

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

A North American Lutheran Church Congregation

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gracelutheranwc.org



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

PRELUDE *Please gather in silence to prepare for worship*

Stand

GATHERING HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,

al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel, sit or stand

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. 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.

C **Amen.**

Stand

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Cantor, then All Lord, have mer - cy. *Cantor, then All* Christ, have mer -
Cantor, then All cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to
peo - ple of good will. 1. We

Verse 1
praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we
glo-ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry,
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa - ther.

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to
peo - ple of good will.

Verse 2



2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord



God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa -



ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have



mer - cy on us; you take a - way the



sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa -



ther, have mer - cy on us.

Refrain



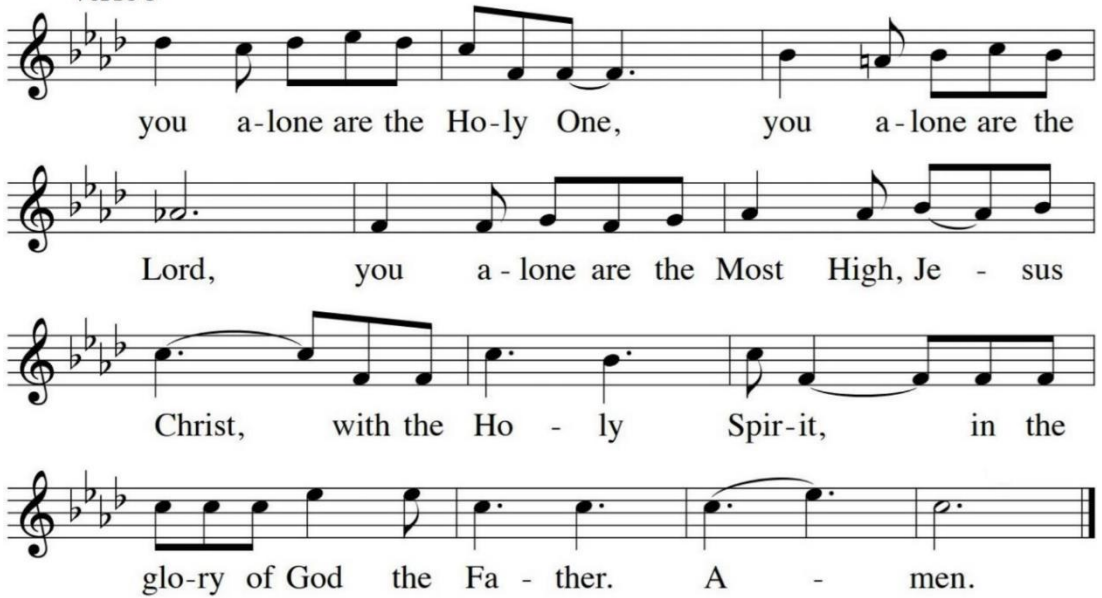
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to



peo - ple of good will.

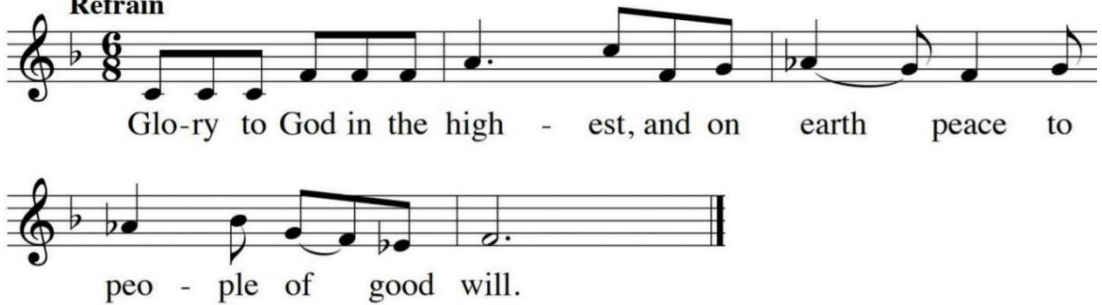
3. For

Verse 3



you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the
Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the
glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to
peo - ple of good will.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Pastoral Prayer
- C **Amen.**

Be seated

FIRST READING: GENESIS 4:1-8

Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.”² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD.⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering,⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

⁶Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 73:1-11; 16-26

R ¹ Surely God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.

C ² **But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;
I had nearly lost my foothold.**

³ For I envied the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

⁴ **They have no struggles;
their bodies are healthy and strong.**

⁵ They are free from common human burdens;
they are not plagued by human ills.

**6 Therefore pride is their necklace;
they clothe themselves with violence.**

⁷ From their callous hearts comes iniquity;
their evil imaginations have no limits.

**8 They scoff, and speak with malice;
with arrogance they threaten oppression.**

⁹ Their mouths lay claim to heaven,
and their tongues take possession of the earth.

**10 Therefore their people turn to them
and drink up waters in abundance.**

¹¹ They say, “How would God know?
Does the Most High know anything?”

**16 When I tried to understand all this,
it troubled me deeply**

¹⁷ till I entered the sanctuary of God;
then I understood their final destiny.

**18 Surely you place them on slippery ground;
you cast them down to ruin.**

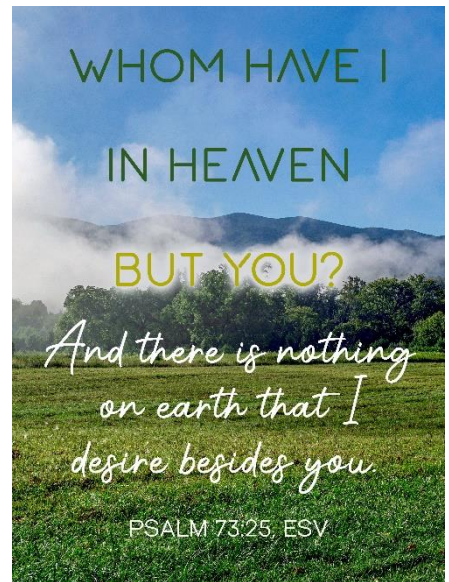
¹⁹ How suddenly are they destroyed,
completely swept away by terrors!

**20 They are like a dream when one awakes;
when you arise, Lord,
you will despise them as fantasies.**

²¹ When my heart was grieved
and my spirit embittered,

**22 I was senseless and ignorant;
I was a brute beast before you.**

²³ Yet I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.



**²⁴ You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will take me into glory.**

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

**²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 1:13-19

¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

R The word of the Lord.

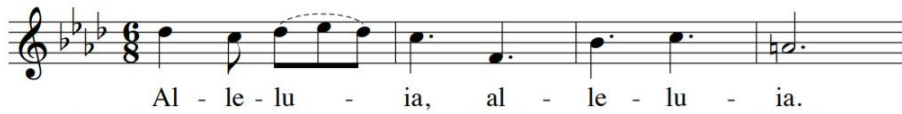
C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT



Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ²He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³“About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

⁷“‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹“The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹When they received it, they began to

grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ ‘But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’ ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated

SERMON “The Seven Deadly Sins: Envy vs. Kindness”

Pastor Phil Hohulin

Moment of silent reflection after sermon

MARRIAGE VOW RENEWAL OF CHRIS AND DIANE JERGENS



Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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.

**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.**

Kneel/sit/stand

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need:

A Holy God, save us from every vice that would conspire against us and strengthen in us every virtue in conformity to your Son. Help us respond to those around us with the same kindness that you have first shown to us. Let us put our complete trust in you alone. Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Hope of all, give us the courage to share Christ with all we meet so that the world will be transformed by your love. Particularly, we pray for the work of our ministry partner, H2O Wright State. Give new birth to discipleship and strengthen the faith of the students they serve. Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, pour out the restorative grace of your comforting presence on all who are sick and suffering, [particularly] Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Sovereign Master, bestow your wisdom, strength, protection, and courage upon all who serve in our armed forces. Grant also these virtues to all elected representatives of our republic. Guard them from corruption and temptation. Conform their wills to your will and enable them to lead according to your statutes. Assist them to ensure the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to all, from first heartbeat to last. Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Head of the Church, bless the leaders of our denomination: our bishop Dan Selbo; his assistants Amy, Gemechis, Phillip, Andrew, Eric, Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky; and the staff and faculty of our North American Lutheran Seminary. Raise a new generation of pastors to shepherd your flock. Enhance the missional efforts of all congregations that faithfully proclaim your word. Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Stand

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.



Be seated
OFFERING

Special Music

Stand
OFFERTORY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a series of chords and single notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

The second system of musical notation also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first system. It continues the melody and accompaniment for the second line of the text.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

Presider The Lord be with you. *All* And al - so with
Presider you. *All* Lift up your hearts. We
Presider lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the
All Lord our God. It is right and just.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, and with angels and archangels, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
Lord, God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Be seated

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy on us. *(Repeat from beginning)* Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

**White grape juice is in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers available at the rail upon request.*

We believe that Holy Communion is the sacrament of the real presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As we partake of the *bread and the *wine, we trust Jesus' promise that we receive His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sin and strength to serve Him. If you are a baptized and repentant Christian who desires to commune with us, you are thereby publicly declaring your oneness in faith with us, and you too recognize the Lord's Body and Blood as fulfilling God's Covenant of Grace for us.

*The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: Amen.*



Stand

PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING (V3 Only)

Shout for Joy Loud and Long



1 Shout for joy loud and long, God be praised with a song! To the Lord
2 By God's word all was made, heav'n and earth, light and shade, na-ture's won -
3 Yet our pride makes us fall; so Christ came for us all— not the righ -
4 Now has Christ tru - ly ris'n, and his Spir - it is giv'n to all those



we be - long: chil-dren of our mak - er, God the great life giv - er.
ders dis-played, we to rule cre - a - tion from its first foun-da - tion.
teous to call— by his cross and pas - sion, bring - ing us sal - va - tion.
un - der heav'n who now walk be - side him, though they once de - nied him.

Refrain



Shout for joy, joy, joy! Shout for joy, joy, joy!



God is love, God is light, God is ev - er - last - ing!

Text: David Mowbray, b. 1938

Music: PERSONENT HODIE. *Piae cantiones*, 1582

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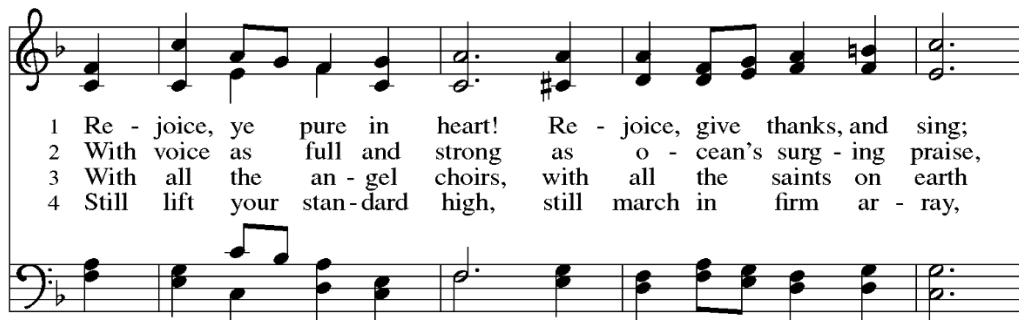
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BLESSING

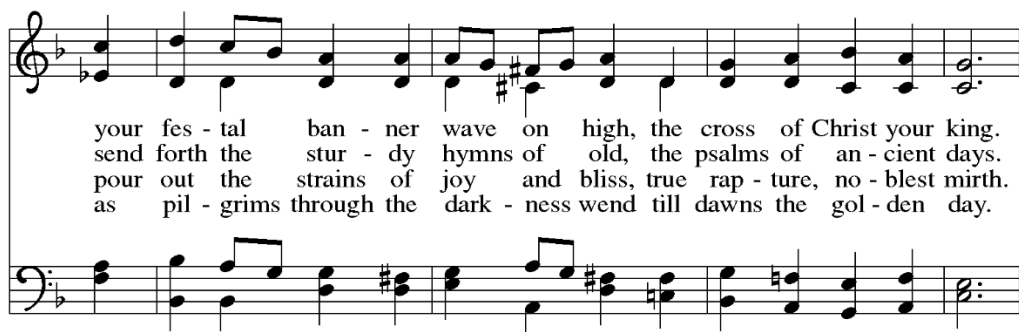
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

SENDING HYMN

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



ALTAR FLOWERS today are in honor of Chris and Diane Jergens' 60th wedding anniversary.

Welcome to our guests!

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We invite you to come and get to know us at the pace that fits who you are, where you are on your spiritual journey, and to explore with us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, Tidings of Grace, please send an email to our administrative assistant, Brenda, at gracewcsecretary@yahoo.com.



Servant Schedule



Communion Servers

Carol Rothfuss & Shirley Schryver

Assistant Minister

April 7	Shirley Schryver
April 14	N'Anne Knight
April 21	Joe Costantino
April 28	Sandy Rice

Lector

Nancy Oliver
Roseann Costantino
Kinsella Jergens
George Reinhart

Sunday School

Young Learners (Prek—K)

April 7	Sally & Sandy
April 14	Wanda & Steve
April 21	Pam & Sandy
April 28	Diane & N'Anne

Disciples (Early Elementary)

Chris
Heather
Cassie
Julie



Grace Council



Officers

Deborah Ross~President

Chris Rondeau~Vice President

Steve Gross~Treasurer

Jim Wattrick~Secretary

Team Liaisons

Hans Schmellenkamp~Outreach

Pam Mehlhorn~Christian Education

Linda Hooghe~Connections

Nathan Pfeiffer~Worship & Music

Chris Rondeau~Administration & Finance

Partick Terhune~Property



As a congregation of the
North American Lutheran Church
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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