

## **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 in the entry space. Ask an usher to assist you.

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

Masks should be worn over both the nose and mouth.

Physically **distance** yourself from others.

Sanitize your hands

Take your **bulletin** home with you.

# INTRODUCTION to worship

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

## **GATHERING**

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

#### **WELCOME**

PRELUDE: "How Firm a Foundation", Foundation, arr. Sandra Eithun, 2014.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **STAND**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.** 

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen.

#### **GREETING**

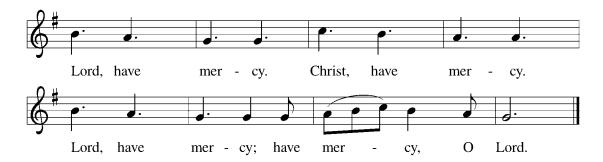
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### **OPENING DIALOG**

God is our light and our salvation, our refuge and our stronghold.

From the rising of the sun to its setting, we praise your name, O God.

For with you is the fountain of life, and in your light we see our salvation.



Music: Mass No. 1, Avon Gillespie Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SIT

## **READINGS**

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-3, 8

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 29:1-2, 10-11

Let us read responsively from Psalm 29:

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

- <sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- <sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
- <sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

God of splendor, give strength to your people who are born anew by water and the Spirit, that we may praise your wonderful deeds and give you the glory due your name; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-14

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**STAND** 

Gospel: John 3:1-3, 7-17

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses

lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

SIT

#### **SERMON**

## **STAND**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** (sing as loud as you want!)

# Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



## **SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM**

## **PRESENTATION**

In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Who presents this child to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism?

We present Everett Joseph Odem to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

In Christian love you have presented Everett for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations? We do.

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises? **I do.** 

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

#### **BAPTISM**

Everett, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Let us pray,

God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Everett: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. **Amen** 

#### **BAPTISMAL CANDLE**

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

#### **WELCOME**

Through Baptism God has made Everett a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer. A brief silence.

We pray, O God, for your holy church around the world. Revitalize and renew us, that we may be reborn once again through the waters of baptism and the blowing wind of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

We give you thanks for your power revealed to us in creation; for cedar and oak trees, for rushing waters, for the echoes of thunder. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for the nations and our leaders, that led by your Spirit, they work towards a world where all your children enjoy peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

We pray for healing for all those who suffer, especially victims and survivors of trauma or violence. Give respite to those living with PTSD or any other mental health concerns. Especially those we name before you now...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

We pray for this worshiping community, that the splendor of your majesty and the holiness of your mystery may be glorified through our worship and our relationships with one another. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

We give you thanks, O God, for those who have died in the faith. Especially those we name before you now...We remember also those whose lives have been lost due to the horrors of war. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.** 

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## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

**MUSIC OFFERING:** "Holy God, We Praise Your Name", Grosser Gott, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774 – Chancel Choir

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.** 

## **DIALOG**

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.

## **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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come and receive the gifts of God for the people of God!

## **COMMUNION**

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). 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.

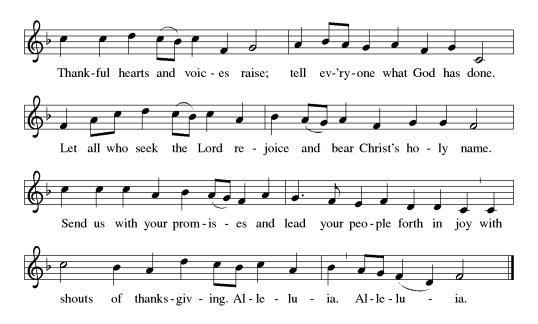
#### STAND

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.** 

#### POST-COMMUNION HYMN

# Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

#### **SENDING**

God sends us in mission to the world.

#### **BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  $\pm$  be upon you now and forever. **Amen.** 

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty", Lobe den Herren, arr. Sandra Eithun, 2014.

## **WORSHIP SPACE:**

After worship we will need four volunteers to sanitize the nave. Remain up front for further instructions.

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## **WORSHIP SERVANTS:**

Worship leader: Rev. Eric Lesher

Organist/Pianist: Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson

Bell Choir: Chris and Wendy Apple, Bev Madison and Dave Ripa

## **WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS**

The following *temporary* changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, please stay at home and watch the service online.
- Wearing a face covering that covers the mouth and nose is required during worship. A
  disposable mask will be provided if you do not have one.
- We will enter the building through the North doors. The doors will be locked at 9:10. All
  other doors will be locked.
- There will hand sanitizers in the narthex. **Sanitize your hands** prior to entering the worship space.
- During worship we ask you to **practice physical distancing** especially as you greet one another. Use a wave in place of a hand shake. 6 feet is the minimum.
- There will be **no offering**. There will be an offering basket located at the entrance door to the sanctuary.
- There will be no sharing of the peace.
- The presiding minister will **greet** you in the narthex after the postlude.
- There will be **no** assisting minister, reader, or acolyte
- There will be **no nursery** available.
- There will be a **coffee fellowship** in the gym after worship.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Coffee hour in the gym following worship. Decaffeinated Coffee and water only for now.

**2021 Offering Envelope boxes** are available in the atrium after worship today or during the week.

**The Lutheran** magazine and **Daily Devotionals** are available in the narthex after worship or in the main entrance during the week.

**Flower chart** is available in the atrium. You can sign up for flowers there and leave through the east main entrance.

# **CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

May 31:

Office Closed

June 1:

Al-Anon 9:30 am Committees 7:00 pm

June 2:

Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

June3:

Quilting 9:00 am

June 6:

Worship 9:00 am