

## Grace Lutheran Church

1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road  
Woodstock, IL 60098  
[www.gracewoodstock.org](http://www.gracewoodstock.org)

May 9, 2021; 9:00 A.M.  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Livestream:** [Grace Lutheran Church YouTube Channel](#)  
**Parking Lot-** enter from Kishwaukee Valley Road: **89.3 FM**



As you gather in Grace's parking lot, we invite you to turn your FM radio to 89.3 to hear the worship service this morning. As you arrive, please stop when you approach the greeters, and you can pick up pre-filled communion elements as you enter the parking lot. You are invited to stay in your car with the windows up, or if you prefer to sit or stand next to your vehicle while listening to your car radio, we ask you to wear face masks and maintain physical distancing.

### GATHERING

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

*In preparation for worship at home, you may wish to light a candle. It can be a symbol of the presence of Christ, the light of the world. If you wish to commune, please prepare wine (or grape juice) and bread to be at hand when that part of the service arrives.*

*God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen (ELW pg. 72)*

### OPENING MUSIC

"Choral Prelude on 'Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love'"

Hobby-Kerr (Augsburg Fortress)

### 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

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**

A reading from Acts.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

**PSALM:**

**Psalms 98**

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory. O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations. You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth. The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

**SECOND READING:**

**1 John 5:1-6**

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

## GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to John.

**John 15:9-17**

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

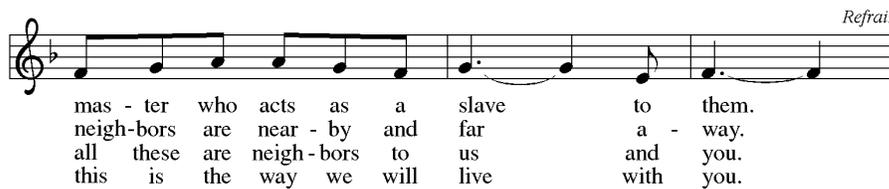
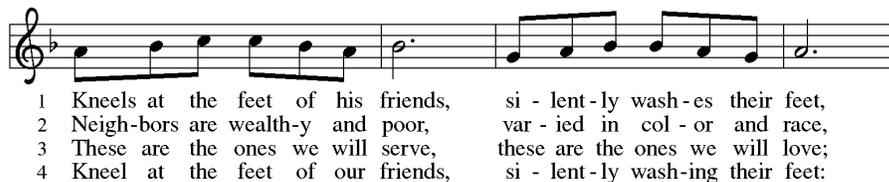
## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#### "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

ELW 708 (One License)



## **PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMAND**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Lauren Elise Ribbe, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism.

I present Lauren Elise, who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray: Merciful God, we thank you for Lauren Elise whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished her in the community of faith. Uphold your servant 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?

(Lauren) I renounce them.

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

(Lauren) I renounce them.

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

(Lauren) 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.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

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?

(Lauren) I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support this sister and pray for her in her 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.

Stir up in Lauren Elise Ribbe 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**

Let us rejoice with this sister 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.**

## **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.*

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts \_\_\_\_\_. Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Lead all people around the world to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with gratitude to you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in your lasting love. 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.**

## **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, flash your lights, and/or text a greeting of peace to someone.*

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

<h2><b>MEAL</b></h2>
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God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.
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## **OFFERING**

*Thank you for your generous offerings and commitment to Grace's mission and ministry. You are invited to place your financial offerings in a basket with the parking lot greeters on your drive out of worship. 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 Give+ Mobile App, or online at Grace's website. You are also invited to call the church office to learn more about the automatic withdrawal Electronic Giving Program.*

Let us pray. 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.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus  
who, living among us,  
healed the sick,  
fed the hungry,  
and with a love stronger than death,  
gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever. **Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **COMMUNION**

*Please receive the bread and cup when you are able to practice hand hygiene and physical distancing- with hand sanitizer at your vehicle- or if needed, when you return home and are able to wash hands and remove your face mask. As the pastor announces, "the body of Christ, given for you", participate in eating a piece of the bread. As the pastor announces, "the blood of Christ, shed for you", participate by drinking the wine (or grape juice).*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **SENDING**

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

### **SENDING DUET**

"Clap Your Hands, All Ye People"

Victor C. Johnson (One License)

### **FAREWELL AND GODSPEED**

Rob, Angie, Grace, Lauren and Eleanor Ribbe, as you leave Grace Lutheran Church, we wish to bid you farewell.

*A reading from John:* Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (*John 8:12*)

When you came to Grace Lutheran Church, we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God's loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community, and God has blessed us through you.

Let us pray. Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servants Rob, Angie, Grace, Lauren and Eleanor, who have enriched this congregation and shared their gifts with this community. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed, friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling them.

By your Holy Spirit be present in their pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **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!**

### **CLOSING MUSIC**

“Allegro” (Second Sonata)

Felix Mendelssohn



### **Worship Team**

A/V Team: Bill Nattress & Andy Bellavia

Reader: Cindy Meyer

Parking Lot Greeter: Jon Bergstrom

Greeters: Claude Guenther-Hutchens, Gretchen Hutchens

Ushers: Laura Boal, Kathy Zank, Ken Zank

Children’s Sermon: Elaine Burcham

Musicians: Larry Lagerhausen, Carrie and Maren Filetti, Jan Burns, Ron Fredriksen

Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

**Worship Videos Online.** A video recording of worship will be posted to Grace’s website later in the day.

Thank you for sharing time to hear God’s word and pray together. Peace be with you as you go forth to share God’s grace.

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