**Grace Lutheran Church**

493 Forest Avenue, Glen Ellyn IL 630.469.1555

[www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org)

**Fifth Sunday PLSIP\* May 10, 2020**

\*Post-Lent, Shelter-In-Place



***+ Proclaim Christ + Build Community +***

***+ Serve Our Neighbors +***

**Gathering**

**Even when we are apart, the Holy Spirit binds us together as the people of God.**

**Opening Hymn** ELW #816 Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

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**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### Word

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

**First Lesson** Acts 7:55-60

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God’s word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

55Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” 57But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 58Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Lesson** 1 Peter 2:2-10

*Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

2Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—3if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.  
  4Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and 5like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6For it stands in scripture:  
 “See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
  a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
 and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”  
7To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,  
 “The stone that the builders rejected  
  has become the very head of the corner,”  
8and  
 “A stone that makes them stumble,  
  and a rock that makes them fall.”  
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.  
  9But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.  
 10Once you were not a people,  
  but now you are God’s people;  
 once you had not received mercy,  
  but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Your Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. I long for your salvation, Lord, and your law is my delight.**

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

**Gospel** John 14:1-14

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 2In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. 4And you know the way to the place where I am going.” 5Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” 6Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”  
  8Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” 9Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. 12Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. 13I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

**Sermon** (Available at www.GraceGlenEllyn.org) The Rev. Melody Eastman

**Apostles’ Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Build us up, mothering God, as living stones united in your spiritual house. Continually strengthen your church as it is sent forth to proclaim your love. We pray especially for new congregations and those in redevelopment. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Humble us, creator God, as part of your creation. Fill us with respect and awe for the world you have made, including volcanoes, ocean currents, tropical rainstorms, glaciers, and other forces that both destroy and create. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Align our ways to your love, O God. We pray for countries, leaders, and other organizations as they prepare places for those seeking refuge and safety. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing and rest, help those whose hearts are heavy and weighed down by many troubles, especially those who have lost income. Comfort their suffering, ease their distress, and carry their burdens. Give your strength to all who are ill or in need, especially Dorothy, Sigrid, Anita, Bob, Evelyn, Carol, Norma, and those we name before you now. . . Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All honor and glory and blessing belong to you. We thank you and praise you for the faith and witness of Bob Stein, and we ask your blessing on him as he celebrates his 92nd birthday. We praise you for the faith of all the saints. Be near us as we await the day when we will feast with the risen Christ forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, we pray for those who tend and teach young children, for the safe pregnancies of expectant parents, and for families who struggle with infertility and miscarriage. We give thanks for all who have shown mothering care, and we remember all for whom this day is difficult. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Generous God, you call into your brilliant light all who have died. Give us faith to take hold of the promise of your eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Blessing**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope,

and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Hymn** ELW #656 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

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**Current Prayer Requests**

*Please keep these people in your prayers and reach out to our sisters and brothers in Christian love. Names will be left on the list for two weeks, unless you indicate that they should remain in our prayers for a longer period.*

**Name Relation to Grace Prayers For**

Bob Stein Member 92nd Birthday (5/14)

Marilyn Goodrich Member 92nd Birthday (5/5)

Robert Clauss Member 90th Birthday (5/6)

Family of John Nelson Father to Kim Jokela & Jeff Nelson Comfort in Grief

Family of The Rev. Roy Wilhelm      Helen Sladek’s Brother Comfort in Grief

Family of Annette Westbrook Long-time friend of Jan Miller Comfort in Grief

Chris Danly Son of Mark & Pat Danly Healing & Strength

Sigrid Elliott Friend of Grace Healing & Strength

David Dean Son of Lenore Dean Healing & Strength

Dorothy Tracy Member Healing & Strength

Mark Frerichs and Family Friend of Sue Pagnoni Safety & Strength

Susan Papierski Food Pantry Director Healing & Strength

**Prayers for our homebound Members**

Anita Blakemore, Bob Clauss, Evelyn Elson, Carol Petersen, Norma Petersen

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**Volunteer Needed - Do you like to paint?** The **“wedge room”** in the basement needs to have its ceiling painted. Some scraping is required and please **do not paint the copper pipes**! Would you like to take this on? This is a one person job you can do at your convenience day or night. Bring your own painting supplies. The room is 470 s.f. and we have two gallons of paint on hand. The room is not locked, so just contact the office next week to let me know when you want to come in and if it is after business hours I’ll make sure you have access into the building. Thank you, Barbara

There is a **free emotional support text line** available from the IL Dept. of Human Services for people experiencing stress or mental health issues related to COVID-19. If you’d like to talk to a mental health professional (anonymously), text “TALK” to 5-5-2-0-2-0. You will receive a call from a counselor employed by a local community mental health center within 24 hours. See Grace’s website for more details.

**Grace’s website** is being updated almost daily with new resources, including instrumental and sing-along music from Bradford; coloring pages for relaxing, meditation and prayer; coloring pages for little ones; links to videos and articles to help you manage stress and anxiety; and, of course, Wednesday and Sunday sermons from Pastor Melody. And more resources are in the planning, so check back often! **Resources are available online at** [**www.GraceGlenEllyn.org**](http://www.GraceGlenEllyn.org)**. and** [**https://www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=Grace+Glen+Ellyn**](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Grace+Glen+Ellyn)

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**Every Member a Minister and Missionary!**

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