Fifth Sunday of Easter
Service of Holy Communion
May 3, 2026
9:30 am

Grace Lutheran Church
Camp Hill, PA

**-the congregation is invited to stand*

WELCOME TO GRACE

A warm welcome *to all who are celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord in this Easter Season! If you are visiting with us, please fill out a guest card which are found in the pews. Following the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor. We hope that this bulletin will help guide you through our worship service.*

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

God gathers us in unity. **GATHERING**

PRELUDE

This Is My Father's World *arr. Mark Hayes*

Karen Jury - piano

Please stand as you are able.

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.
We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.
Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.
Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.
Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

All Are Welcome ELW#641
vs 1, 3, 5

***GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The grace and peace of God be with you all.
And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. 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.**

The assembly may be seated.

DISMISSAL FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached. **WORD**

FIRST READING – Acts 7:55-60

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.

PSALM – Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to
shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.
2 **Incline your ear to me;**
make haste to deliver me.
3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my
crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
4 **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,**
for you are my tower of strength.
5 Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
15 **My times are in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from
those who persecute me.
16 Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING – 1 Peter 2:2-10

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.

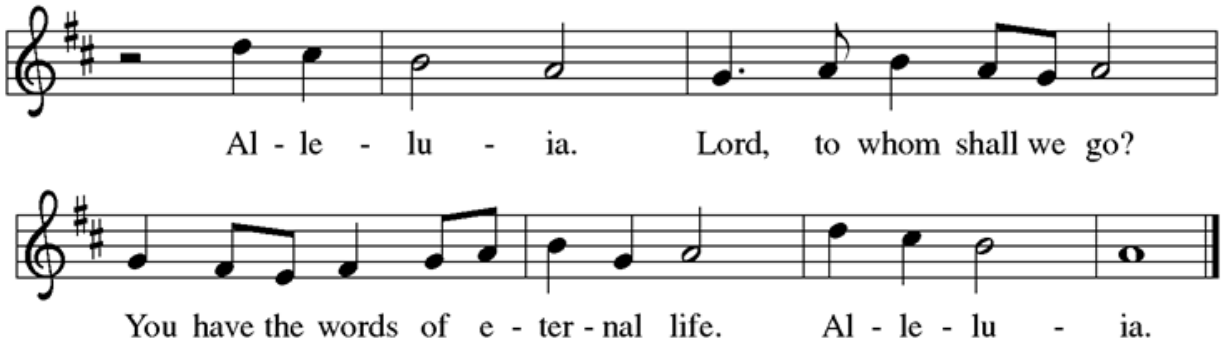
9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy
nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the
excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his
marvelous light.

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**



***GOSPEL: John 14:1-14**

The holy gospel according to St. John.

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.

The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus ELW#392
Vs 1, 3, 5

***APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

***THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each prayer concludes:

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

***THE PEACE**

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share the peace with one another.

During this flu season and the ongoing pandemic, we remind you that it is appropriate to greet each other and pass the peace verbally rather than have hand contact, which helps to transmit the flu virus. Please remember to use the hand sanitizers that are available in each pew, upon arrival and throughout the service as needed.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ **MEAL**

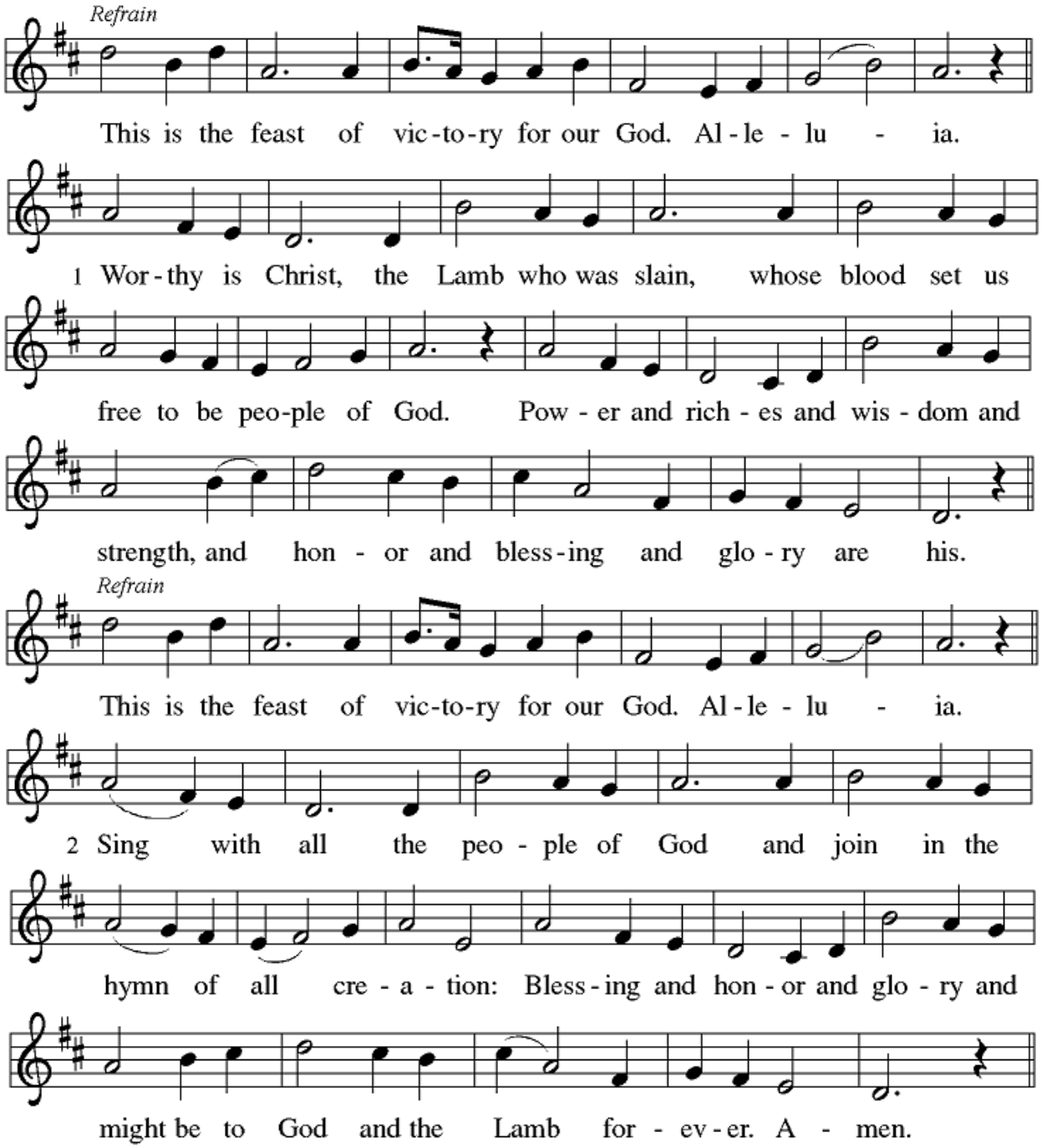
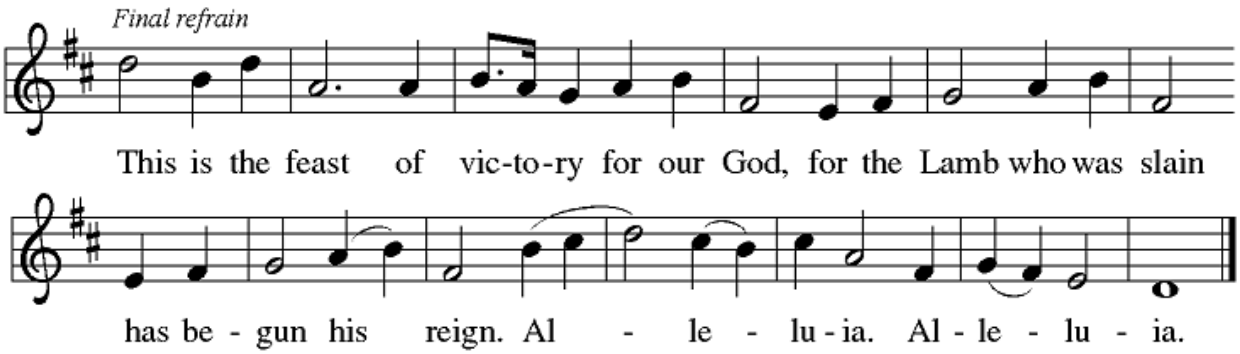
OFFERING

We respond to the grace given us by sharing our gifts with others through the offering. Today's regular offering supports the ongoing ministry of Grace church. You can give online, by cash, or by check.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Amazing Grace *John Newton & W. Walker*

Grace Chancel Choir

***SETTING THE TABLE**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. 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.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

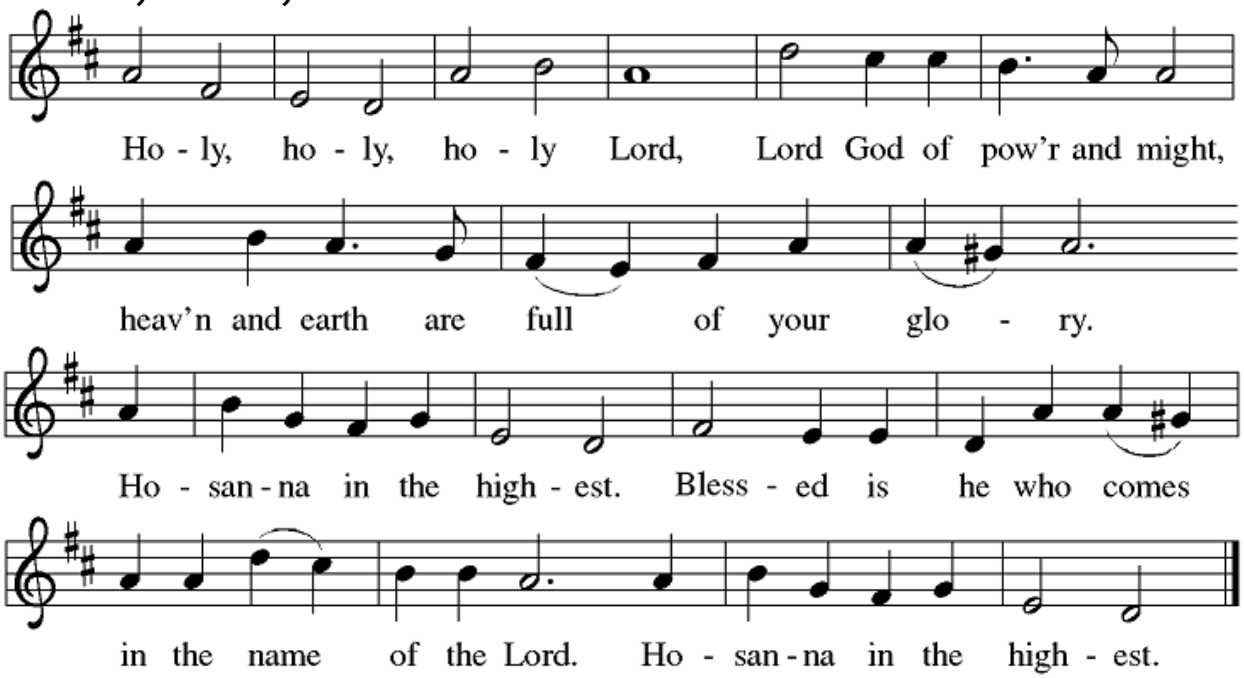
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanks and praise fill our hearts, Almighty God, for you are the Lord of creation and new creation, of covenant and new covenant. You brought your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land, and you brought your Son from the depth of death to the glory of resurrection life. And so we gladly thank you, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise;

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



***THANKSGIVING AT TABLE**

Joy and gladness are our song, redeeming God, for in your conquest of death we see the destiny of every hope in you. Come among us in the power of your Holy Spirit, that your children may be blessed with power and grace, and that this bread and cup may become for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

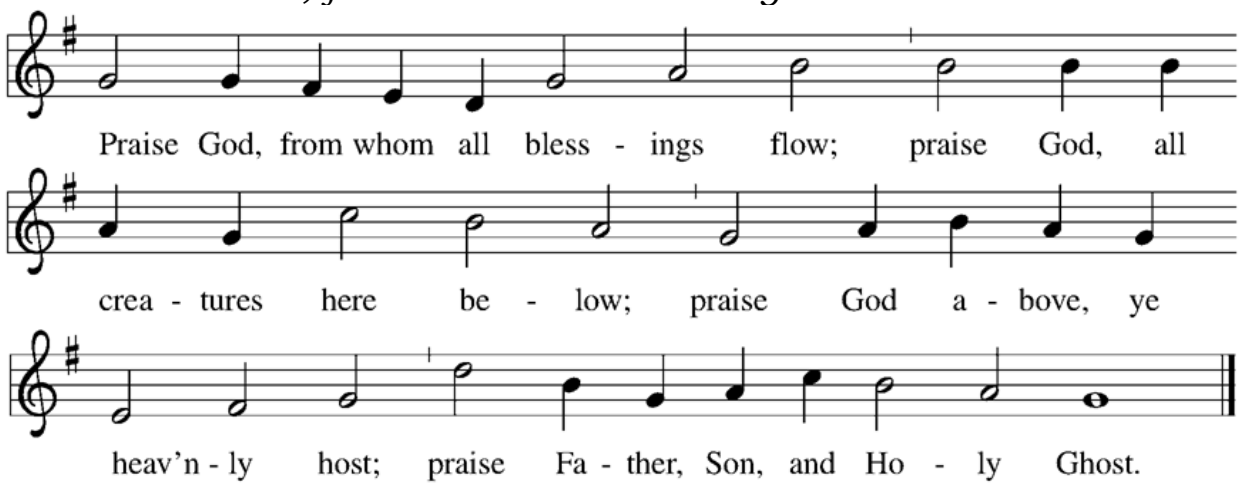
Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Hope and glory are our breath, merciful God, for you have rolled away the stone of despair, the stone of oppression, the stone of lament, the stone of grief, the stone of death, the stone of sin, the stone of fear. Come and stand among us and breathe on us your peace, breathe on us your power, breathe on us your eternal life, that all who labor, all who stumbler, all who hunger, and all who fall shall meet you in the breaking of the bread and be lifted up by your touch. Shape your church to be your risen body; make our scars beautiful like your scars, make our lives life-giving like your life, and make our communion holy with your saints, until you come again in glory and we eat with you in your kingdom, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, ever one God.
Amen!

***THE 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.

***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ELW#885



***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**
Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly may be seated.

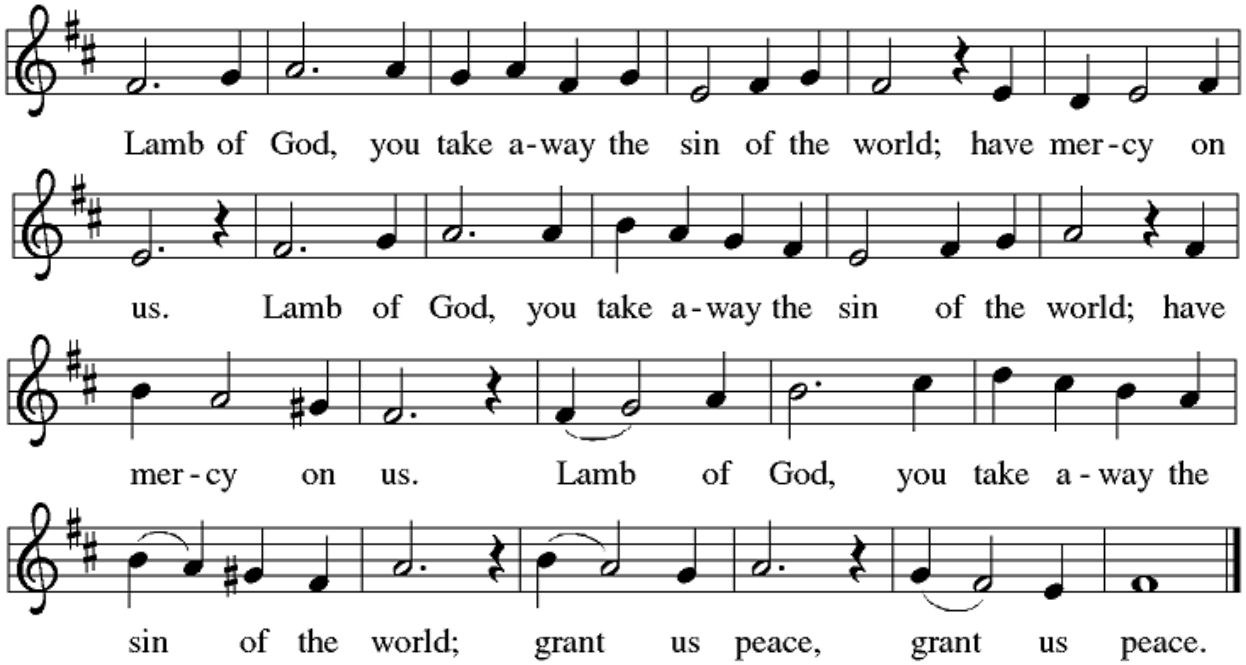
Those communing at home or in their seats are invited to prepare their elements then to be led through eating and drinking the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine.

Please come forward to receive the body and blood of Christ in the bread and the wine.

The Lutheran Church welcomes all to the Lord's Supper. If you are not a Christian and wish to inquire about the Christian faith, we invite you to speak to the minister.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

LAMB OF GOD



***BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of the Risen Lord strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Let us pray. 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.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world **SENDING**

***BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✢ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me ELW#860

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me *Jesus Lifted Me*

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Chad Butz
Assisting Minister	Krista Snavely
Lector	Karen Jury
Acolyte	Kinsey Hall
Communion Assistants	Bonnie Barton, Karen Galle
Sound	Kyle & Landon Flook
Director of Music	Kristopher Hartman
Organist	Emily Hartman
Technology Operator	Chris Jury

This Week at Grace: May 2 - 8, 2026

Connect with Us

EVENTS

The altar flowers are given by David & Donna Enrico in honor of the birthdays of their son, William, and grandson, Roman.

The Bulletins & Mailings are given to the Glory of God.

We hold in prayer especially this week….

Tricia Butz, Eileen Moore Hartzell, Barry Fenicle, Weston, Megan & Donny Weibel, Carson Osswald, Karen Osswald, Dr. Robert Little, Ed Klemmer, Jaclyn Atkins, Robert Schweitzer, Cheryl A., Amy Vogel, Alice M., and Dean Jury.

Scouting America Bike Rodeo – May 3

Join the Troop and the Pack for their Bike Rodeo on Sunday, May 3 from 2-4pm in the parking lot of Grace. It's a great opportunity to learn about Troop54/Cub Scout Pack 54. Bring your friends for an amazing time.

Grace Book Club – May 4

Join the Grace Book Club on Monday, May 4 at 7pm via Zoom to discuss "Python's Kiss" by Louise Erdrich. Please contact Melinda Bechetl at mcbbechtel@gmail.com if you have any questions or for login information.

Calling All Graduates

Do you have someone in your family graduating this year? Or maybe it's you? If so, we'd like to highlight all our graduates in the June newsletter. We are asking for the names of those graduating, where they are graduating from and what they plan to do after graduation as well as a photograph if you wish to provide one. Please send this information to Diane at ddeppen@gracecamphill.org by **Friday, May 15.** Also, on Sunday, May 24 during Outdoor Worship in the parking lot we plan to send off our seniors and then enjoy a meal after worship. (*Please sign up on the Events page on the website or on the Fellowship Board in the parking lot hallway to bring a side dish or dessert to share).*

Altar Flower Sponsorship Cost Increase

Due to recent increases in the costs of flowers and shipping, Grace's florist has had to adjust our expenses for the Altar flowers. As a result, the sponsorship fee for Altar Flowers will be updated to $50 per week beginning May 1, 2026. If you have already sponsored flowers for 2026, there is no need to make any additional payments. Please note that this change applies only to new sponsorships moving forward.

Monthly Summer Board Game Night

Do you like free food? Do you like board and card games? Do you like having fun? Come to our monthly Summer Board game nights after the Wednesday Community Meal! We invite everyone to join us for a meal at 5:30pm with fun and games starting around 6:30pm. The Summer Board Game dates are June 10, July 8, and August 12. I hope to see you there! Please bring a board or card game to play, I kindly ask that they be PG-13 or younger rated.

Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA

You are invited to the 2026 Summer Camp Kick-Off Worship and Picnic on Sunday, May 17-3:30pm at Camp Kirchenwald. Celebrate the opening of the camping season with worship, fellowship, and a great free meal! Additionally, this event will serve as a celebration for the ministry of Michael Youse. Mike has been a part of the Lutheran Camping Corporation for decades, most recently as the Executive Director. We hope you can join us to honor his legacy. The afternoon will include a dedication in the Youse name and an opportunity to write Mike a personal note for a keepsake. Please **RSVP at lutherancamping.org** so we know to expect you(and how much BBQ to make!). If you are unable to attend but would still like to send Mike a note or provide a picture for the display, email those items to zweiss@lutherancamping.org **by May 14**.

Grace's Merchandise Store

Want some cool Grace gear? Hit up our merch store at https://www.bonfire.com/store/grace-lutheran-camp-hill-merch/. We offer a variety of items including hats, polo shirts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, a windbreaker jacket, and water bottles. A portion of the proceeds from each purchase goes back to Grace, making it a wonderful way to support our community and perhaps start a friendly conversation.

Group & Individual Spiritual Direction

We are going to offer our first Group Spiritual Direction meeting on Monday, May 18 at 6:30pm at Grace Lutheran Church. If you haven't signed up, please let Pastor Eckert know if you are interested by signing by using the QR code to the left, on the website at https://www.gracecamphill.org/faith-formation/spiritual-formation, on the Faith Formation Board in the parking lot hallway, by calling the church office or by letting Pastor Eckert know after church on Sunday, May 10 or 17th. If you are interested in signing up for Monthly Individual Spiritual Direction (Space is limited) provided by Pastor Eckert please go to our website at https://www.gracecamphill.org/faith-formation/spiritual-formation, use the QR code to the left, sign up on the Faith Formation bulletin board in the parking lot hallway or call the church office. Pastor Eckert will then contact you. If you may be interested in Spiritual Retreats and Grief Group, please sign up as well so we can determine the level of interest for these ministries. For more information regarding Spiritual Direction, you can email Pastor Eckert at pastoreckert@gracecamphill.org.

Journeys of Paul in Greece – Oct. 17-24

Join Pastor Chad Butz and Evan Houck Oct. 17-24, 2026, as we explore the journey of Paul in Greece. Paul is one of, if not the most, influential theologian for the Christian church as we know it. Come and see firsthand the places that he walked and ministered through. We will be departing October 17th and returning on the 24th. There is an optional cruise to extend your journey. Looking forward to entering into this pilgrimage with you all! You can find out more information regarding the trip and how to sign up on the website at https://www.gracecamphill.org/faith-formation/journeys-of-paul-in-greece. *Please note that any registrations received after June 24, 2026, will incur late fees depending on when the registration was received. The exact amounts can be found on the pamphlet.*

Special Benevolence Offering

The Special Benevolence for **May** is **Lutheran Camping Corporation.** To contribute, please list your dollar amount next to *Special Offering Ministry* on the contribution envelopes or use the online giving page on the website page at https://www.gracecamphill.org/give or use the QR Code.

Give Now

Pastoral Assistance or At Home Communion

If you need pastoral assistance or to request At Home Communion, please contact Pastor Chad at 717-737-0439x10 or pastorchad@gracecamphill.org. If you need a pastoral emergency outside of normal working hours you can contact Pastor Chad on his mobile phone at 610-297-2514. *A pastoral emergency would be a death, or life-threatening circumstances.*

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

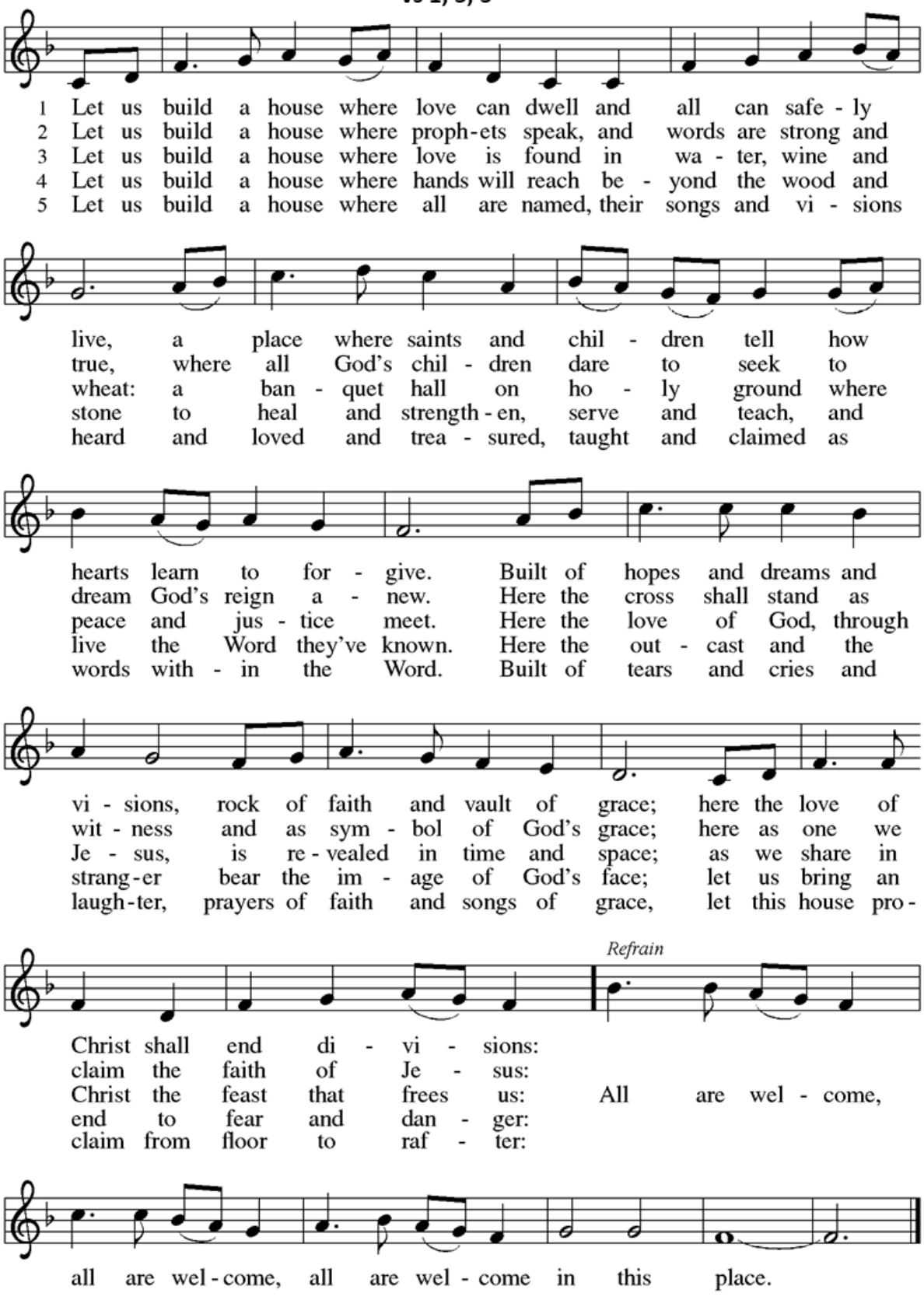
There will be a blessing of the prayer shawls during worship the weekend of May 9/10. If you have prayer shawls at home ready to be blessed please bring them to worship that weekend or drop them off in the office during office hours prior to that weekend.

Good News from Grace articles are due by **12noon on the 15th of the month** for the next month's newsletter. **This Week at Grace** information is due by **12noon on Tuesdays.** Please email any information to ddeppen@gracecamphill.org.

Calendar

5/2/26	5:00pm	Sabbath Service of Holy Communion in Barkley Chapel
5/3/26	9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 2:00pm 4:45pm	Coffee Hour w/Endowment Committee (*After worship from 10:30 – 11:00am, too)* Service of Holy Communion in the Sanctuary Children's Church Scouting America Bike Rodeo in Parking Lot Grace Youth Group (GYG)
5/4/26	7:00pm 7:00pm	Scout Troop 54 & Cub Scout Pack 54 Meeting Grace Book Club via Zoom
5/5/26	9:00am 1:00pm	Quilting Ministry in Quilt Room Bible Study in Small Conference Room
5/6/26	3:00pm	Grace Giving Pantry
5/7/26	6:00pm 7:00pm	Bells of Grace in Balcony Chancel Choir in Choir Room

All Are Welcome

vs 1, 3, 5

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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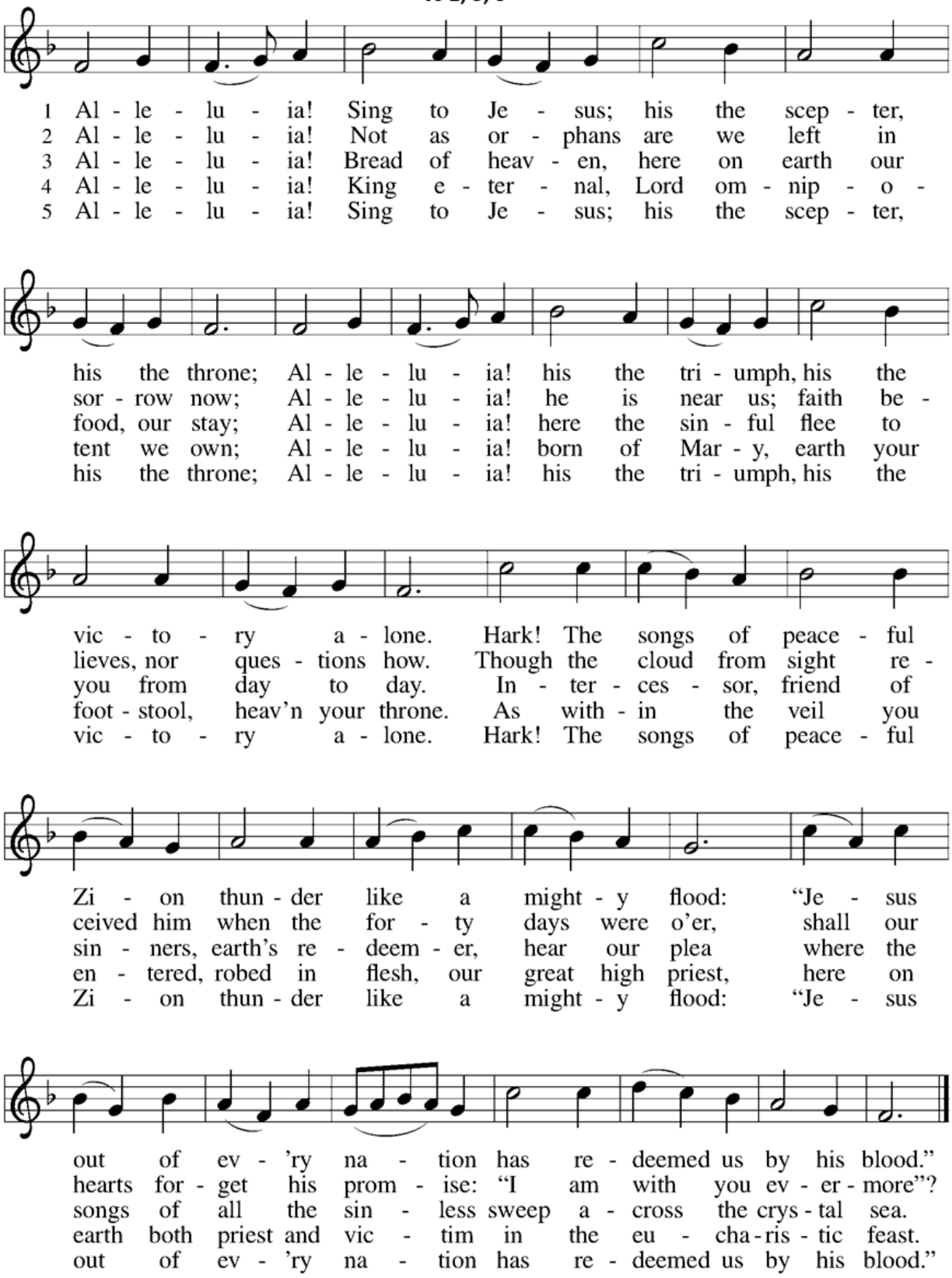
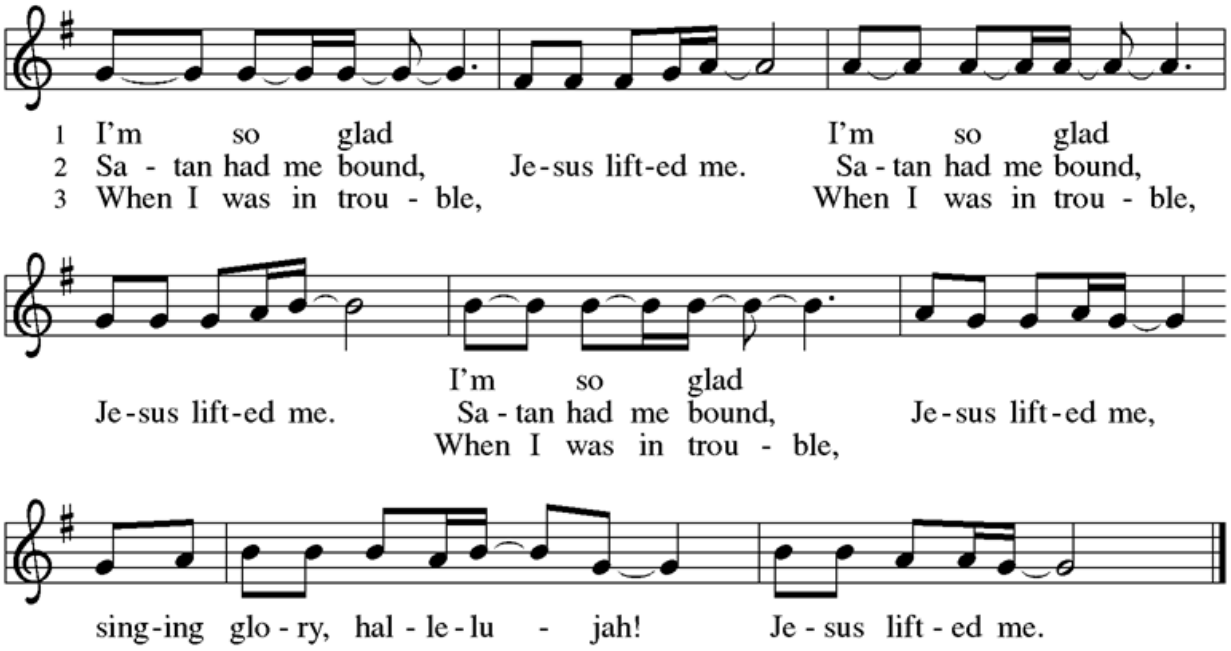
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

vs 1, 3, 5

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Our Story

Matthew 25:35-40: *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36]I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37]Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38]And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? [39]And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40]And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"*

The purpose of Grace Lutheran Church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith

Grace Church Staff

Senior Pastor .....The Rev. Chad Butz
610.297.2514 (cell); pastorchad@gracecamphill.org

Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry.....Ethan Lentz
Ethan.Lentz@gracecamphill.org

Director of Music ..... Kristopher Hartman
K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com

Organist .....Emily Hartman
K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com

Office Administrator/Sexton .....Chris Jury
cjury@gracecamphill.org

Administrative Specialist.....Diane Deppen
ddeppen@gracecamphill.org

To contact the church office: 717.737.0439; office@gracecamphill.org
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Grace Lutheran Church * 1610 Carlisle Road *
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

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