

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



May 17, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
7th Sunday of Easter



GATHERING

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

OPENING MUSIC

"I Come with Joy"

setting, David Cherwien (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.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us, the Kishwaukee Headwaters,
the Rock River, and Lake Michigan.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Earth and All Stars"

ELW 731 (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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BLESSING OF GRADUATES

WORD

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

FIRST READING:

Acts 1:6-14, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 118*

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

PSALM:

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

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

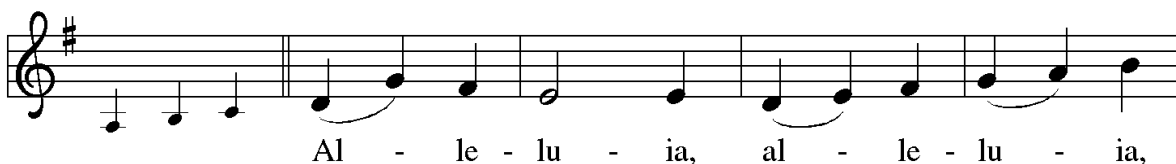
SECOND READING:

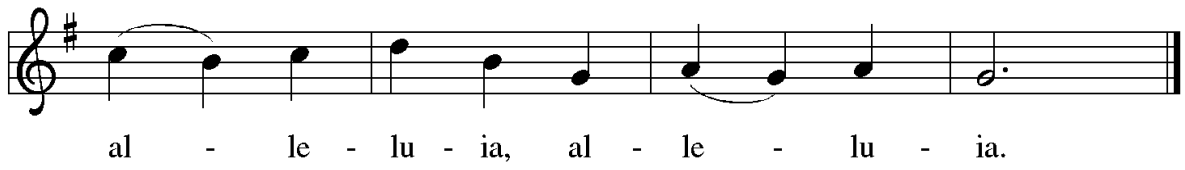
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 235*

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

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

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

John 17:1-11, Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 111

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are invited to come forward during the message.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Come with Joy"

ELW 482 (Public Domain)

NICENE CREED

ELW pg. 104

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence.*

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. Bless our high school graduates: Braedon Schwanke, Ellery Shutt; our college graduate: Bob Gerloff and their families in this time of rejoicing and lead them in this new season ahead. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as a change in schools, graduation,

retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **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 sign of God's peace with one another.

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

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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.



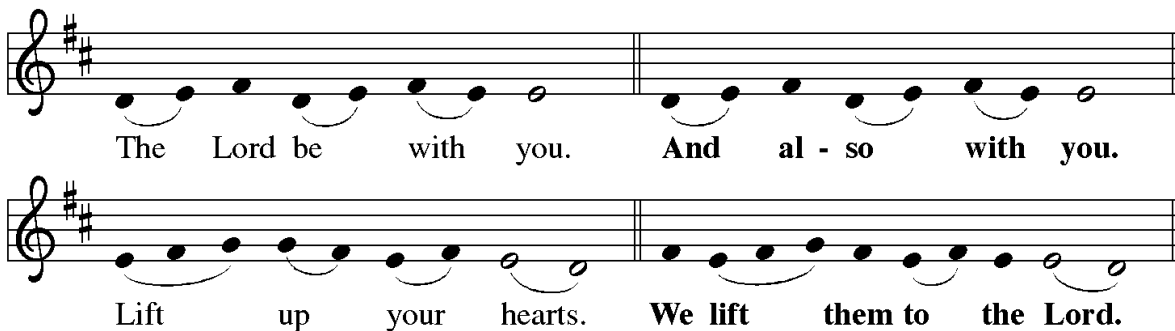
OFFERING ANTHEM

"To Follow You"

Chris de Silva (One License)

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-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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.112, left column

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

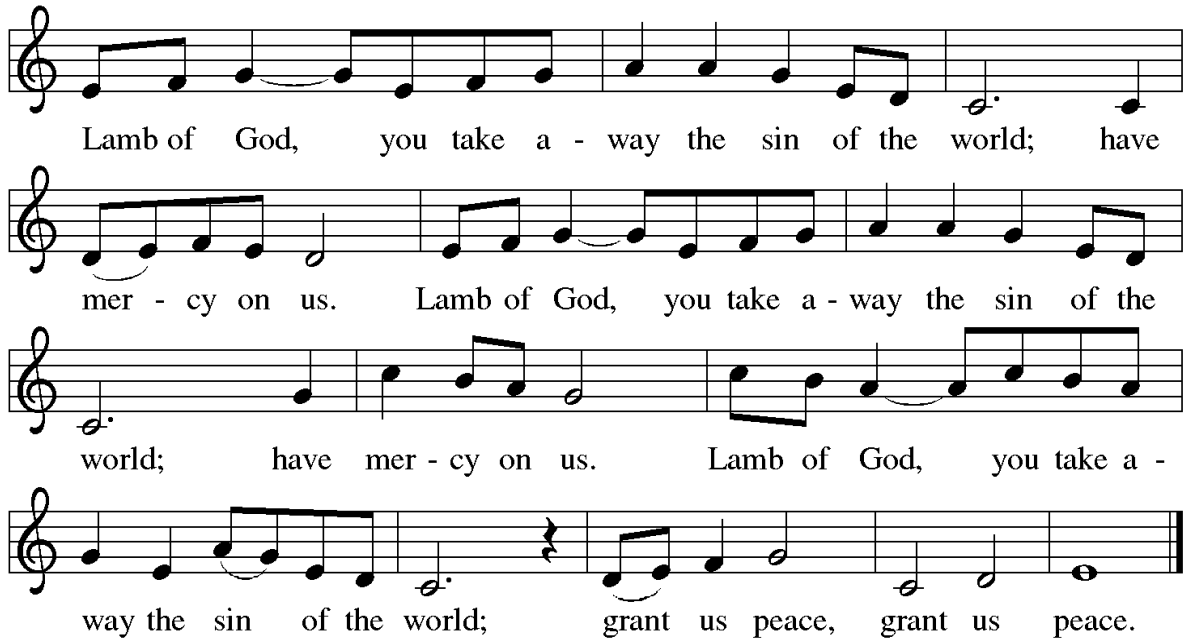
Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Please be seated. The congregation will then 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 the 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. 112 (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, grant us peace.

"Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed"

ELW 463 (Public Domain)

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, **through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

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.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Rise, O Sun of Righteousness"

ELW 657 (One License)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

CLOSING MUSIC

"Earth and All Stars"

setting, Robert A. Hobby (Augsburg Fortress)



Worship Team

A/V Team: Bill Nattress

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Sally Sheahan, Jamielynn Wedoff,
Eleanor Wedoff, Audrey Wedoff

Acolyte: AddieJo Wedoff

Reader: Cindy Meyer

Ushers: Carrie Jarnecke, Kevin Jarnecke, John Widmayer

Children’s Sermon: Jamielynn Wedoff

Altar Guild: Joy Aavang, Barb Aavang, Mike Freeman, Jen Freeman

Musicians: Jan Burns, Paul Lockwood

Guest Preacher: Pastor Cordell Strug

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

In memory of Mary Figard; given by Terry Figard & Family.

Bulletin Sponsors:

In memory of Gloria & Frank Holy; given by Terry Figard & Family.



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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Faith & Flavors Kids Kitchen

June 7th 10am - 11:30am
Limited spots available

St. Ann's Episcopal & Grace Lutheran Mobile Food Pantry

June 8th 4pm

Across from Woodstock High School



MAHJONG GAME NIGHT

2ND & 4TH TUESDAY STARTING JUNE 9TH
6:30PM-8:00PM

SIGN UP ONLINE OR WITH THE OFFICE



Grace Lutheran

Volley Ball Competition and Church Picnic

Sunday July 26th Volleyball 10am-12pm Picnic 12pm-3pm



A Sincere Thanks to our Worship Volunteers!