



April 7, 2024 - Second Sunday of Easter

As We Gather

Easter made a difference in the lives of so many people. When Thomas finally met Jesus, alive again after Easter, he went from demanding proof to a personal confession of faith, "My Lord and my God." It would have been a different story had the news been false. The rest of the Jerusalem congregation truly exhibited Easter faith when they became a welcoming community, one that shared with newcomers whatever they needed. The news was unbelievable, but so were the responses—in word and deed as faith saw the freeing truth: we need fear nothing, not even death. We have heard the Easter news as well. How will we respond?

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 463 "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia"

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *1 John 1:8, 9; 2:1–2*

Pastor: In the Epistle, John writes, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." Let us consider our sins so that we do not deceive ourselves with false righteousness.

(Silence for reflection and personal examination.)

All: **Heavenly Father we have chosen darkness instead of light. We have chosen death instead of life. Forgive us. Let Your light and life come to us again.**

Pastor: John also writes, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Having heard your confession, and trusting in God's Word and promises, I announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of the risen Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. "We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."**

Kyrie

All: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Hymn of Praise “Glory to God in the Highest” (*Words and music in the hymnal--LSB page 204*)

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory. Lord God our heavenly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father’s Son we pray;
Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high.**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit, Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father’s glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, grant that our Easter faith not be only a matter of Sunday tradition,
but will change how we care for one another and share our joy in active love and service each day;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 4:32–35 (*The early Christians had everything in common.*)

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead.

People: **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.**

Pastor: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

People: **He has put all things under His feet.**

Epistle Reading: 1 John 1:1–2:2 (*John urges us to confess our sin and to remember our Advocate.*)

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ²The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

² My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

People: **Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading: John 20:19–31 (*Jesus appears to His disciples including Thomas.*)

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” ²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” ²⁸Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 470 "O Sons and Daughters of the King" vs. 6, 7, 8, & 9

Sermon: 1 John 1:1-2:2 "Love Means Often Saying I'm Sorry"

Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

All: 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.

Prayers of the Church

Solo: "He Could Have Walked Away" Sue Doss

Offerings

Communion Confession (*1 Corinthians 10:17, Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:23-32*)

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

All: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. (*Augsburg Confession-Article X*)

The Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should always and everywhere thank and praise You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly do we praise You for the glorious resurrection of our Lord, who not only rose from death but has led the way for us to be with You forever. And so, with all the heavenly host, we raise our voices in thanks, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*Words and music in the hymnal—LSB page 208*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;
Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not spare Your only Son but gave Him into death that we might have life. Though we cannot understand Your love or comprehend eternity, we lift our voices in thanksgiving and pray for You to strengthen us through this Sacrament to serve as Your witnesses.

People: Grant that everyone who hears and sees our daily living and our love for You and the people around us will recognize the difference in our lives due to Jesus' victory over death and the grave.

Pastor: Gathered in Jesus' name, we pray that You would forgive, renew, and strengthen us. Gather us with all who are faithful so that together we may join the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be glory, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 Institution

Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Lamb of God (*Words and music in the hymnal—LSB page 210*)

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord we pray.**

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymns: LSB 618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"
LSB 763 "When Peace, Like A River"

Nunc Dimittis—Song of Simeon (*Words and music in the Hymnal—LSB page 211*)

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heavenly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this sacrament, 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.

People: Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Hymn: LSB 924 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of April 7, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597
pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Pastor James Sharp & Brett Arrasmith Families
Immanuel, Lockwood - Rev. Kyle Fittje

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

The Family of Dean Hadley – (Peace & comfort for Jo and the family)

Prayers of Thanks:

Prayer of Thanks for Bill Thompson’s recovery

Prayer of Thanks for Josie Blankenship’s recovery - (Great-granddaughter of Bill & Cathy Munden)

Prayers for Health and Healing:

LC Stalcup – (Bauer Family member – health & healing from surgery next week)

Complete Prayer List:

Mrs. Chris Atkins - (friend of Pam Bowling - health and healing from cancer)

Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)

Sandra Whalen – (health and healing from back surgery)
Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – health and healing from cancer)
Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow - health and healing)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)
Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)
Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – recovery from frostbite)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)
Janet Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from surgery)
Norma Kaiser – (friend of Gwen & Harold Lampe – health and healing from a stroke)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing from cancer)
Alice Troyke – (health and healing from a fall)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken hip)
Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Linda Kennell – (Pastor Kennell's mother – health and healing)
Bob & Bev Hess – (health and healing from a fall)
Kathy Brown – (friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend – health and healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great-grandson - health and healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Jeff Flatten – (great nephew of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Danata Hopkins – (continued health and healing)
Pete Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Ellie Armstrong – (friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health and healing)
Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing from cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	April 7th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion
Monday	April 8th	Braille in Freistatt - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study in Freistatt - 1:30 pm
Wednesday	April 10th	Pastor in Office Bible Study - 7:00 pm

Thursday April 11th Pastor in Office
Sunday April 14th 9:00 am - Happy Half Hour
9:30 am - Fellowship
10:00 am – Service

Birthdays: Cathy Munden-Apr. 7; Angela Sharp-Apr. 10

Anniversaries: none

Portals of Prayer for April - June are now available. If you need a large print version, please see Pastor.



Grace will be doing a Shine project as last year in helping out at Camp Barnabas.
Our work day is Saturday, April 20th.

New Church Directory: Grace will be doing a new Church Directory. We would like to have pictures of new members and any current members wishing a new picture. Contact Charlie Chambers to get new photos.

April

GREETERS:

04/07: Gladys Bauer & Cheryl Lile
04/14: Emily Ernest & Edee Chambers
04/21: Bill & Diane Thompson
04/28: Bill & Joanne Michel

USHERS:

04/07: Don Wolf
04/14: Charlie Chambers
04/21: Bill Michel
04/28: David Lampe

Grace is Collecting Supplies for Trinity School in Freistatt through the month of April.

- (1) Zip Lock baggies - any size
- (2) Colored markers
- (3) Dry Erase board markers for white boards
- (4) Post-It notes – 4x6 or 3x5 size with lines

There is a collection box in the entry way of the church. If you have any questions, please see Linda Myers.

Spring Cleaning:

If you have any extra cloth material and wish to donate it for making quilts and blankets to be given away, please let Don Wolf know.

Aurora City Wide Garage Sale: Save the date – June 1 - on Grace's lot. Spaces are available to anyone who wants to sell. Grace is also having a booth and anyone wanting to contribute articles should see Pam Bowling. Items are being accepted now through May.