

April 19th, 2020
Second Sunday of Easter



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI—SYNOD
308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
512-237-2108

The Office of Matins
Streamed Online at 10 AM

Pastor Timothy Appel



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: "How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere."

A Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

LSB 487



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad-ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,
4 For to - day a - mong His own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;
His deep peace, which ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion
Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
Nor the watch-ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.

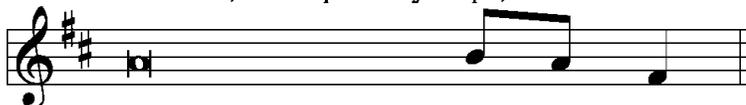
- 5 Alleluia! Now we cry
To our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars
Of the tomb's dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain
Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought His Israel
Into joy from sadness!

Opening Versicles

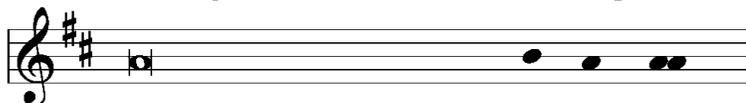
LSB 219



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Antiphon for Easter



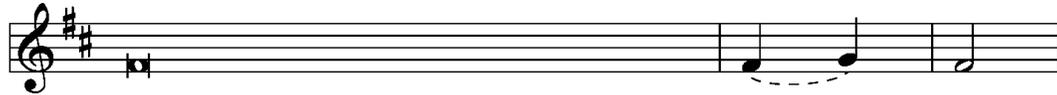
L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.



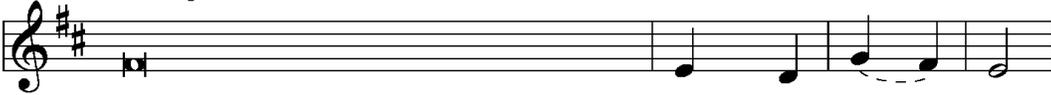
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

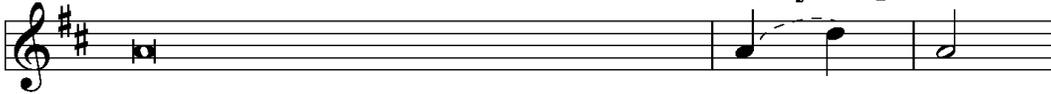
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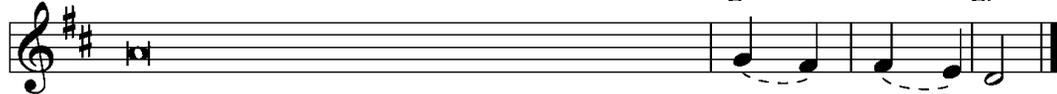
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon for Easter



L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm 148

- ¹Praise the LORD!
- Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
- ²Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!
- ³Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!
- ⁴Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
- ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.
- ⁶And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
 7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
 you great sea creatures and all deeps,
 8 fire and hail, snow and mist,
 stormy wind fulfilling his word!
 9 Mountains and all hills,
 fruit trees and all cedars!
 10 Beasts and all livestock,
 creeping things and flying birds!
 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers of the earth!
 12 Young men and maidens together,
 old men and children!
 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 for his name alone is exalted;
 his majesty is above earth and heaven.
 14 He has raised up a horn for his people,
 praise for all his saints,
 for the people of Israel who are near to him.
 Praise the LORD!
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now and will be forever. Amen.

O Sons and Daughters of the King

LSB 470



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
 3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
 4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them
 5 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard That they had



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
 wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
 speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
 came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."
 seen the ris - en Lord, He doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

First Reading

Acts 5:29-42

P The First Reading is from Acts, the fifth chapter.

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3-9

P The Epistle is from 1 Peter, the first chapter.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

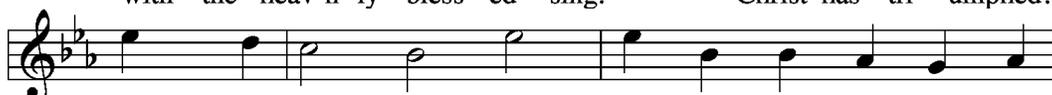
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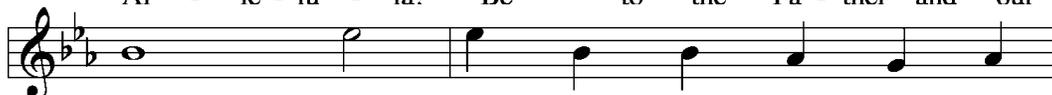
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



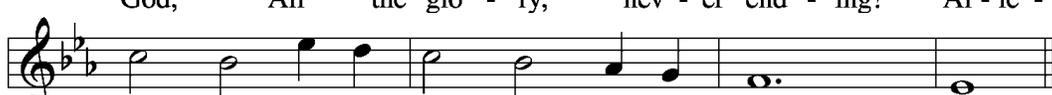
He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!" Al - le -
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing! Al - le -
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Al - le -
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer

Kyrie

LSB 227



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Each petition ends with the following response:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 228



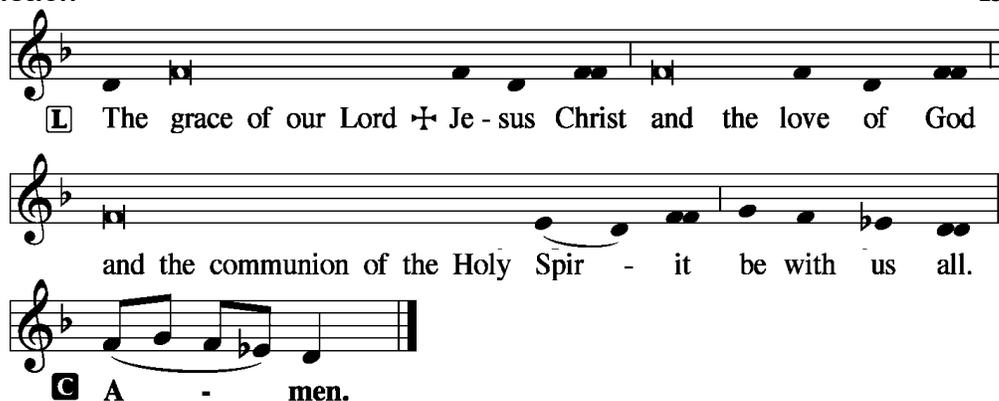
L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 228



L The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with us all.

C A - men.

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell

From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will

scenes will then com - mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
faith - ful; doubt - ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.

- 5 Jesus lives! And now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

Silent Prayer After Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Services during April

Due to the current pandemic, we will continue to gather online for opportunities to hear God's Word at least through the end of April; this includes Sunday, April 26. Please visit our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/>) beginning about 10 minutes prior to the service time to join the live service, or check back later to watch the recorded video. Bulletins for each service can be downloaded and printed ahead of time by visiting our church website (<http://www.glcs.org/newsletters-and-bulletins.html>).

Opportunities for Communion

There continue to be opportunities for individuals and families to receive Communion individually on Sunday mornings. Please check our Facebook page (link above) during the week to sign up for a time to receive the Lord's Body and Blood on Sunday morning. You are also always welcome to contact me to set up a different time to receive the Sacrament. In accordance with the orders from our county judge, please wear a mask when you come. Pray that the Lord will bring a quick end to this pandemic and grant us the renewed opportunity to join in His Supper together as a congregation soon.

Giving to Grace Lutheran Church

You can continue to worship God with your offerings and tithes during this time of limited physical gatherings at Grace. Here are a couple of options:

- 1) Bring your offering with you when you come to receive Holy Communion.
- 2) Mail your offering to the church at 308 Byrne Street, Smithville, TX 78957.
- 3) Drop your offering through the mail slot on the front church door; call to make sure someone is in the office first so that your offering is picked up in a timely manner.

Currently, we do not have an online giving option, although our treasurer is exploring our options. At all times, our gifts and offerings are an expression of faith and worship, recognizing that all things we have come from our heavenly Father's hand. "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!"

Bible Study

During this time of limited physical gathering, there are still faithful resources available to you to strengthen your faith through Bible study. Particularly, I encourage you to listen to the radio Bible study I lead every weekday morning. It's called *Sharper Iron*; it airs weekday mornings from 8-9 AM (<https://www.kfuo.org/>); it's also available for you to listen in archives or on podcast if you miss the live broadcast (<https://www.kfuo.org/category/sharper-iron/>). When I began hosting this show last July, I did so in order to provide a resource, not just for the wider church, but particularly for you here at Grace. I approach the study of the Scripture with a guest pastor each time with you in mind. My encouragement during this time when we are not gathering in person for Bible study is that you would make use of this resource, and I would certainly also pray that it remains a blessing to you beyond this time as well.

Pastoral Care

While the pandemic occupies much of our concern and prayers right now, I know that these are not the only matters for which you may desire pastoral care. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide pastoral care and apply the Word of God in any situation you may be facing.

Supplies for Future Gatherings

At this point, we do not know when larger physical gatherings for our worship services will be able to take place safely again. It seems likely that when restrictions on gatherings begin to ease, they will do so gradually, and cleaning procedures will be important to keep them safe. For that reason, it seems wise to begin making sure that our congregation has appropriate materials available to protect the congregation's health, to the best of our ability, when our gatherings begin to resume. We do not want to hoard these materials; we only want to make sure we have what is needed. At this point, the items we know we will need are disinfecting wipes and spray, masks, and disposable gloves. If you are able to donate one of these items, it is greatly appreciated. Items can be left on one of the benches outside of the parish hall during normal office hours (9 AM-2 PM, Tuesday-Friday); call the office to let us know, and items will be brought inside. Please also feel free to call the office ahead of time to find out if the church's need has already been met so that we do not hoard these items away from other who are in need of them. Thank you for supporting Grace in this way!



FLHS Distant Learning

Who would have thought that the beginning of March, when our students left for spring break, would be the last time our students have been on campus this semester? We recognize this situation has impacted not only us, but our community and nation also.

We ask for your prayers, as we have made the transition into online delivery of classes. Our faculty has worked diligently to make this unexpected transition as smooth as possible. Our students understand the need for this, but are anxious to get back onto campus, to their Faith family.

This pandemic has made our fundraising efforts more challenging, but yet, still necessary. Thankfully, we have the assurance that God's word is true and "His love endures forever" (Ps. 136). Will you consider partnering with us as we carry out our mission in this new environment? Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support.

Archery Camp

Archery camp, which was scheduled for May 4 to 6, has been postponed. Please watch for an updated date, once the shelter in place order has been lifted.

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. Two new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Are you looking for a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, small class sizes? Schedule a shadow day and check out FLHS!! Call (979) 242-2889 today!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant, or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Nikki Kueck to learn more.

Mark Your Calendars for These (Tentative) Events

- Spring Thing! - **May 13th** - 7pm - FLHS Choir Concert
- Golf Tournament - **May 30th**