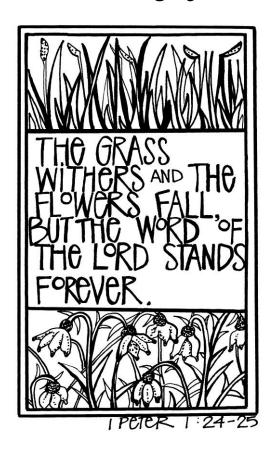
# April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI ~ SYNOD 308 Byrne Street Smithville, TX 78957 512-237-2108 Divine Service 10 AM

**Guest Pastor Nate Hill** 



<u>Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!</u> 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: Although we "were straying like sheep," the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins "in his body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24–25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we "have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also "hear his voice" and "know his voice" (John 10:3–4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in "the apostles' teaching and the fellowship" and in "the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

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

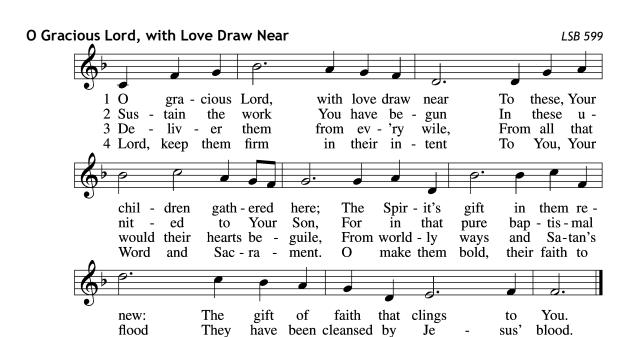
Holy Communion is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament 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



5 O Father, grant that by Your grace They may Your will each day embrace; With fruits of faith their lives now bless, Till they at death Your name confess.

That

And

lies,

share

6 Then robed in white before Your throne, Your holy saints, by You foreknown—
Predestined, called, and justified,
Shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

de - spise.

bear.

to

Your Word

#### 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.

■ In the name of the Father and of the → Son and of the Holy Spirit.

they

may

not

make them strong, each cross

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the → 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.)

Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

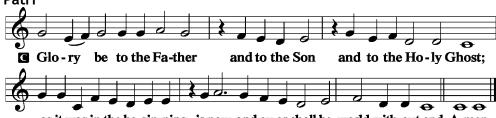
For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.



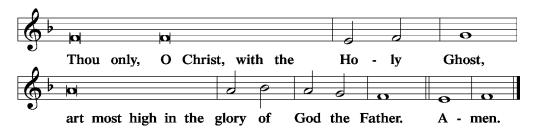


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

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 186 ■ Lord, have mer - cv up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -Lord, have mer - cy us. up - on 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.) Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187 P Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship men. Thee, O O we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. the only begotten Son, Christ; O Lord, Je - sus O Lord God. Lamb of God, Son of the Father, O that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us. O Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

on

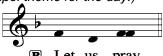
us.



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



**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.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

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

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

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

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup>And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

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.)

adapt. From Matthew. 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

## [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle 1 Peter 2:19-25

P Today's Epistle reading is from 1 Peter, the second chapter.

<sup>19</sup>This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

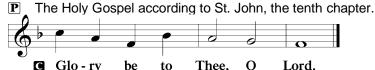
PThis is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel John 10:22-30



<sup>22</sup>At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one."



**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.)

#### Nicene Creed

### I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

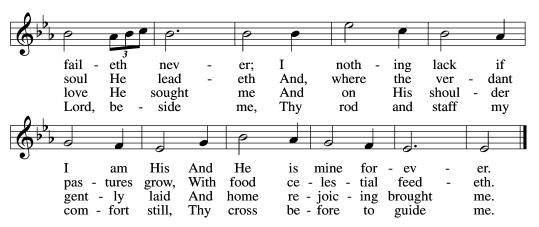
and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

**Hymn of the Day:** (This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)





- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- And so through all the length of days
   Thy goodness faileth never;
   Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
   Within Thy house forever!

Sermon "Being a Sheep in Jesus' Flock" John 10:22-30 (Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

#### Votum

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

Stand

**Offertory:** (The congregation responds to God's forgiveness with a sacrifice of praise.) God, Cre-ate in me a clean heart, and re new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a way from Thy take not Thy Ho-ly Spir - it pres-ence, and from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va

Thy free spir-it.

A - men.

tion, and up - hold me with



# **Rite of Confirmation**

### **Kyndall Krause**

Romans 14:8 (ESV)

For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

## **Kennedy Pietsch**

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

#### Khloe Pietsch

1 John 3:16 (NIV84)

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

## **Kyle Pietsch**

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV84)

In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

#### **Adrian Wolff**

Romans 5:8 (ESV)

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us

## **Angel Wolff**

Psalm 46:1 (ESV)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

# **Kaylee Wolff**

Psalm 63:3 (ESV)

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

#### Robert Wolff

Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**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.

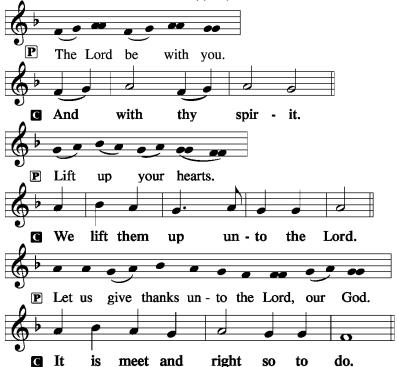
Close of the Prayers

- 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

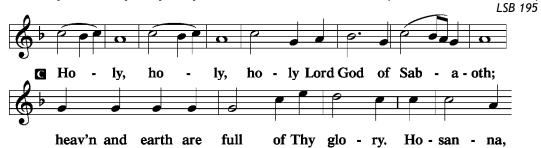
**Preface:** (The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.)

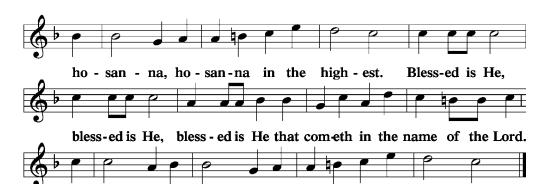
LSB 194



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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).)





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, 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.)

- Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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 197

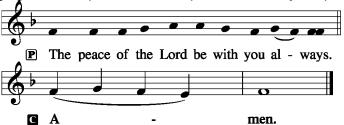
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My 

→ 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 He 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 197



**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 198



Sit





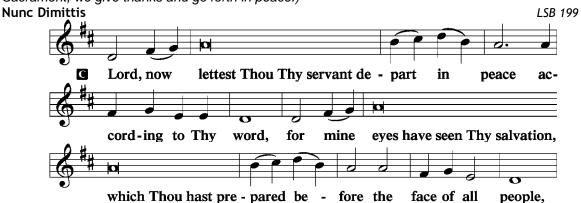
Stand

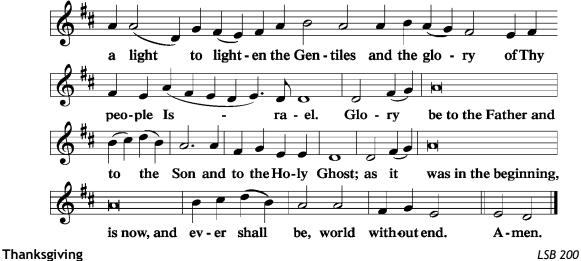
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

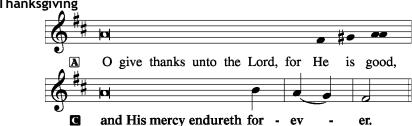
- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  → in peace.
- Amen.

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





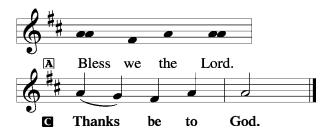


**Post-Communion Collect:** (We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

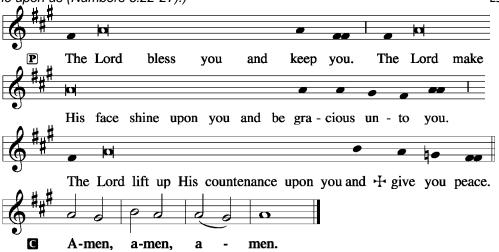




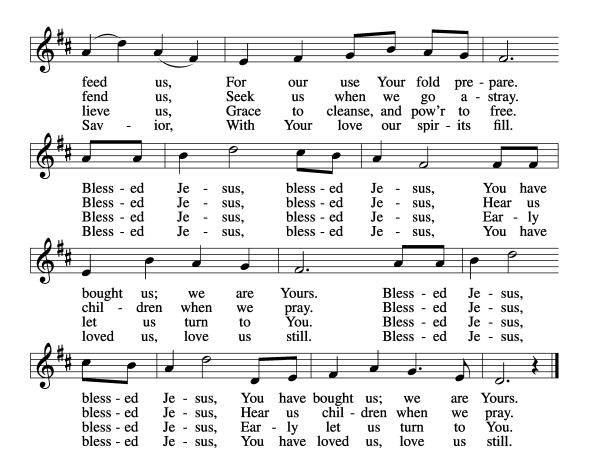
Sit

**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 202







# 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



Altar flowers today were given to the Glory of God by the parents of the confirmands in celebration of their confirmation!

# April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

Grace Lutheran Church
Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst
308 Byrne, Smithville, Tex.78957
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957

Office Phone: 512-237-2108 Office Phone: 512-360-2800 Fax Number: 512 237-2832 Fax Number: 512-237-5990

Email: gracelutheransmithville@gmail.com Email: gracelutheranlearningcenter@gmail.com

Web Site: www.glcs.org

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders: Brad Zimmerhanzel Organist(s): June Parker

Corey Macks Esther Wolff

Altar June Parker Kim Appel
Ruth Eaton

Guild: Libby Caldwell

## **AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

Sun. Apr. 30	Mon May 1	Tue. May 2	Wed. May 3
8:45am-Sunday School and Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion	7pm- Elders		
Thurs. May 4	Fri. May 5	Sat. May 6	Sun. May 7
			8:45am-Sunday School & Bible Class 10am- Worship/Communion

Attendance Sunday Worship (4/23) 80

# **Adult Bible Study**

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the guest pastor for that week. Join us to spend time together in God's Word.

## **Online Resources**

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (<a href="www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/">www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/</a>). 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, <a href="www.glcs.org">www.glcs.org</a>.

#### **KFUO Bible Study Resources**

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study the end of 1 John through 3 John on Sharper Iron's "The Love of God" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study 1 Samuel 3-7 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study the Preface to the Book of Concord on Concord Matters (5/6 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand on <a href="kfuo.org">kfuo.org</a> or the KFUO Radio app!

#### **GEMS:**

All girls 5th-12th grade are invited to attend our monthly GEMS (Girls Embracing Mission Service) meeting on Sunday, April 30, at 2:00 at Holy Cross, Warda. This month we will be making sock dolls for the Children's Advocacy Center in Bastrop. This will also be our last meeting until fall. We'd love to see you there!

## Mother's Day BBQ Chickens from Holy Cross

The Holy Cross Couples Club will have their annual BBQ Chickens on Mother's Day, May 14. Chickens are \$13.00 and cups are sauce are \$3.00. Pick-up at the Holy Cross picnic grounds from 10:30 to 12:00. PreSales only. Sign up by calling the Holy Cross church office at 242-3333 by Monday, May 8th.

## **Epiphany, Bastrop Chartering Service**

Epiphany Lutheran Church in Bastrop is excited to announce our chartering Sunday on May 7 at 2:00 p.m., preceded by a catered meal at 12:30p, and you're invited! The event will be held at Bastrop State Park Refrectory (100 Park Road 1, Bastrop). Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:secretary@epiphanybastrop.org">secretary@epiphanybastrop.org</a>.

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Guest Pastor: Pastor Mittwede

First Reading: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60 Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10 Gospel Reading: John 14:1-14



#### **New Student Registration**

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway. Five <u>new students</u> 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 <u>www.flhstx.org</u> for registration information.

### The Spring Thing!

FLHS is proud to present The Spring Thing! This will be a showcase of our students' work in the fine art department, including vocal, instrumental, and handbell pieces. Please join us Wednesday, May 10th, at 7pm.

#### **6th Annual Golf Tournament**

Faith Lutheran High School will be holding their annual golf tournament fundraiser on Saturday, May 13th at Frisch Auf Country Club in La Grange Texas. Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. For more information on entering a 4 person team or to sign up as a sponsor, please call (979) 242-2889 or visit our website at www.flhstx.org.

## Busy Night? Dinner's On Us

FLHS Booster's Club is selling 9 X 13 Chicken Spaghetti casseroles, available for pick-up on Monday, May 22nd. Pre-order by Monday, May 15th. Cost is \$35 each. Limited amounts available. Call FLHS to order yours today!

## **Youth Camps**

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

May 30 to June 1 - Volleyball - Grade 3 to 8 - \$20

June 12-14 - Basketball - Grades K to 8 - \$20

June 19-21 - STEM Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$40

June 26-28 - Art Camp - Grades K to 6 - \$40

July 31 to Aug 1- Archery - Grade 4 to 8 - \$20

Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information! Don't wait --- Sign up today!! Space is <a href="mailto:limited!">limited!</a>

#### **Staff Positions Available**

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty and staff for the 2023-2024 academic year! Interested individuals who have secretarial experience or teach <u>any</u> subject area are encouraged to apply, but <u>science</u>, <u>social studies</u>, <u>English</u>, <u>or electives</u> are sought after skills. Applicants may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960, call (979) 242-2889, or email them to <u>kueckn@flhstx.org</u>. 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!