



Easter 4
May 8, 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

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: ***Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.***

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Towers", Cathy Moglebust, 2000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence

Gracious God, **we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 369

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!

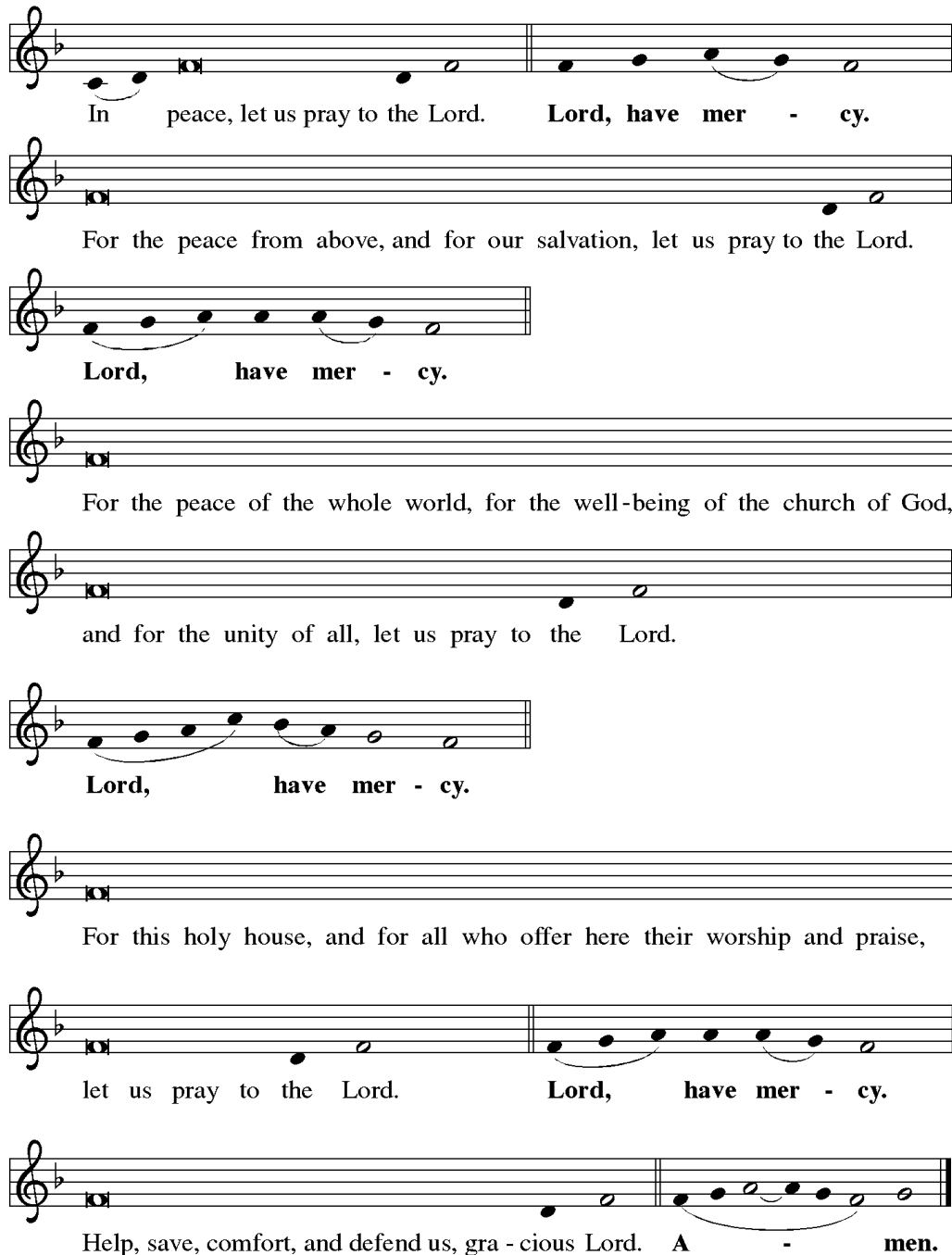


at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through 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: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

A reading from Acts:

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Psalm: Psalm 23



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

Psalm 23:1

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

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¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;

I shall not¹ be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me. R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever. R**

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

A reading from Revelation:

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

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

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

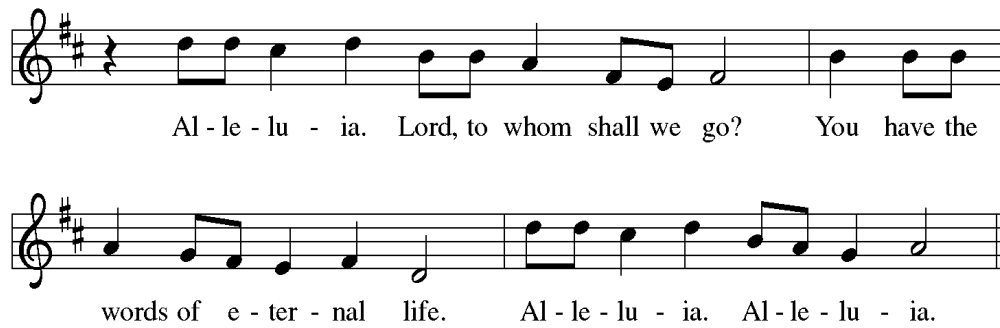
¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Gospel: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

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

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

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

SIT

SERMON

STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 362 (verses 1, 2, 4, 7, & 8)

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight,
you have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
newborn souls in you to be.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
now no more the grave enthrall;
you have opened paradise,
and your saints in you shall rise.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.
Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation, especially those we name before you now.... Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding. Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

MUSIC OFFERING “Thy Holy Wings”, Caroline V. Sandell-Berg, Tr. Ernest E. Ryden, arr. Emma Lou Diemer, 2009

*Thy holy wings, dear Savior, spread gently over me;
and through the long night watches I'll rest secure in thee.
Whatever may betide me, be thou my hiding place,
and let me live and labor each day, Lord, by thy grace.*

*Thy pardon, Savior, grant me, and cleanse me in thy blood;
Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.
O take into thy keeping thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.*

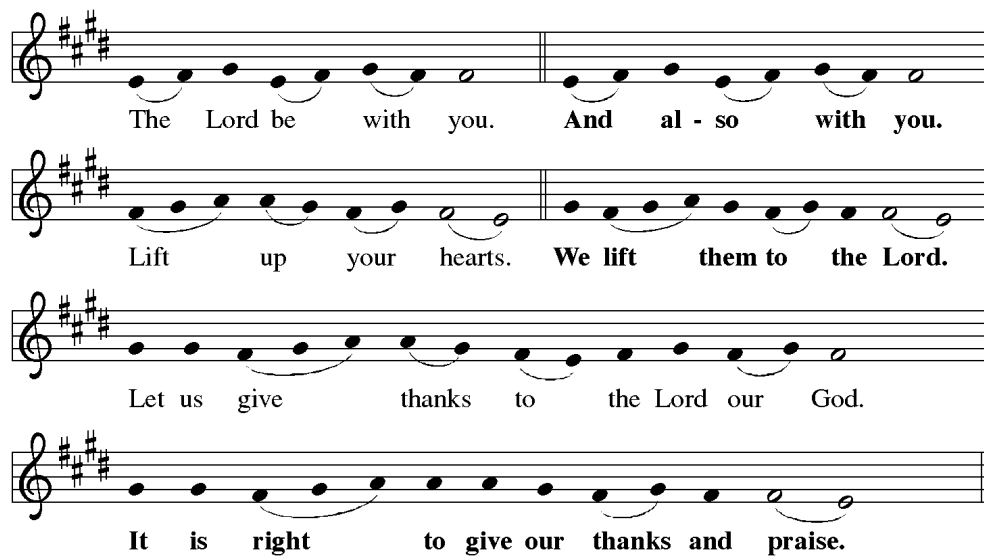
*Thy holy wings, dear Savior, spread gently over me;
and through the long night watches I'll rest secure in thee.
O take into thy keeping thy children great and small,
Thy holy wings, dear Savior, spread gently over
all.*

STAND

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOG



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

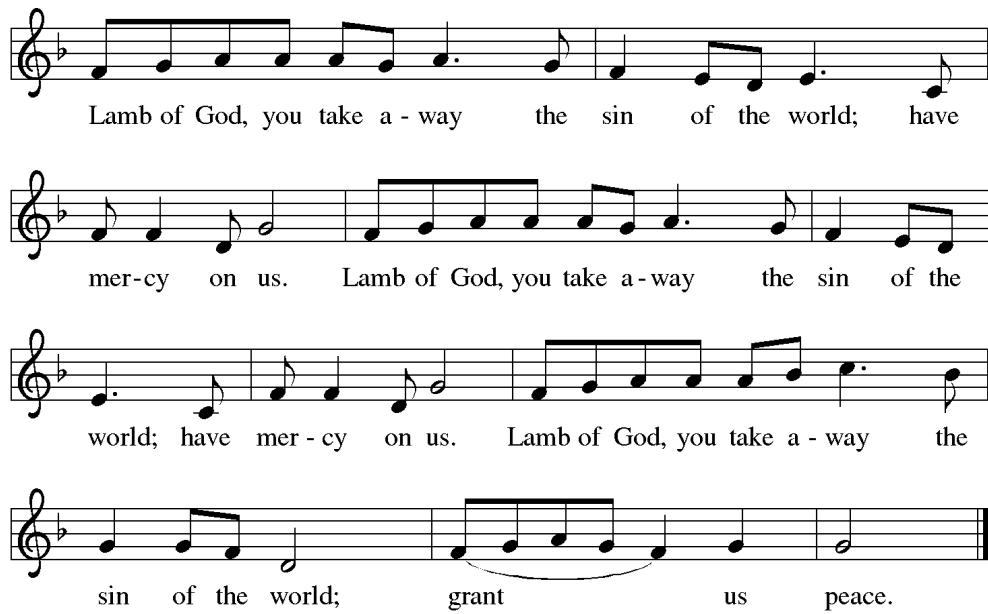
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

SIT

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION

All are welcome. Come forward by way of the center aisle and kneel or stand at the rail to receive the wafer (Body of Christ) and the cup (Blood of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. 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 502 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (red hymnal)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877
Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN ELW 764

Have No Fear, Little Flock

1 Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen
to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!

- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;
have good cheer, little flock,
for the Father will keep you
in his love forever;
have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above;
praise the Lord high above,
for he stoops down to heal you,
uplift and restore you;
praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

BLESSING

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”, *St. Columba*, setting by C. S. Lang

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Worship Leader:	Eric Leshner
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson
Bell Choir:	Lisa Holmstrom, Dave Rathjen, Wendy & Chris Apple, Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson, Julene Leshner, Jillian Jensen, Peter Schnake, Dave Ripa, Tricia Rosno, Madeleine Melang-Thoren, Isabel Kuebler, Miles Melang-Thoren
Choir:	Julene Leshner, Miles Melang-Thoren, Madeleine Melang-Thoren, Wendy & Chris Apple, Peter Schnake, Brenda Elam
Flute:	Dave Rathjen
Reader:	Cindy Eberspacher
Communion Assistants:	Kurt and Cindy Eberspacher, Neil Larson
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Jon and Connie Thorson
Ushers:	Mike and Lynette Lewis, John and Beth Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you!

The Memorials Committee would like to express our sincere thank you to the family of Bob Anderson for the three redbud trees that have been planted on the north side of the parking lot. What a wonderful addition to our landscaping. Bob was instrumental in the landscaping of Grace over many years.

Thank you!

Thank you for the lovely cards after my stroke. I am healing well but also going through other issues related to age. I am fortunate to have Don by my side. – Helen Carnes

Craft and Vendor Show

June 4th from 9 am to 3 pm at Grace Lutheran. Come support our local vendors and our Scout ministry!

Little Food Pantry

Grace's Social Ministry Committee is making it possible to conveniently donate items for the "Little Free Pantry" located outside The Gathering Place at 1448 E Street. Any non-perishable food, as well as personal care items, can be left at the designated spot in the church's entryway to the atrium, and are later transported to the pantry.

Coffee Hour

Today's host is Julene Leshner. Thank you! A signup book for hosting a coffee hour is found outside the office.

Prayers

Prayers for healing and comfort for Shirley S., Harry B., and Lois R. Friends and family of Janice Walker.

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

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

Are now available on the Welcome Table or on the Atrium Table.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

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

May 10:	
Election	All Day
Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
Wildlife Rescue	7:00 pm
Council Meeting	7:00 pm

May 11:	
Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Bell Choir	6:00 pm

May 12:	
Quilting Club	9:00 am

May 14:	
Danish Sisterhood	1:00 pm
Worship	5:30 pm

May 15:	
Worship	9:00 am
Fellowship	10:00 am
Chancel Choir	10:15 am