



Pentecost Sunday
May 23, 2021

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

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE: "Adoro te Devote", Plainsong mode V; Processionale, Paris, 1697, setting Anne Krentz Organ, 2019.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ☩ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **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.**

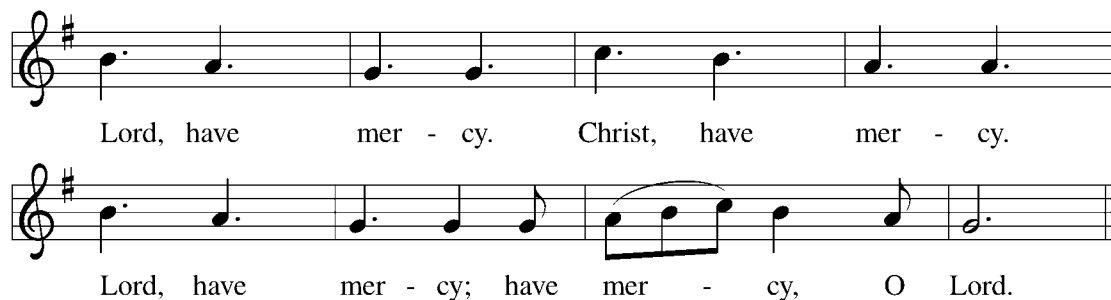
OPENING DIALOG

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. **Alleluia!**

We are enlightened by the brightness of his rising. **Alleluia!**

Death's darkness has no power over us. **Alleluia!**

KYRIE



Music: *Mass No. 1*, Avon Gillespie
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, 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

READINGS

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel:

1The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

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

Psalm: Psalm 104:24, 27-34, 35b

A responsive reading from Psalm 104:

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁷**All of them look to you**

to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

³⁰**You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;**

and so you renew the face of the earth.

God of majesty, we are constantly surrounded by your gifts and touched by your grace; our words of praise do not approach the wonders of your love. Send forth your Spirit, that our lives may be refreshed and the earth may be renewed, until the new heaven and new earth resound with the song of resurrection in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading: Acts 2:1-4

A reading from Acts:

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

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

STAND

Gospel: John 15:26; 16:13-15

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

[Jesus said,] ²⁶“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

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

SIT

SERMON

STAND

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

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love. *A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give the Holy Spirit to your church, filling it with many and varied gifts. In the church throughout the world, strengthen us in our visioning and dreaming, that it may discover anew the Spirit's creative work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, your mighty works are too numerous to count. The earth is full of your creatures, living things both great and small. Open your hand and give them the necessities of this life. Send your fresh Spirit over the face of the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, at the sound of the rushing wind, people speaking different languages proclaimed and heard together your deeds of power. Fill the leaders of nations with your Holy Spirit, so that they exercise your gracious will in the lives of people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of faithfulness, you tend to the needs of your people, even the sighs of our hearts. Hear those who cry out to you in distress. Restore to wholeness all who are in any need this day, especially those we name before you now... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, fill this congregation with gratitude for the gifts we have received from you. Renew our ministries, heal our divisions, and open us to the needs of our neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, those who have died in you raise their eternal song of praise. We give you thanks for the many gifts of your people and rejoice in the witness of your saints, especially those we name before you now... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

MUSIC OFFERING: We Are All One in Christ

OFFERING PRAYER

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **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

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

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

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE: "O Day Full of Grace", *Den Signede Dag*, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774-1842, arr. Anne Krentz Organ, 2003

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 Leshar
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren/Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson
Bell Choir:	Jillian Jensen, Lisa Holmstrom, Julene Leshar, Peter Schnake
Chancel Choir:	Bev Madison, Chris and Wendy Apple, Julene Leshar, Peter Schnake

PRAYERS this week

Give thanks for the gifts, traditions, perspectives, insights and leaders of our global companions, which enrich our church, ministries and leaders.

Pray that the Spirit of God moves and works throughout the world, through every language, culture, human gift and life experience, to spread the good news of Jesus Christ and of God's amazing love for humankind. Praise God!

Pray that the Spirit will renew and equip us for the difficult work of understanding, bridging and mending the differences and schisms in our communities and nation. Pray that God will make us bold in our witness as people of faith, yet humble, empathetic and caring as we listen to and talk with one another.

Give thanks for the Spirit, which helps us when we are weak, sustains our faith when we are uncertain and pleads for us "with sighs too deep for words" when we aren't sure how to speak with God.

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 prelude.
- There will be **no** assisting minister, reader, or acolyte

- There will be **no nursery** available.

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 24:

Boy Scouts	7:00 pm
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May 25:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
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Cub Scouts	6:30 pm
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May 27:

Quilting	9:00 am
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Bell Quartet B	7:00 pm
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May 28:

Respite Care	5:45 pm
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May 30:

Worship	9:00 am
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Eagle Scouts	7:00 pm
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