

Grace Lutheran Church – 4.25.21

Our Mission: "Grace Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community called to gather, grow, and give together in Grace."

P: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: **Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of salvation.

P: Most Merciful God,

C: **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.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

P: 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 \dagger 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.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

GREETING

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P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, all people are your children. Claim us with your saving grace, so that we may rejoice in the life given to us through your Holy Spirit. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ

C: Amen.

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Acts

Acts 8:26-39

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they

came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

Sermon – Pastor Andy Tyrrell

Hymn of the Day

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: 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 again 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 Intercession

P: Hear us O God.

C: Your Mercy is Great.

The Offering – If you are able to continue to support the church financially during this difficult time, we would be grateful. Options for electronic giving are on our website (gracelutheran1.org). If you need help using the online giving tools please contact Pastor Andy (pastor@gracelutheran1.org). Another option is to mail your offering directly to the church.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Risen One,
as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in
this meal. Inspire us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry
and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome
table. Alleluia! Come to the feast.

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and
nourished us with the body of Christ. Risen to new life with you, send
us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name
of our risen Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: Now may God live in you, name you his child, and shine brightly on
your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the  Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*catholic means universal/all Christians