

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 7, 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:

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

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

WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Minuet
Recorder Duo

G. F. Händel

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Supplement, p. 2)

GATHERING HYMN (Supplement) **#743, *Awake, Arise, Lift Up Your Voice***

GREETING (Supplement, p. 2)

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

SALUTATION (Supplement, p. 7)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

A reading from Acts.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There

was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133



1. Be - hold the good - ness of our Lord, how blest it is to be a
2. Like pre - cious oil up - on the head, a heal - ing for our strife, it
3. As dew on Zi - on's moun - tain - top brings fresh - ness to its door, our



com - pan - y of God's be - loved, in ho - ly u - ni - ty.
flows through - out our com - mon bond, re - fresh - ing all of life.
Lord com - mands this in our midst and brings life ev - er - more.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

A reading from 1 John.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL VERSE (Supplement, p. 8)

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.



1 Christ has ris - en while earth slum - bers, Christ has ris - en
 2 Christ has ris - en for the peo - ple whom he died to
 3 Christ has ris - en to com - pan - ion for - mer friends who
 4 Christ has ris - en and for - ev - er lives to chal - lenge



where hope died, as he said and as he prom - ised,
 love and save; Christ has ris - en for the wom - en
 fear the night, sens - ing loss and lim - i - ta - tion
 and to change all whose lives are messed or man - gled,



as we doubt - ed and de - nied. Let the moon em -
 bring - ing flow'rs to grace his grave. Christ has ris - en
 where their faith had once burned bright. They be - moan what
 all who find re - li - gion strange. Christ is ris - en,



brace the bless - ing; let the sun sus - tain the cheer; let the
 for dis - ci - ples, hud - dled in an up - stairs room. He whose
 is no long - er, they ex - pect no hope - ful sign till Christ
 Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been: ev - i -



world con - firm the ru - mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
 word in - spired cre - a - tion can't be si - lenced by the tomb.
 ends their con - ver - sa - tion, break - ing bread and shar - ing wine.
 dence of trans - for - ma - tion in which God is known and seen.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938–1984

Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

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

Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen!

Voices of Grace

Luis Bojos

(For text, see ELW #375.)

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 proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 1 & 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 (Supplement) **#768, I Come with Joy**

MUSICAL OFFERING

Three Gavottes
Recorder Duo

James Hook

DISTRIBUTION SONG (Supplement) **#806, We Walk by Faith**

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 #548, Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso

G. F. Händel

+ + +

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. John Hergert (ret.)
Organist/Pianist:	Deacon Ruth Anderson
Recorder Duo:	Mark Boersma, Sherry Krebs
Lector:	Kate Gregg
Altar Guild:	Peggy Swanson
Tech:	Marlena La Paz

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.

Acknowledgements

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46052.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to podcast/stream/print the music in this service obtained from One License #A-706965 and CCLI #11172667.

I Am the Bread of Life by Suzanne Toolan, arr. from *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* by John Carter, © 1998 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Behold the Goodness of Our Lord Text: Fred R. Anderson (b. 1941), 1986, © 1986 Fred R. Anderson, from *Singing Psalms of Joy and Praise*; Music: DETROIT: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; P.D.; harm. Emily R. Brink (b. 1940), 1986, © Faith alive Christian Resources. All rights reserved.

+ + +

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. James Aalgaard

Deacon Ruth Anderson

Zoe Jaspers

Jen Pearson-Gale

Pastor

Director of Music Ministries

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Office Administrator

pastor@glcwen.org

deacon@glcwen.org

youthandfamily@glcwen.org

office@glcwen.org

Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee WA 98801
509-663-2189
www.glcwen.org

