



Lent 5
April 3, 2022

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Christ Known to all Through Grace

2225 Washington Street, Lincoln NE 68502 + 402-474-1505 + www.egrace.org

Network: GLC-Balcony

Password: AlphaOmega

WELCOME to worship

Grace Lutheran Church, a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been at the heart of the faith community in Lincoln since 1889.

- We follow our mission: "Making Christ known to all through Grace."
- We celebrate our purpose: "That by God's grace we have been gathered to worship, called to witness, and sent to serve."
- We seek our vision: "To become a church with a passion for fostering a welcoming community that strives for peace and a sense of belonging."

Thank you for worshipping with us today and join our community at any time!

WORSHIP notes

Remember your response is marked in **BOLD** font.

Hearing enhancement devices are available near the welcome table. Ask an usher to assist you.

Restrooms are located next to our chapel on the other side of the courtyard.

Masks are no longer required or recommended for everyone during worship. If you need to or want to wear a mask then please do so.

Please remember to **enter** the building through the **Atrium doors**. These doors will be locked at fifteen minutes past the hour. All other **doors will be locked**.

INTRODUCTION to worship

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE Fragmen - Jaya Suprana

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In ✠ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 339

Christ, the Life of All the Living



- 1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
- 2 You have suf-fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
- 3 Then, for all that bought my par-don, for the sor-rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar-den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf-f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor-ment-ed that my doom should be pre-vent-ed.
thank you for the groan-ing, sigh-ing, for the bleed-ing and the dy - ing,



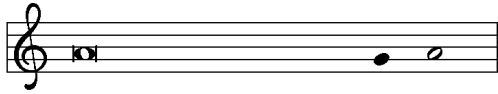
Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

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.**

KYRIE (next page)



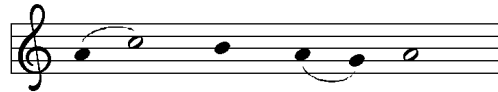
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



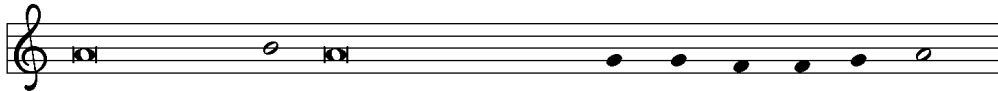
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SIT

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-19

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

A reading from Isaiah:

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.

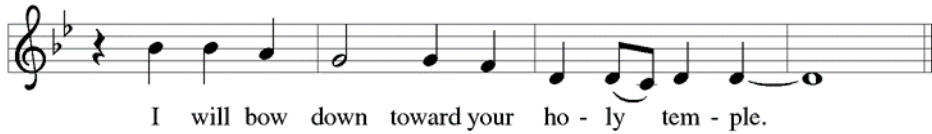
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 126



Psalm 138:2
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹When the Lord restored the for-¹ tunes of Zion,
 then were we like¹ those who dream.
²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with¹ shouts of joy.**
 Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great¹ things for
 them.”
³The Lord has done great¹ things for us,
 and we are¹ glad indeed.



Psalm 138:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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- ⁴Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**
- ⁵Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.**
- ⁶Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-9

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus leads Paul to a new confidence that comes through knowing Christ.

A reading from Philippians:

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Gospel: John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SIT

SERMON

STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY (*All Creation Sings* Hymnal Supplement. Cantor sings verse 1. Congregation sings vs. 2-4)

Holy Woman, Graceful Giver

John 12

Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960

Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2022

Voice



Ho - ly wo - man, grace - ful giv - er, pro - phet, ser - vant, and be -
How the fra - grance filled the dwell - ing! How the act of beau - ty
Lov - ing - ly Christ stilled the scof - fer who would grasp - ing guard the
Though dis - dained or though con - test - ed, acts of love are nev - er

li - ever, Ma - ry with the oint - ment jar, sought the Christ, by scorn un -
well - ing blest all those with - in the place! How the act of pure de -
cof - fer, point - ing to a hid - den trove: Not all trea - sures gain and
wast - ed: Beau - ty is a face of God. Grace - ful Ma - ry, by your

daunt - ed, knelt in love, his feet a - noint - ed for his com - ing bur - ial
vo - tion, whisp' - ring of his com - ing pas - sion, blest the heart of Christ with
pro - fit; feed the poor, and feed the spir - it acts of beau - ty, acts of
giv - ing, you have shown a way of liv - ing: acts of beau - ty, love, and

hour, for his com - ing bur - ial hour.
grace, blest the heart of Christ with grace!
love; acts of beau - ty, acts of love.
good; acts of beau - ty, love, and good.

APOSTLE'S 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 to the living,

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 INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing for creation. Reverse the trajectory of climate change and environmental catastrophe. Revive habitats already impaired by human disregard. Amplify the voices of climate scientists and researchers working to chart a new course. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and collaboration among the nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick, especially those we name before you now... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued. Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing in our death. Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection as we give thanks for all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

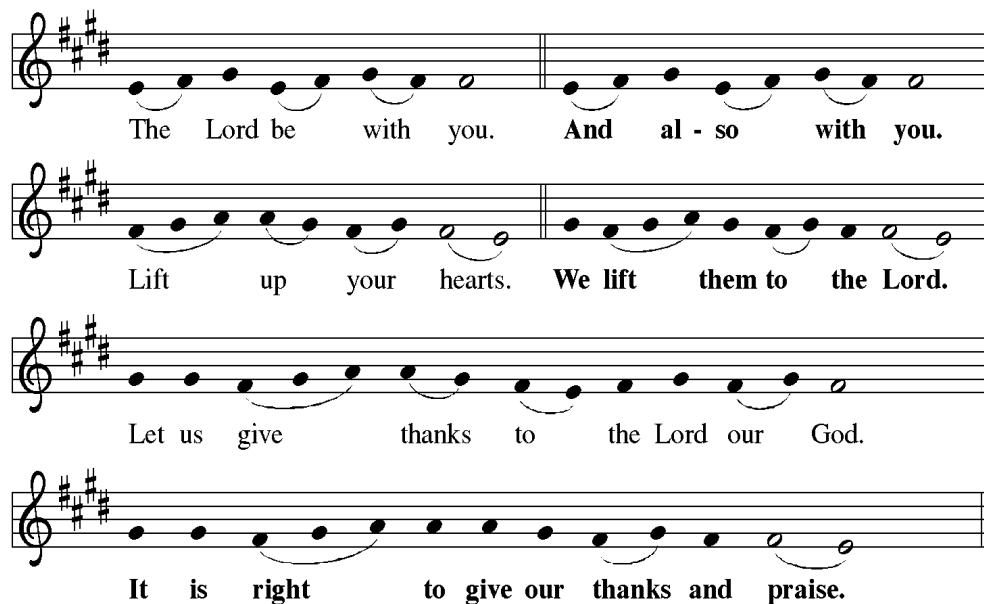
MUSIC OFFERING Go to Dark Gethsemane - Setting by C. S. Lang

STAND

OFFERING PRAYER

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

DIALOG



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

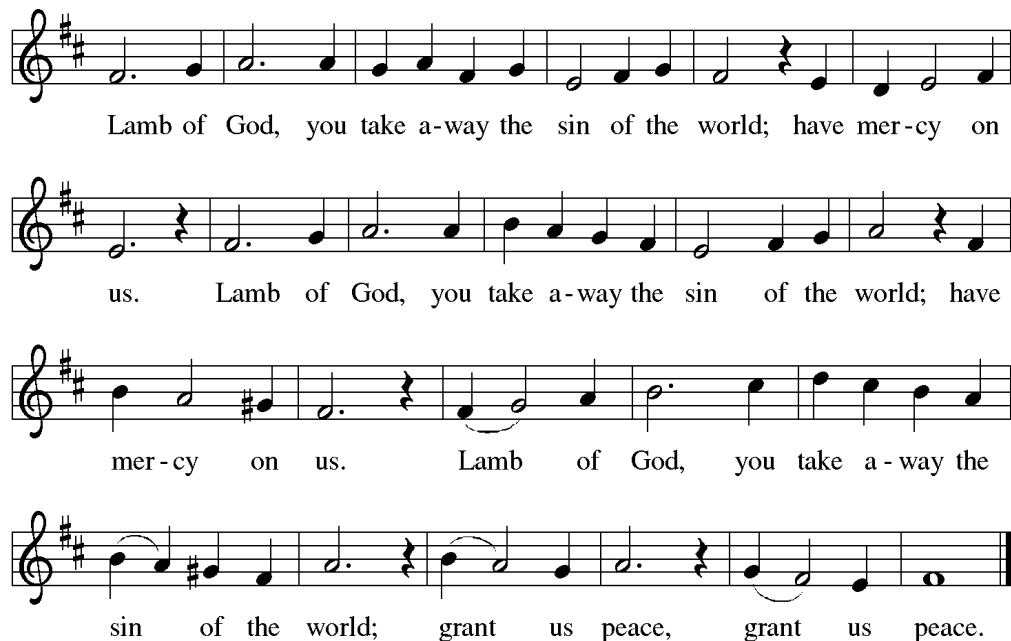
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

SIT

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

All are welcome. Come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the wafer (Body of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. Move to the next station to receive the cup (Blood of Christ). Grape juice is available upon request. Return to your pew by way of the side aisle. Please dispose your used cup into the basket at the head of the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 754

Jesus, the Very Thought of You



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

SENDING

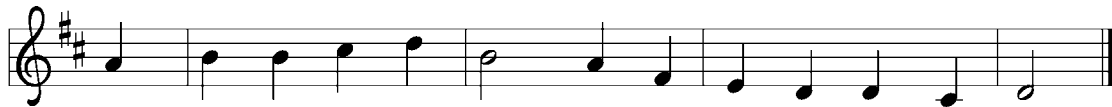
God sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN ELW 539

Abide, O Dearest Jesus



1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun - teous Lord;
5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;



that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.
grant stead - fast - ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923
Music: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEIBEN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ☩ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

No Postlude during Lent

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Worship Leader:	Eric Leshner
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson
Cantor:	Julene Leshner
Reader:	Dean Dumler
Communion Assistants:	Roger and Ginny Potts
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Jon and Connie Thorson
Ushers:	Dave Miller, Kevin Gade, Terry Branting, Larry & Sharon Genthe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee Hour

Coffee and cookies in the gym after worship. Sign-up to host is next to the office. Our host this week is Dave Ripa. Who's next?

Adult Class

The crowd affirms that Jesus is the "Son of David" as he approaches Jerusalem. Jesus accepts this title but redefines it in ways that fail to meet their expectations of the kingdom he comes to establish. How has God failed to meet your expectations and why? Class starts at 10:30 in Leshar Lounge. **Class starts at 10:30.**

Prayers

Please offer prayers of healing for:

- Kim Mills as she receives rehabilitation care at Brookside.
- Vernon Hunzeker as he receives rehabilitation care at Tabitha.
- Ken Holmstrom as he faces upcoming medical tests.

For peace in **Ukraine**. Please note **refugee donation sheets** on the welcome table.

Wednesday Lenten Services

Worship will be held at 12:15 pm in the chapel and at 5:30 pm in the nave. The second worship service is both in-person and online.

Easter Flower Donations

You are invited to donate flowers to beautify the church for Easter Sunday. You may donate in honor or in memory of someone or just donate to help offset the cost. Easter lilies are \$12; pots of tulips are \$10. Please fill out a donation form found at the Welcome Table or outside the office before April 11. Many thanks for your help.

Easter Breakfast

April 17th at 10 a.m. in Leshar Hall. You bring a baked breakfast casserole (kitchen warming ovens will be ready for you). Sign-up board for breakfast casserole providers is next to the Welcome Table at church.

Congregational Life and Council will provide fruit, pastries, orange juice and coffee. See you then!

People's City Mission

Congregational Life committee has a basket on the Welcome table for trial size donations of soap, shampoo and conditioner to be gathered for the Mission during the season of Lent. If you have any of these items at home then feel free to donate them next time you are here.

Green attendance cards can be filled out and returned to the Offering basket in the front of the church after worship or the Welcome Table basket on the top of the atrium stairs.

Devotional Booklets

We have ordered a few extra that will be available at the Welcome Table next week.

2022 Offering Envelopes

Available in the atrium for you to pick up today or during the week.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

April 4:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 pm
Lessons	4:00 pm
Boy Scouts	7:00 pm

April 5:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
Committees	7:00 pm

April 6:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Worship Service	12:15 pm
Worship Service	5:30 pm
Bell Choir practice	6:00 pm

April 9:

Danish Sisterhood	1:00 pm
Worship	5:30 pm

April 10:

Worship	9:00 am
Fellowship	10:00 am
Adult Class	10:30 am
LLC Practice	3:00 pm