

Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org



May 5, 2024; 9:00 A.M.
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Affirmation of Baptism



GATHERING

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

OPENING MUSIC

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

setting, Franklin D. Ashdown (Augsburg Fortress)

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom’s land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN

"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

ELW 383 (One License)

Please be seated.

WELCOME

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

Acts 10:44-48, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 130*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:

Psalm 98

The Psalms are found in the ELW, in the front section, beginning on page 339. We will read them responsively together.

SECOND READING:

1 John 5:1-6, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 241*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 15:9-17, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 109*

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Baptized and Set Free”

ELW 453 (One License)

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present Logan Michael Hanlin, Easton Joseph Klesch, Zachary Paul Kniola, Grace Isabella Nellessen, and Wilson Taylor Robbins who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these siblings, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

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, 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 into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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**

Please be seated.

AFFIRMATION

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each confirmand responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these siblings and pray for them in their life in Christ? **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Families are invited to come forward and gather around their confirmand. Those making affirmation of baptism may kneel as their name is read. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing. Each confirmand will receive a biblical verse, confirmation certificate, and a cross; followed by the pastor's blessing. During the blessing, the family may participate with the laying on of hands.

The blessing may be repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

Stir up in Logan Michael, Easton Joseph, Zachary Paul, Grace Isabella, and Wilson Taylor the gift of your Holy Spirit: 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, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Families return to their pews following the blessings. Confirmands turn to face the congregation. Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.*

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We pray especially for _____. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, and bless Logan, Easton, Zachary, Grace, and Wilson, as they share their faith and affirm their baptism this day. Equip us all to embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. We invite you to share a physically distant sign of God's peace with one another—wave a greeting of peace to people around you, and/or text a greeting of peace to someone.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous offerings and commitment to Grace's mission and ministry. You are invited to place your financial offerings in the offering plate. Additional ways to give include mailing your offering to the church office, or by giving online: by texting the amount you would like to give to 877-698-3604, through the Vanco Mobile App, or online at Grace's website (Use the QR code provided). You are also invited to call the church office to learn more about the automatic withdrawal Electronic Giving Program.



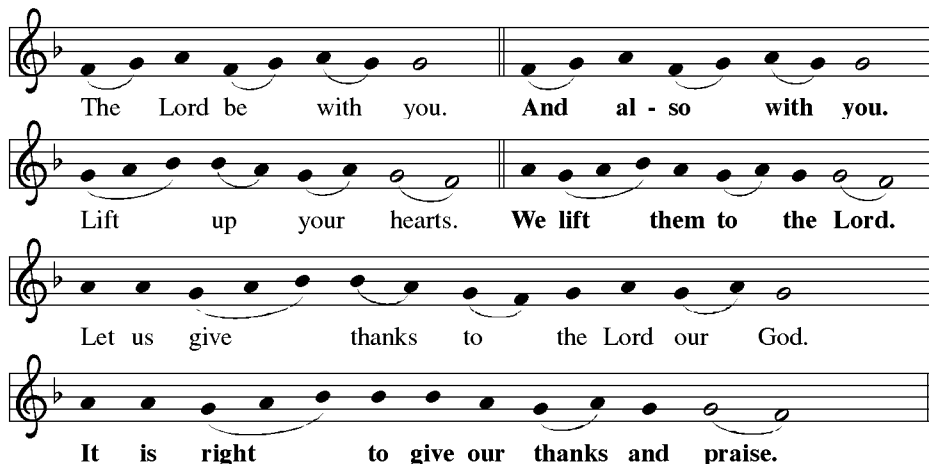
OFFERING ANTHEM

"Alleluia, Christ Is Risen"

Mark Patterson (Augsburg Fortress)


Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . . and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 145, left column

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

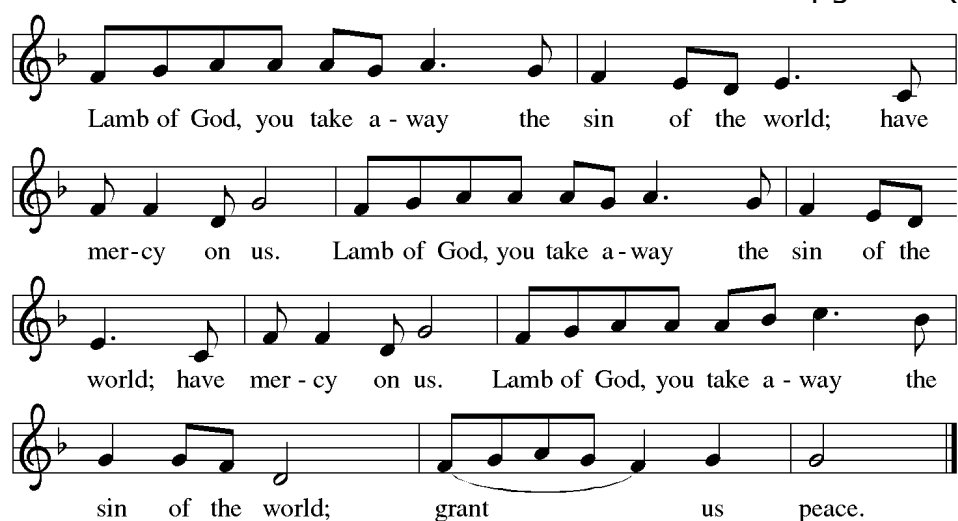
The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Please be seated. The congregation will commune, beginning with the front pews, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine or juice. Extend your hands to receive a wafer from the pastor or communion assistant. Then please pick up one cup from the trays (red wine or white grape juice), and then place empty cup in a tray on the front pew before returning to your seat. Gluten free elements are available upon request. If you would like the communion elements to be brought to you, please notify an usher.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

ELW pg. 135 (Augsburg Fortress)



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.

“I Come with Joy”

ELW 482 (One License)

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

ELW 650 (Public Domain)

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

CLOSING MUSIC

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

setting, Edwin T. Childs (One License)



Worship Team

A/V Team: Bill Nattress

Communion Assistants: Bresden Shutt, Michelle Anderson, Beth Miller,
Mark Miller, Mike Phillips

Acolyte: Grace Schaaf, Bresden Shutt

Greeters: Michelle Anderson, Howard Hoyt

Reader: Janice Laird

Ushers: Mike Freeman, Wes Krueger, John Widmayer

Children's Sermon: Jen Freeman

Coffee Ministry: Bill Kreznor, Nancy Kreznor

Altar Guild: Janette Hess, Cindy Meyer, Brian Gerloff, Carole Gerloff

Musicians: Jan Burns, Cindy Meyer, Cherub Choir

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Please join us for coffee & snacks after worship.

Presence Light Sponsor:

In memory of my very dear friend Priscilla and her daughter; given by Marlene Botts.

Bulletin Sponsors:

In memory of my very dear friend Priscilla and her daughter; given by Marlene Botts.

Thank you for sharing time to hear God's word and pray together. A video recording of worship will be posted to Grace's website later in the day.



You are welcome to join Grace Lutheran Church's Facebook group for news & ministry opportunities. Peace be with you as you go forth to share God's grace.

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Affirmation of Baptism

Grace Lutheran Church's Confirmands

May 5, 2024

Logan Michael Hanlin

Logan was baptized July 4, 2010, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, in Woodstock. Logan's family includes parents Jessica & John Hanlin and siblings Jace and Tyson. Logan is completing 8th grade at Creekside and will go to WHS next fall.

About Logan: I enjoy playing many sports and hanging out with friends. I am grateful for all my family and friends that have been with me most of my life.



Easton Joseph Klesch

Easton was baptized February 20, 2010, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Wauconda. Easton's family includes parents Ken & Melissa Klesch and siblings Brayden & Makenzie. Easton is completing 8th grade at Northwood and will go to WNHS next fall.

About Easton: I enjoy football, baseball, basketball, I also enjoy listening to music. I am grateful for my family and friends, also my church and all the people in it.

Zachary Paul Kniola

Zachary was baptized October 3, 2010, at Grace Lutheran Church. Zachary's family includes parents Steve & Darcy Kniola, and siblings Jared and Madison. Zachary is completing 8th grade at Creekside and will go to WHS next fall.

About Zachary: I enjoy playing football, running hurdles, and playing guitar. I am grateful for my family and my dog. I am very grateful for being financially stable and having the opportunity to be a part of the Lutheran religion.

Grace Isabella Nellessen

Grace was baptized on May 16, 2010, at Grace Lutheran Church. Grace's family includes parents Kristy & Andrew and sibling Timothy. Grace is completing 8th grade at Harvard Junior High and will go to Harvard High School next fall.

About Grace: I enjoy softball, basketball, scouts, fishing, and camping. I am grateful for my family, and friends, a roof over my head, food, my pets, my church community, and God.

Wilson Taylor Robbins

Wilson was baptized May 9, 2010, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Woodstock. Wilson's family includes parents Jennifer & David Robbins. Wilson is completing 8th grade at Creekside and will go to WHS next fall.

About Wilson: I enjoy video games, football, and basketball. I am grateful for my life, family, and friends.