

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER



*May 11, 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**


Opening Hymn Holy God, We Praise Your Name

#414

### Apostolic Greeting

### Hymn of Praise


*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**

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**

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## WORD

### **Children's Message**

#### **The First Reading is from Acts, Chapter 9**

<sup>36</sup> Now 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. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since 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." <sup>39</sup> So 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. <sup>40</sup> Peter 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. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

## The Second Reading is from Revelation, chapter 7

<sup>9</sup>After 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. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

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

<sup>11</sup>And 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, <sup>12</sup>singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I 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.

<sup>15</sup>For 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.

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

<sup>17</sup>for 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!**

### **Anthem**

*The Lord is My Shepherd*

*Allen Pote*

The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters.

The Lord is my shepherd, who restores my life.

Leads me in paths of righteousness for the sake of the Lord's name.

And even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.

I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff will comfort me.

The Lord is my shepherd, nothing shall I want.

My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters.

The Lord is my shepherd who restores my life.

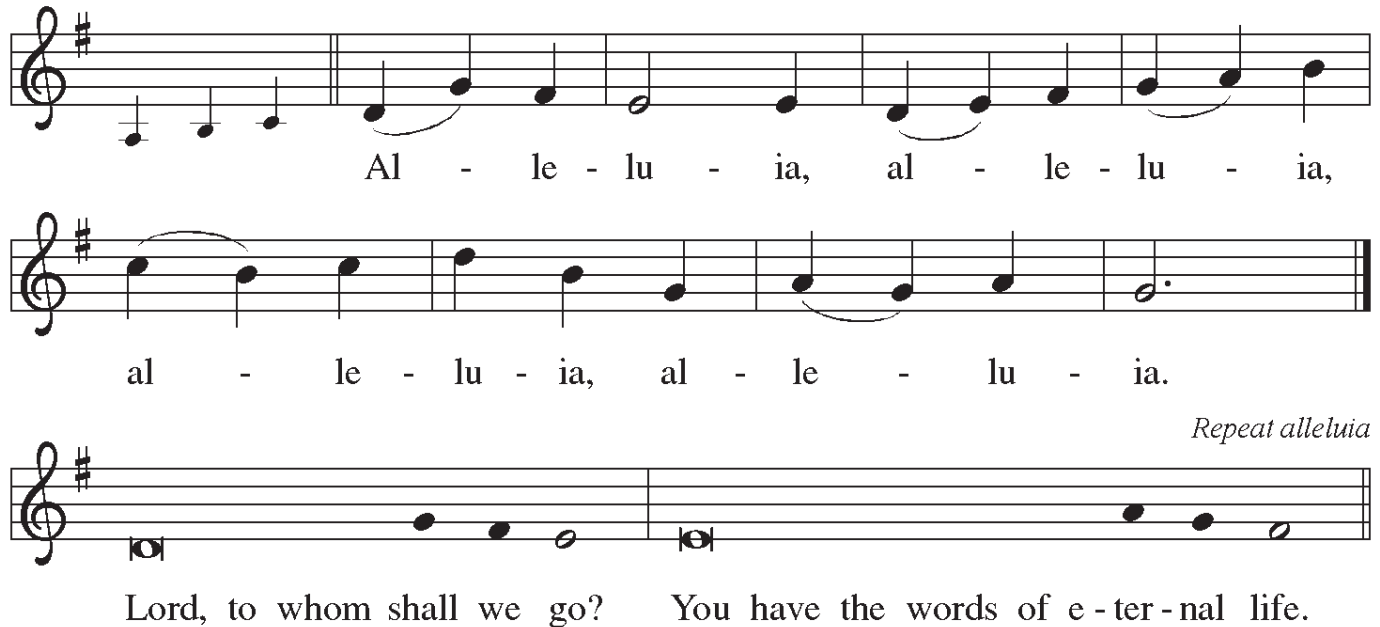
Leads me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of the Lord's name.

You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and in the house of my God, I will live forever.  
The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

### 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 comes from John, chapter 10 Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So 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." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn of the Day** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

#789

## **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**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

...Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

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## MEAL

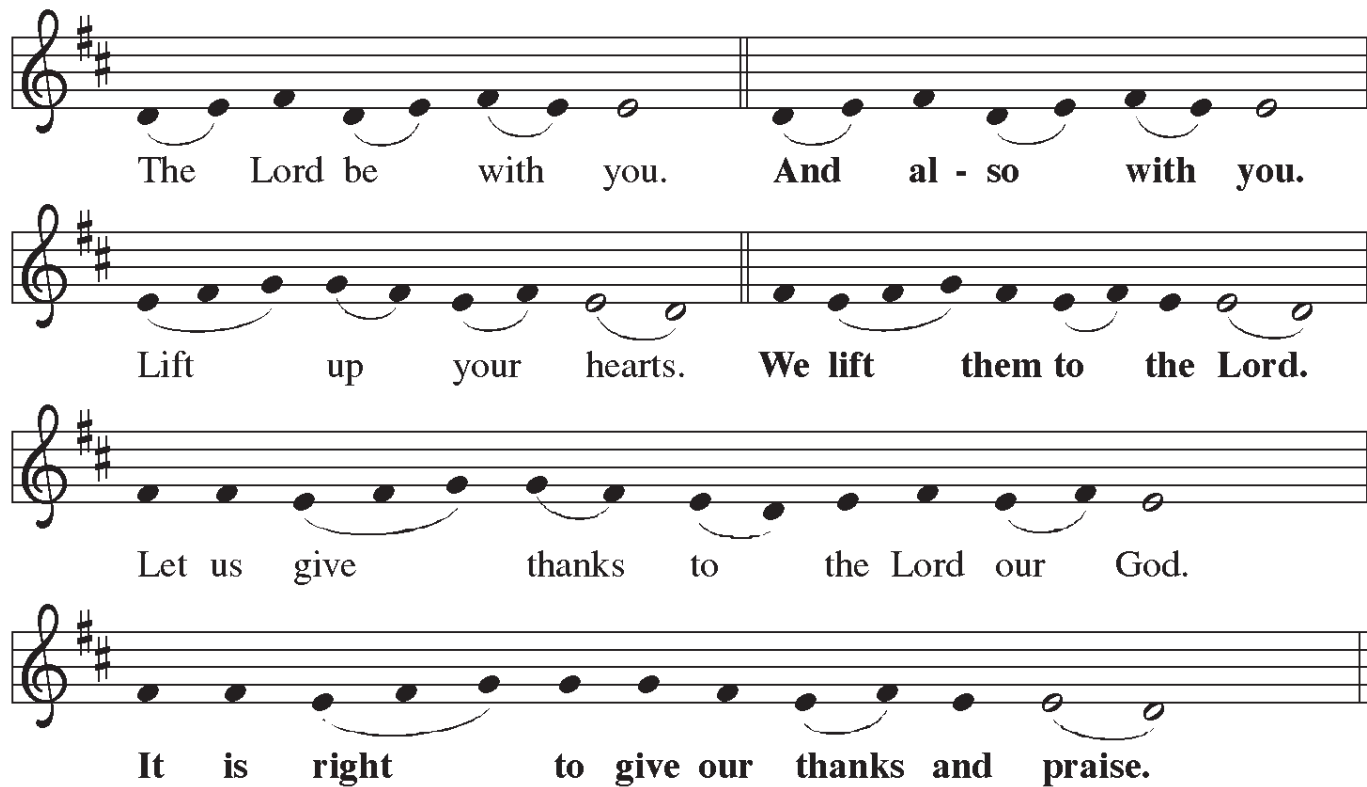
## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving



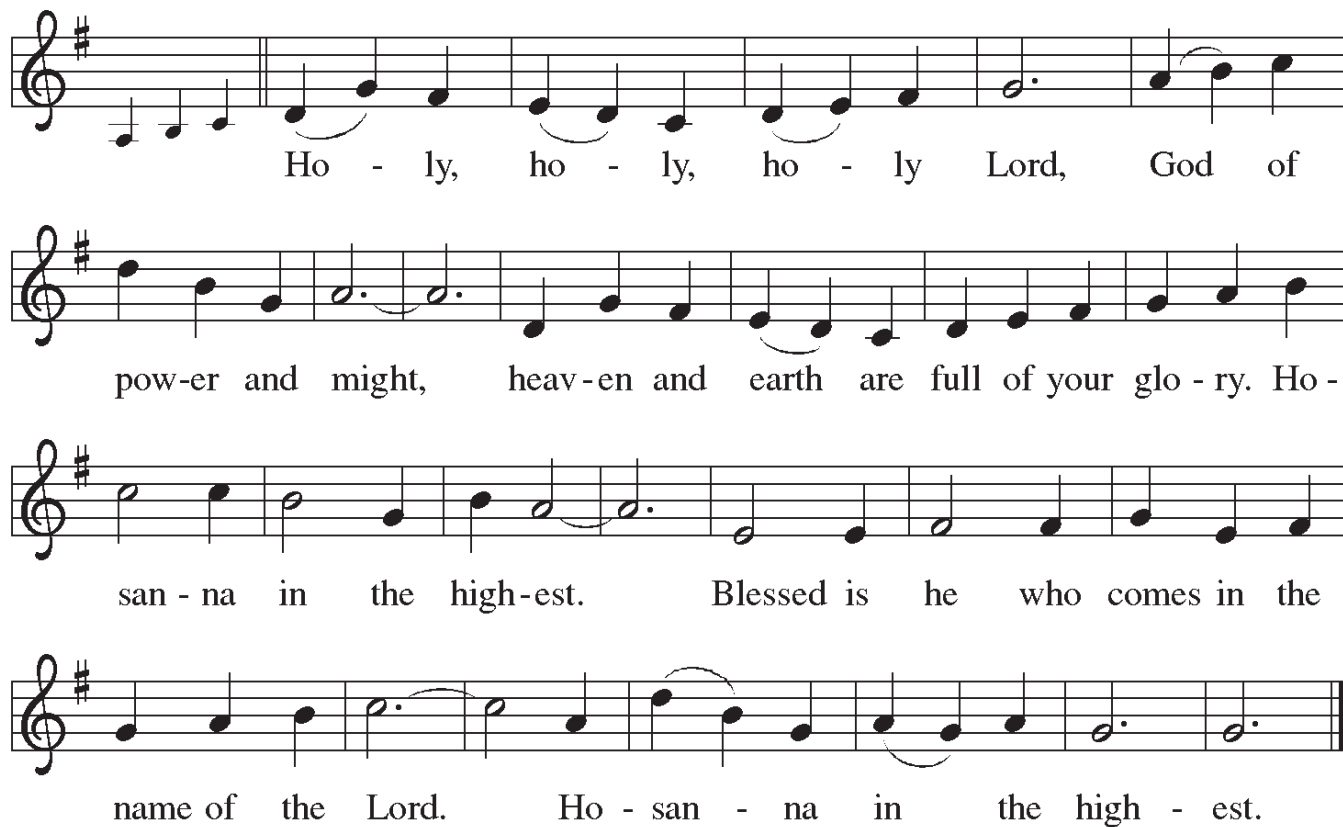
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 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

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

### Liturgy of Transition

Leader: I invite you to join in the liturgy of transition in the bulletin. We wish Pastor Phil Godspeed as he begins his sabbatical time.

Congregation: **As you journey, we ask God to guard you from all harm and bring you back to us strengthened in wisdom, love, insight, and faithfulness.**

Pastor Phil: God's blessing be with you as I go. I leave you in good hands, God's hands and those of the many leader who are stepping up for the days ahead. May you have new surprises and discoveries of your own while I'm gone.

Leader: Let us pray this prayer for the journey ahead of each of us.

All: **O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Sending Hymn**    *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen*

#377

### Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Postlude

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*The Lord Is My Shepherd*, Allen Pote ©Choristers Guild

**Minister:** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Assisting Minister:** Molly Wilson

**Reader:** Roger Pomplun

**Pianist:** Heather Stearns

**Choir Director:** Diana Cataldi

## Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY (11<sup>th</sup>)

*Mother's Day*

Coffee Hour – 9:00am

Worship – 10am

### MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am

### TUESDAY

Prayer Group – 11am

ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm

### WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 10am

Text Study – 12pm

Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

### THURSDAY

ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

### SUNDAY (18<sup>th</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9:00am

Worship – 10am

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

## Pastor Phil's Sabbatical

This week will be the last Sunday before Pastor Phil's sabbatical begins. He will return in mid-August with renewed energy and vision. He will spend his granddaughter's first birthday with her family in Texas, and then head out for a month in Denmark, retracing his wife's roots. He will also catch his son's concert in Dublin and spend time in the Canary Islands. He will dedicate time to grieving without distraction the family members he has lost. He also will be reading and writing about



how institutions and individuals adapt the gifts God has given them when their context changes. This will be helpful for Grace's shared future, for the members of Grace as our individual circumstances change, and for Pastor Phil personally. He will blog periodically so that you know what he is upto. Perhaps some of those entries can be included in Grace at a Glance. He will pray for you and asks you to do the same for him.

## Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 12th in the Lounge at Grace. This is a morning filled with Bible Study, fun, fellowship, and refreshments. Our bible study continues from the March/April/May issue of the *Gather* magazine, Devotional: Receiving the Spirit's flame, Spiritual gifts in the life of the church. ALL Women are invited to attend. We will have copies of the bible study available on Monday at Circle as preparation for the study is not required. Hope to see you on Monday! Bring your friends!

## Crafters' Corner

Stop in the Chapel and check out the Crafters' Spring merchandise. Everything is half price.

## Grace Lutheran Communities Advocacy

At the recent foundation meeting, a member asked about ways we might advocate for policies that help Grace Lutheran Communities mission. Here is the link to four separate issues of importance.

[https://leadingage.org/make-your-voice-heard/?utm\\_source=LeadingAge&utm\\_campaign=b2fe4e053b-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2025\\_01\\_24\\_04\\_00\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_f0180e805c-613054173](https://leadingage.org/make-your-voice-heard/?utm_source=LeadingAge&utm_campaign=b2fe4e053b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_01_24_04_00_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f0180e805c-613054173)

## Memorials & Honoraria

John & Shelby Blomberg gave in memory of Dennis Steffen. Karen Benson gave in memory of passed members of the Benson/Neuser families. Thank you.

## 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