

May 23rd, 2021
The Day of Pentecost



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI ~ SYNOD
308 Byrne Street
Smithville, TX 78957
512-237-2108
Divine Service 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.”

In our readings today: *In returning to His Father by way of the cross and resurrection, Christ Jesus sends “the Helper” to His Church, that is, “the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father.” The Spirit testifies of Christ and glorifies Him by taking what is His and declaring it to the world in the preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (John 15:26; 16:7, 14). He convicts the world of sin by the word of the Law, He forgives sins and justifies sinners by the Word of the Gospel, and He bestows the faith that says “Amen” to this righteousness of God (John 16:8–11). Therefore, the Lord pours out His Spirit on the apostles, that by their preaching, the Spirit should be given to His entire Church. As the multitudes are gathered from all the nations by “this sound,” that is, by the preaching of “the mighty works of God” in Christ Jesus, so does God the Father pour out the Spirit of His Son “on all flesh” (Acts 2:6, 11, 17). The Lord God breathes upon the slain, and so shall they live; for so the Lord has spoken, and He shall do it (Ezek. 37:5–14).*

Hearing, Ask an usher for one of the wireless hearing assistance units.

Holy Communion is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus’ own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

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

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid

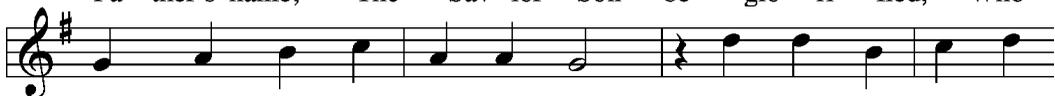
LSB 500



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions
 2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's
 3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to
 △ 4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,
 gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our
 us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And
 Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row
 hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing
 prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that
 for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.
 mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.
 we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.
 clete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

Stand

Invocation: *(God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.)*

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.

Confession: *(We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.)*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution: *(God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.)*

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit: *(Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.)*

Ps. 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon: Liturgical Text

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

**O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.

**When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**

When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

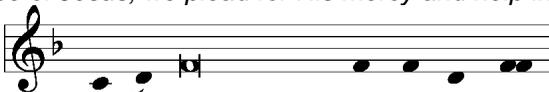
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

Kyrie: *(Shortened form of the Greek “Kyrie eleison,” meaning “Lord, have mercy.” In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.)*

LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise: (Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.)

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation: (The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.)



P The Lord be with you.

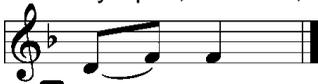


C And al - so with you.

Collect: (Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They “collect” the Gospel theme for the day.)

P Let us pray.

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Scripture Readings: (Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.)

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

P Today’s Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, the thirty-seventh chapter.

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.

¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual: (*The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.*)

Acts 2:17b; Rom. 10:10

I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.
With the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Second Reading

Acts 2:1–21

P Today's Epistle reading is from Acts, the second chapter.

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ¹²And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;

¹⁸even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;

²⁰the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

²¹And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Creed: (God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \dagger everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

LSB 497

1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, God and Lord, With all Your grac - es
2 Come, ho - ly Light, guide di - vine, Now cause the Word of
3 Come, ho - ly Fire, com - fort true, Grant us the will Your

now out-poured On each be - liev - er's mind and heart;
life to shine. Teach us to know our God a - right
work to do And in Your ser - vice to a - bide;

Your fer - vent love to them im - part. Lord, by the
And call Him Fa - ther with de - light. From ev - 'ry
Let tri - als turn us not a - side. Lord, by Your

bright-ness of Your light In ho - ly faith Your Church u - nite;
er - ror keep us free; Let none but Christ our mas - ter be
pow'r pre - pare each heart, And to our weak-ness strength im - part

From ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry tongue This to Your
 That we in liv - ing faith a - bide, In Him, our
 That brave - ly here we may con - tend, Through life and
 praise, O Lord, our God, be sung: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Lord, with all our might con - fide. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 death to You, our Lord, as - cend. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Sermon “True Spirituality”

John 15:26

(Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God’s Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- G** Amen.

Stand

Offertory *(The congregation responds to God’s forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.)*

Create in Me

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
 a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
 from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
 and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Stand

Prayer of the Church: *(The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.)*

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

Close of the Prayers

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface: *(The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.)* LSB 160



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



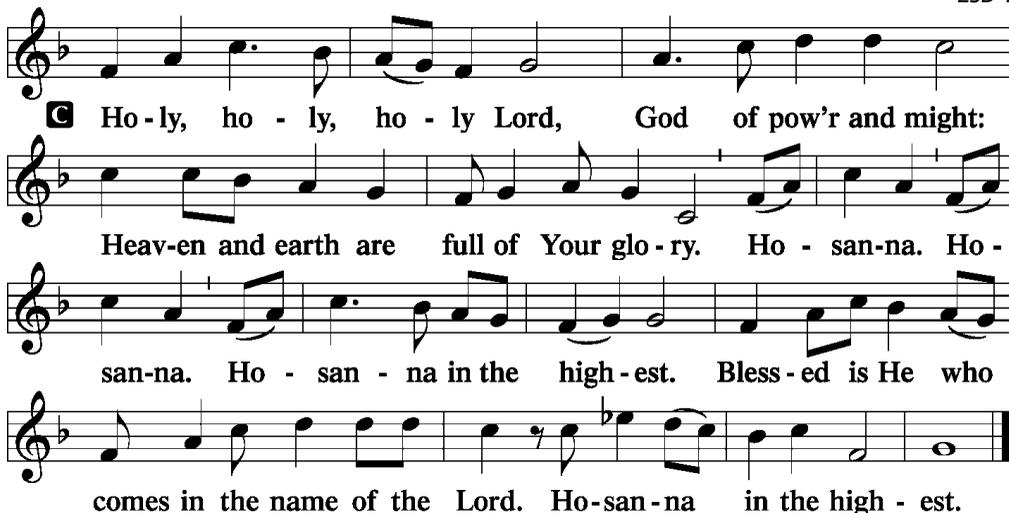
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: (*Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9.)*) LSB 161



C 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.

Lord's Prayer: (*We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.*) LSB 162

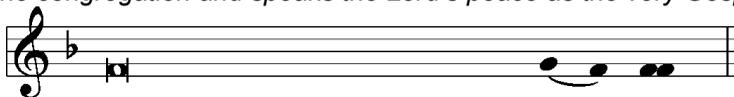
- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Our Lord: (*We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.*) LSB 162

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini: (Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.) LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

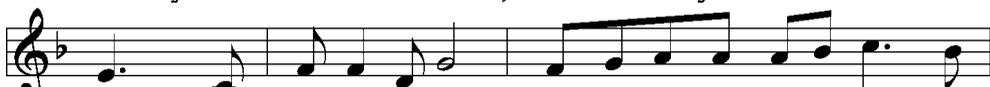
Agnus Dei: (Latin for "Lamb of God." As John the Baptist cried (John 1:29), so we sing to Christ, our Lamb who was sacrificed for our sins.) LSB 163



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

LSB 700



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us and
 4 Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and



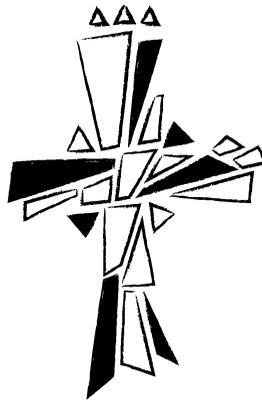
heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; Let us all in
 all Thy life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; Let us see Thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Thee in - her - it; Let us find Thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee,

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in

bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as
 as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and praise Thee
 heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!



Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

LSB 619



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which Thou for
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in Thee and
 3 Who can con-demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is nigh, who
 4 Though death may threat-en with dis - as - ter, It can - not rob me
 5 My heart has now be-come Thy dwell-ing, O bless - ed, ho - ly



me didst shed, These are my life and strength for -
 Thou in me. No sor - row fills my soul, de -
 jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and thus se -
 of my cheer; For He who is of death the
 Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy prais - es



ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be



for my soul the high - est good!

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

G Amen.

Stand

Post-Communion Cantic: *(Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)*

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect: *(We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)*

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Benediction: *(Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)*

LSB 166

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.

C A - men.

Holy Spirit, Light Divine

LSB 496



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, Shine up - on this heart of mine;
2 Let me see my Sav - ior's face, Let me all His beau - ties trace;
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, Cleanse this guilt - y heart of mine;
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, joy di - vine, Cheer this sad - dened heart of mine;
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, all di - vine, Dwell with - in this heart of mine;



Chase the shades of night a - way, Turn the dark - ness in - to day.
Show those glo - rious truths to me Which are on - ly known to Thee.
In Thy mer - cy pit - y me, From sin's bond - age set me free.
Yield a sa - cred, set - tled peace, Let it grow and still in - crease.
Cast down ev - 'ry i - dol throne, Reign su - preme, and reign a - lone.

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

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

May 23rd, 2021

**The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically
Model and share the gospel with the lost.**

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Office Phone: 512-360-2800
Fax Number: 512-237-5990
Email: gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders: Colby Zimmerhanzel Organist(s): June Parker
Tommy Oates Esther Wolff
Kim Appel
Ruth Eaton
Altar Linda Read
Guild: Frances Mynar

AT GRACE THIS WEEK

<u>Sun. May 23</u>	<u>Mon May 24</u>	<u>Tue. May 25</u>	<u>Wed. May 26</u>
10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study	8am-Braille 5pm-Quilting		
<u>Thurs. May 27</u>	<u>Fri. May 28</u>	<u>Sat. May 29</u>	<u>Sun. May 30</u>
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE/NOON			10am- Worship/Communion 11am-Family Bible Study

Ongoing Worship Services at Grace

As of Sunday, March 7, we have transitioned back to one worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. Here are some important details:

- Appropriate distancing will be maintained by making use of our entire facility. In addition to continuing the practice of roping off pews in the sanctuary, the balcony and parish hall will both be available. Some chairs will be set up ahead of time in the parish hall in those places that allow for the best view of the sanctuary, but you may also choose to use the rest of the parish hall to sit farther away, according to your preference. You will still be able to hear, receive the Lord's Body and Blood, and be together with your brothers and sisters, even at a distance.
- When you arrive at church, please go in an expedient manner to your seat and remain there, as much as you are able. Similarly, when you leave, please avoid lingering in the narthex and other common areas as much as possible.
- Please continue to wear a mask or face-covering to worship and throughout as much of your time at worship as possible, both in accordance with recommendations from health authorities and especially out of our love for each other as fellow Christians, knowing that others may have greater risk or concern.
- For the time being, family Sunday school will continue to be offered after worship in order to continue to allow for appropriate distancing, both in Sunday school and as people are coming and going to and from worship.

Please note that this plan is subject to change based on the continuing conditions of the pandemic and feedback from you. We welcome your questions, comments, and concerns as we return to one worship service; please be in touch with any member of the Board of Elders or with Pastor Appel. We ask for your patience and prayers as we move once again to worshipping all together as a congregation.

Opportunities to Receive God's Gifts Individually

For those who are not yet attending in-person worship, opportunities to receive the gifts of God through other means continue to be available. Please be in touch with me to let me know how I can deliver these gifts of God to you. Even in the midst of a pandemic, no Christian should go without God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. Options include, but are not limited to:

- Live stream the 10:00 AM service on our Facebook page
- Individual appointment to receive Jesus' Body and Blood at Grace
- Socially distant outdoor home visit to receive Jesus' Body and Blood

This offer is made in earnest. ***You are not imposing on my time by requesting this of me; this is precisely why God has given time to me.*** Please let me know how I can best serve you in Christ's name during this time! –Pastor Appel

Supplies for Increased Gatherings

As you are able, please consider donating supplies that will continue to help us provide a clean environment here at Grace. The items we need most are disinfecting wipes, disinfecting spray, and hand sanitizer. Thank you for supporting our congregation in this way!

Visit with Pastor

If you need to contact Pastor Appel, you can do so via e-mail (timothyappel@gmail.com) or phone (512-237-2108 at church or 512-237-9664 at home). Pastor Appel is normally in the office between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons as well, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits. If you are unable to reach Pastor, please contact your Elder (listed on bulletin board outside of Office).

Online Resources

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. Bulletins and newsletters are also available online at our website, www.glcs.org.

KFUO Bible Study Resources

Please make use of the fantastic resources for growth in your Christian faith produced by the LCMS radio station, KFUO, where Pastor Appel hosts the Bible study, *Sharper Iron*, every weekday morning at 8 AM. **This week on kfuo.org**, study Jeremiah 6-8 on Sharper Iron's "A Time to Destroy and a Time to Build" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear conversations about living out our Lutheran faith on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), and finish 1 Kings on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Download our new KFUO Radio iOS or Android app to listen live or on demand!

GLLC 50/50 Raffle

The Grace Lutheran Learning Center Board is sponsoring a 50/50 raffle for our spring fundraiser. Tickets are available from any GLLC Board member beginning today, April 18, until Sunday, May 23. The winner will be drawn and announced on Monday, May 24. Each ticket is \$10, and a maximum of 400 tickets will be sold. GLLC receives half of the proceeds from ticket sales; the winner receives the rest. Please consider participating to support our Learning Center!

Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues at Grace! Please join us after the 11:00AM service each Sunday to learn and rejoice in the Word of God together as the family of Jesus here at Grace! This class is intended for anyone and everyone; whether you are single or married or have lots of kids or have no kids, you are welcome to join us to learn God's Word together. Tables are spaced appropriately throughout the parish hall, with one family per table. Pastor introduces a new Bible story each week, and our learning includes both activities done as individual families and as a large group. We also include a hymn and a craft each week. We finish about 11:45 am. Please join us to learn God's Word together as families and as a congregation!



St. Paul Lutheran Church, Serbin Picnic

Join us in the shade of the oaks and cedars for the 127th Serbin Picnic, Sunday, May 30, 2021, at the Serbin Picnic Grounds on FM 2239. Barbecue (Boneless Beef, Pork and Chicken) sold by the pound only from 9:00 a.m. until sold out. Ladies Aid Stand will be selling Potato Salad, Beans, Noodles and Pastries of all kinds. Youth League Hamburger Stand will begin selling at 4:00 p.m. Children's booths & games, barrel train rides for the kids, sponsored by the PTLs beginning at 2:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided from 3:00 – 8:00 p.m. by the Czech Melody Masters. Wendish Museum will be open 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. We invite you to come out and be a part of the continuing celebration



Congratulations to Our Graduates

Congratulations to our high school graduates from Grace this year: **Nickolas Claiborne, Brenden Kadlecck, and Gene Brown III.** God bless you and keep you in His grace; you are in our prayers!

May 30th, 2021

The Holy Trinity

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

Second Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

Graduation

The first senior class of Faith Lutheran High School will be graduating this May. Graduation will be Saturday, May 29th at 1:30 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Congratulations to Valedictorian - Magdalena Obersat and Salutatorian - Andrew Laake. Please join us as we celebrate all our seniors and celebrate their accomplishments.



Close of 2020-2021 School Year

Thursday will be the last day of classes at FLHS for this school year. Please pray for the students as they prepare to take finals and pray for our seniors as they graduate. Thank you for keeping FLHS in your prayers and gifts this year! We have been blessed beyond measure!

Youth Camps

Summer camps are back! We are excited to offer a variety of camps for youth this spring and summer. Ages are for grades NEXT school year.

June 7-9 - Volleyball - Grade 3 to 8 - \$15

June 14-16 - Basketball - Grades K to 8 - \$15

June 21-23 - Art Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$30

June 28-30 - STEM Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$30

Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information! Don't wait --- Sign up today!! Limited spots remaining!

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is underway. Nine new students have already enrolled. We would love to welcome you into our Falcon family as well. Call us at (979) 242-2889 to schedule a shadow day or visit our website at www.faithlutheranhighschool.com for registration information.

Closing Chapel

Our final chapel service of the school year will be Tuesday, May 25th at 10:30 am. Pastor Nate Hill from St. Michael's Winchester will be leading us as we close this school year.

Staff Positions Available

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty for the 2021-2022 academic year! Interested individuals who teach science, social studies, English, Spanish, or electives, or would like to supervise dual credit or study hall students may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960, call (979) 242-2889, or email them to kueckn@faithlutheranhighschool.com. If you have the time and talents, please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students. Thank you!

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are currently looking to utilize Action Grants to offset expenses associated with our summer camps!