FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 03, 2026

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 Prelude in E Flat *J. S. Bach*

Confession and Forgiveness
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

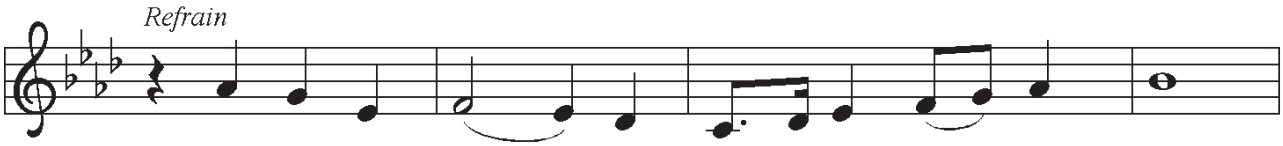
Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

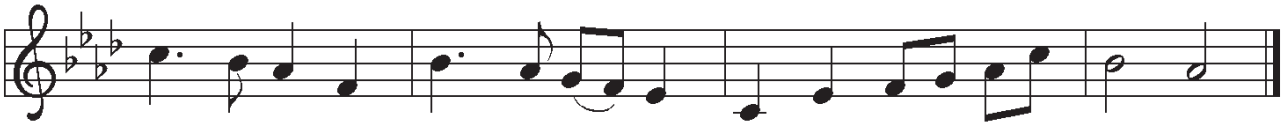
Opening Hymn Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! *#380*

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.

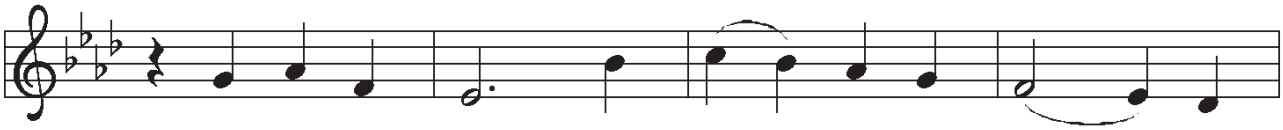
Refrain



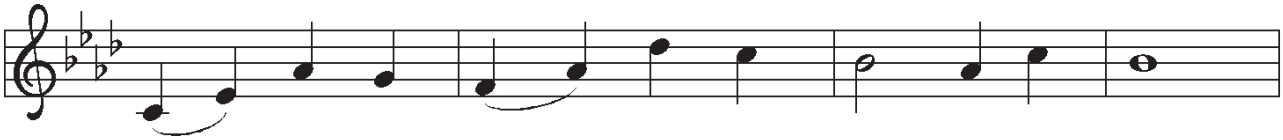
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



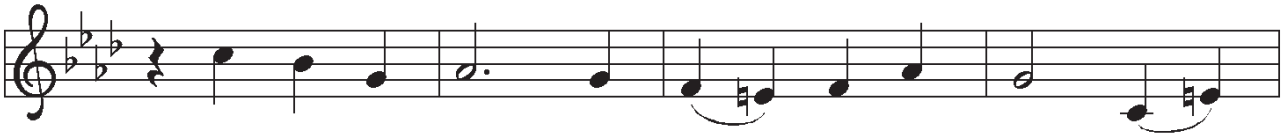
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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

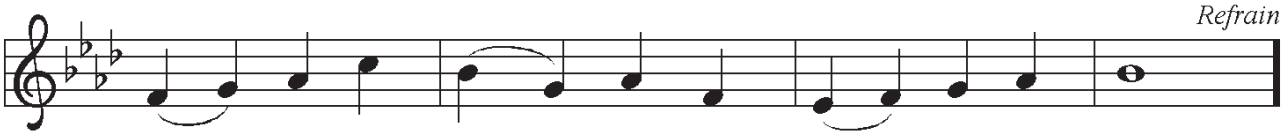


blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

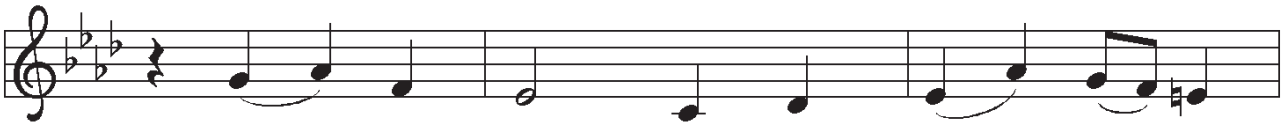


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

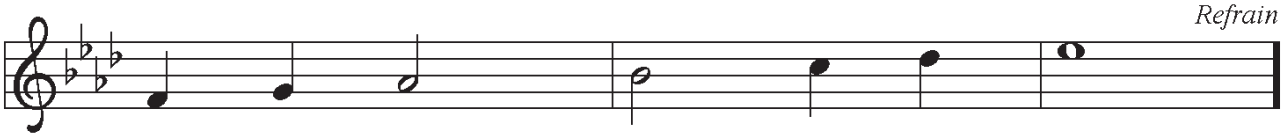


hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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
Noisy Offering and Sunday School Teacher Appreciation

The first reading is from Acts, chapter 7
55 Filled 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!" 57 But
they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.
58 Then 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.
59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."
60 Then 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!

Anthem Days of Elijah arr. Jack Schrader

These are the days of Elijah.
Declaring the Word of the Lord;
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses,
Righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trial,
Of famine and darkness and sword;
Still we are the voice in the desert crying,
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!"

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call;
Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel,
The dry bones becoming as flesh;
And these are the days of Your servant, David,
Rebuilding a temple of praise.
And these are the days of the harvest,
The fields are as white in the world;
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard
Declaring the Word of the Lord.

The second reading is from 1 Peter, chapter 2

2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may
grow into salvation — 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 Come to
him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's
sight, and 5 like 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.

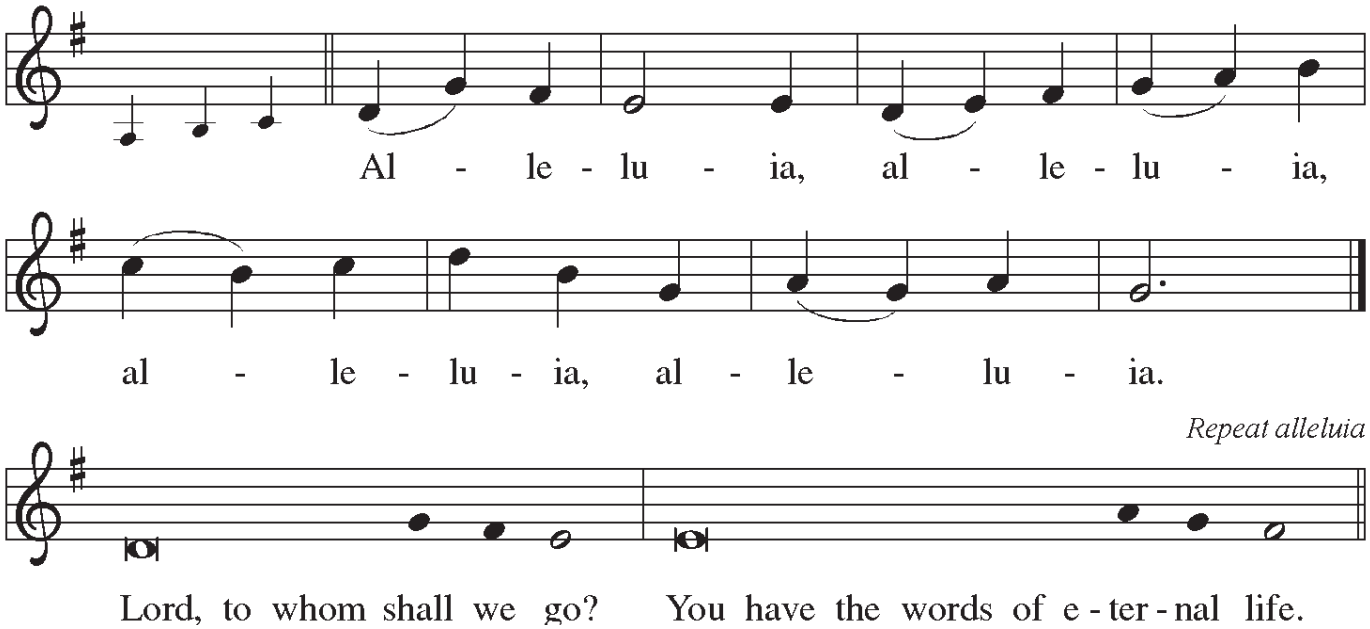
6 For it stands in scripture:
"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
7 This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,
"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"
8 and
"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.

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

10 Once 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!

Gospel Acclamation



The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 14
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. 2 In 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? 3 And 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. 4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 9 Jesus 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'? 10 Do 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.

11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. 12 Very 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. 13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If 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 All Are Welcome (verses 1, 3, & 5) #641

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
Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

. . . Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

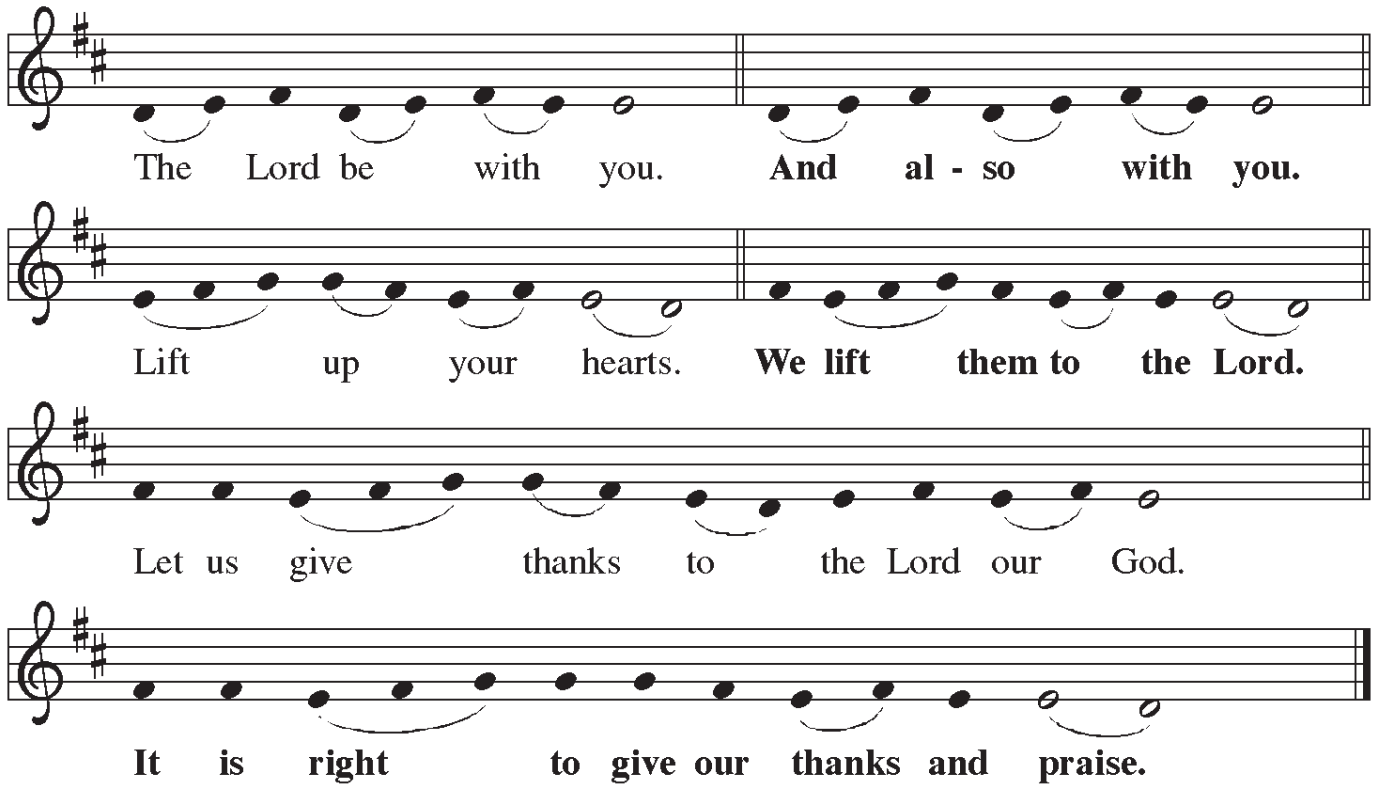
Peace

Meal

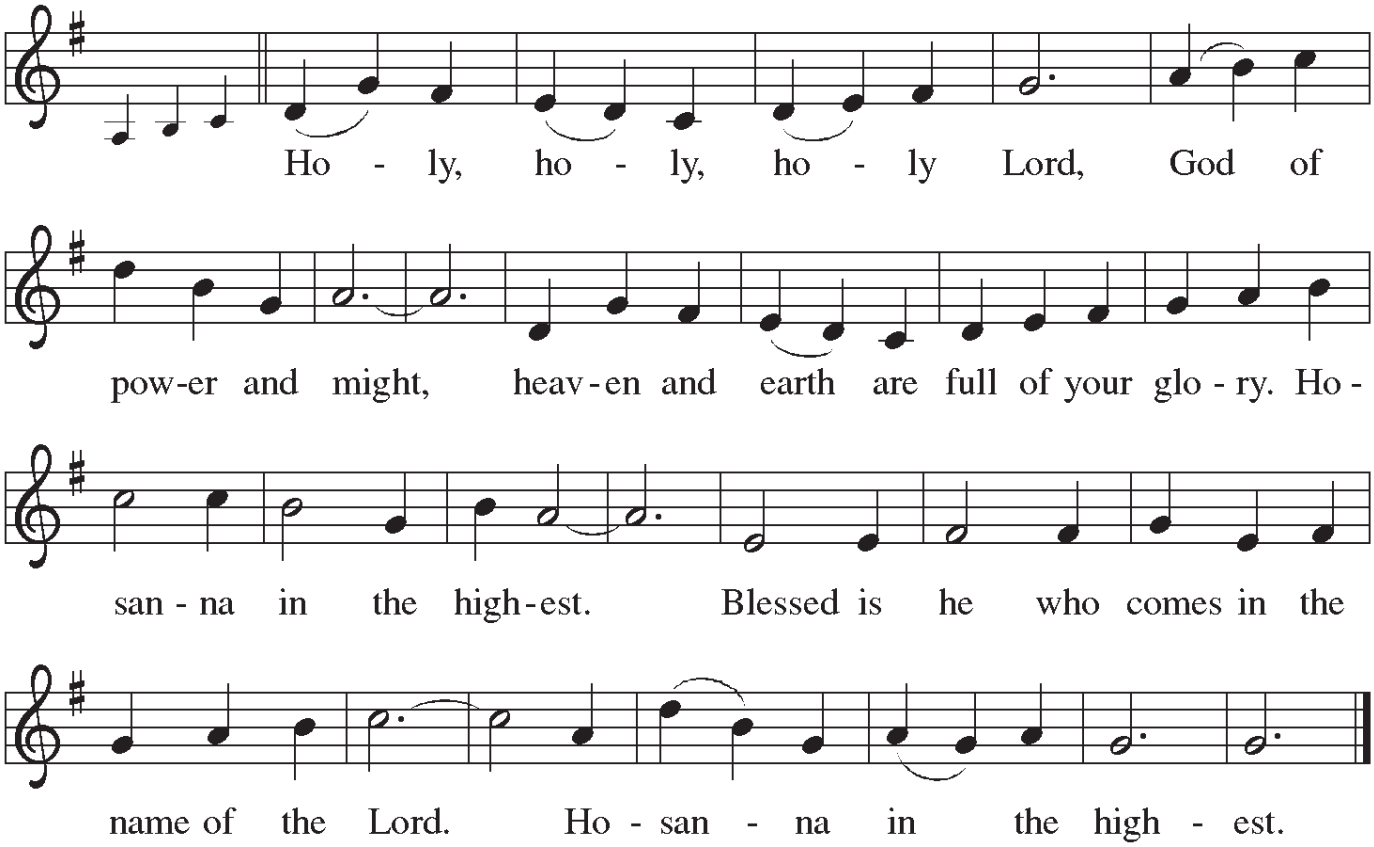
Offering You Are the Way, the Truth, the Life *Austin Lovelace*

Offering Prayer
Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



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



Eucharistic Prayer

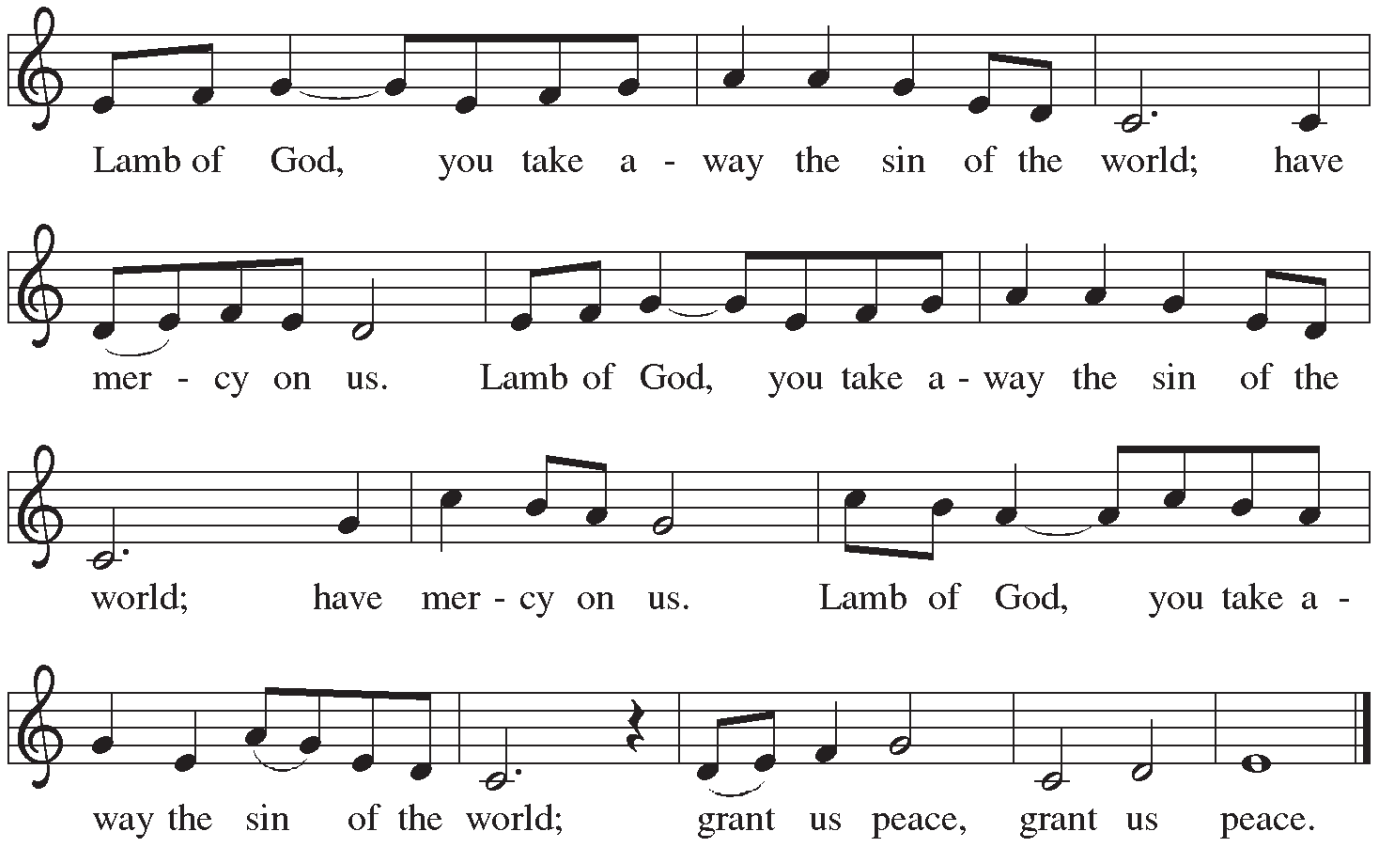
Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Communion

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



Prayer After Communion
Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Sending

Blessing

Sending Hymn Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life *#816*

Dismissal
Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude Fugue in C Major *J. S. Bach*

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Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life, 816 Public Domain

Days of Elijah, Robin Mark, arr Jack Schrader © 1996 and 2006 Daybreak Music

Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones
Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken
Reader: Collin Pomplun
Organist: Elaine Mann
Choir Director: Micah Bland
Pacibells Director: Karen Lionberger

Weekly Calendar

Sunday (3rd)
Eau Claire Marathon
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am
Grace Lutheran Communities Annual Meeting – 11am

Monday
Battle of the Coral Sea begins – 1942
Scouts – 6pm

Tuesday
Cinco de Mayo
Prayer Group – 11am
ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm

Wednesday
Hindenburg disaster – 1937
Crafters – 9am
Text Study – 12noon
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

Thursday
Beethovan's Ninth Symphony premiers in Vienna – 1824
ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

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

Other groups using the building this week: Eau Claire County, Scouts, Brighter than Sunshine, ECWiT, Theater Guild

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2026-5-3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy Offering

Save your coins and let them Spring into action on May 3. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!)

Our special offering will be for gas/food gift cards for Veterans. Let's help out our veteran friends!

Beacon House Serving

Grace members will be responsible for evening meals on these dates: Thursday, May 7, Friday, May 8, Saturday, May 9. Menus will be posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. You may sign up to provide an entree or side dish for a specific meal. Foodstuffs such as milk, fruit and cereal are supported by contributions to the Deacon Fund. Please call Barbara Radke if you have any questions about becoming involved in this service.

Thank You for your continuing support for this local mission.

Grace Lutheran Communities Annual Meeting

On May 3 Grace Lutheran Communities will have their annual meeting. The meeting will be after our regular service around 11am. All members of Grace Lutheran Church are invited to attend and make their voices heard. See you there.

Annette Olson Memorial

Annette Olson's family invites those grieving her death to a reception at Good Shepherd apartments from 1 to 3pm on Saturday, May 9th. Pastor Phil has been asked to offer a brief prayer entrusting her into God's hands.

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 — http://grace–church.org/our–ministry

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