

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Hymnal Supplement 1991: Now the Feast and Celebration

Grace Lutheran Church
Wenatchee, WA



Welcome to Grace!

The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.

We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.

You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.

As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.

Holy Communion: We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!

If you are worshipping with children: Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options especially for our young worshipers. **Children's bulletins** are available from the ushers. We have a **Cozy Corner**, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed **nursery** available during our worship gathering. You will find it downstairs, through the first door to the right at the bottom of the stairs.

Our Mission Statement: "To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY:

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Gavotte
Recorder Trio

Georg Frideric Händel

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Supplement, p. 2)

GATHERING HYMN (Supplement) **#777, *God Is Here! As We His People***

GREETING (Supplement, p. 2)

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION (Supplement, p. 4-5)

SALUTATION (Supplement, p. 7)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

+ + + WORD + + +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

A reading from Acts.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the

Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

Sing a New Song to the Lord



1. Sing a new song to the Lord, He to whom won - ders be -
 2. Now to the ends of the earth See his sal - va - tion is
 3. Sing a new song and re - joice, Pub - lish his prais - es a -
 4. Join with the hills and the sea Thun - ders of praise to pro -



long! Re - joice in his tri - umph and tell of his
 shown; And still he re - mem - bers his mer - cy and
 broad! Let voic - es in cho - rus, with trum - pet and
 long! In judg - ment and jus - tice he comes to the



power, O sing to the Lord a new song!
 truth, Un - chang - ing in love to his own.
 horn, Re - sound for the joy of the Lord!
 earth, O sing to the Lord a new song!

Text: Psalm 98; Timothy Dudley-Smith, b.1926, © 1973, Hope Publishing Co.
 Tune: CANTATE DOMINO (ON SLOW SQUARE), Irregular; David G. Wilson, b.1940, © 1973, Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co.)

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

God’s children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God’s commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

A reading from 1 John.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL VERSE (Supplement, p. 8)

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHORAL RESPONSE

If Ye Love Me
Voices of Grace

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another comforter, that He may 'bide with you forever; e'en the spirit of truth.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #358, *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us*

NICENE CREED (Supplement, p. 10)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

PEACE (Supplement, p. 12)

+++ MEAL +++

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

When Christ Arose

Carlton R. Young

Bells of Grace, Voices of Grace, Growing in Grace

The earth was filled with peace and light, when Christ arose; the heavens trembled at the sight, when Christ arose; the sea rejoiced along the sands, the vernal valleys clapped their hands, the mountains sang, and all the lands, when Christ arose.

The tomb was empty where he lay, when Christ arose; and angels rolled the stone away, when Christ arose; a sound of triumph thrilled the air, the glorious tidings to declare, for there was gladness everywhere, when Christ arose.

The souls of all were born anew, when Christ arose; the cross divine appeared in view, when Christ arose; a glorious light from heaven streamed, and from the cross a radiance beamed, for every spirit was redeemed, when Christ arose, when Jesus Christ arose.

OFFERING PRAYER (Supplement, p. 13)

GREAT THANKSGIVING (Supplement, p. 14)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Supplement, p. 15)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy ... we pray for his coming again, even as we cry ...

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 2 & FOLLOWING (Supplement, pp. 16-17)

LORD'S PRAYER (Supplement, p. 18)

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD (Supplement, pp. 18-19) *First 4 verses.*

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #595, *Jesus Loves Me!*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Voluntary
Recorder Trio

Henry Purcell

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #470, *Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether*

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING (Supplement, p. 19)

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: *Thanks Be to You* (Supplement, p. 20)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Supplement, p. 21)

+++ SENDING +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please be seated.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING (Supplement, p. 21)

SENDING HYMN

ELW #385, *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

DISMISSAL Response: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

John Leavitt

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Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Assisting Minister:	Pastoral Intern Lynnette Rose
Organist/Pianist:	Deacon Ruth Anderson
Lector:	Kate Gregg
Altar Guild:	JuLee Fiebelkorn
Communion Assistant:	Riva Morgan
Recorder Trio:	Mark Boersma, Candy Koch, Sherry Krebs

A note regarding livestreaming at Grace: With your participation in our worship services, we assume you have granted us permission to include you in our videos. If you have a concern about being included, please let the staff know, and we will help find a solution that meets your needs.

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