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

TUESDAY

Prayer Group – 11am
ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm

WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 10am
Text Study – 12pm
Lenten Service – 6:15pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY

ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm
Pacibells – 6pm

FRIDAY

Nancy Schaaf
Visitation – 10am
Nancy Schaaf Funeral – 11am
Nancy Schaaf Luncheon – 12
noon

SUNDAY (13th)

Palm Sunday
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: ADRC, Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, Theater Guild,
Randall Park Neighborhood Association



2025-4-6

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Habitat for Humanity Project

We have some new thoughts regarding the Habitat build. First of all the CEO we have been working with moved to be closer to family. A new CEO will be coming on board soon. We will provide you information about him when we have it. The other concern we have is that grants, even promised federal grants, are sometimes pulled back under the new administration. Our congregational president, Barb Eidahl, and Pastor Phil met with representatives of the board. We will have a second meeting to discuss related issues before pastor goes on sabbatical. The board still loves the project, but is looking at how to best address current concerns. Please feel free to talk to Pastor if you had any questions.

Foot & Nail Clinic

The spring Foot & Nail clinic is almost here. It will be the week of April 21 through 25 in our parlors. If you would like to make an appointment, please call the Continuing Education department at the University: 715-836-3636. The clinic is free, but space is limited and in high demand, so call early and reserve your spot.

New Members

We are always looking to welcome new members into our congregation. If you have been worshiping with us for a while or this is your first visit to Grace Lutheran, and you are interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Phil (pastorphil@grace-church.org) and he will get the process started.

Sunday School

Sunday School continues in the new year. Check out the following schedule for the first half of 2025.

- April 6
- May 4

Sunday school takes place right after the Children's Time during the service. See you there!

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers this week were donated in honor of Margaret Hunstad's 98th birthday. If you would like to donate altar flowers, there are slips in the entry between the sanctuary and the chapel. Fill one out and give it to one of the ushers or put it in the offering plate. There is also a link on our website where you can reserve them. Go to the Give page and follow the link

Memorials & Honoraria

Elaine Berg, Jim & Bev Page, and Ken & Lynne Ziehr gave in memory of David T. Gehring. Anita Reid gave in memory of Nancy Schaaf. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.



Lenten Series

Wednesdays 6:15pm-7pm

March 12 - April 9

pastors from Good Shepherd, Grace, Spirit, and Trinity
will round robin and provide the messages





*We have a lot
to celebrate!*

Please join us...

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

celebrating

Grace Woodlands Apartments

3214 Gala St

Eau Claire, WI 54703

Thursday, April 24th, 2025

1:00 PM - Open House & Refreshments to Follow

In partnership with:

The **ECHAMBER**
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce



HANDBELL CONCERT

Area handbell ringers will present a concert including massed choir and solo choir pieces

Saturday, April 26 – 2:00 pm

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1314 E Lexington Blvd ■ Eau Claire

EAU CLAIRE RING HANDBELL CONCERT

The public is invited to enjoy a free handbell concert presented by the ringers attending the ECRing area handbell event, on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, featuring massed choir and solo pieces.



ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Grace Lutheran Foundation Voting Members

You are cordially invited to attend
Grace Lutheran Foundation's
Annual Meeting

**Sunday, May 4, 2025
11:00 a.m.
(following the 10:00 worship service)
Grace Lutheran Church**

Grace Lutheran Communities Board of Directors

**Paul Lokken | President
Dale Reid | Vice President
Alan Boyes | Secretary-Treasurer
Barb Eidahl | Church Council President**

**Pastor Philip Ruge-Jones, Ken Ziehr, Bob Kein,
Gloria Mittelstadt, Suzette Peltier, Arthur Grothe**

Grace Lutheran Communities Staff

**Amy Duhr | CEO
Jamie Larson | COO**



CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY *April 13 - 10am*

Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem

MAUNDY THURSDAY *April 17 - 6:15pm*

A new commandment: Love one another

GOOD FRIDAY *April 18 - 6:15pm*

The crucifixion of Jesus by worldly powers

EASTER SUNDAY *April 20 - 10am*

Alleluia! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!



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/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 or by calling the office at 715-832-9713