**Grace Lutheran Church**

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**A Celebration of Easter Resurrection July 12, 2020**

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

***+ Serve Our Neighbors +***

**Introduction**

*This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. Even though much of our traditional Easter celebration is changed, with the women at the tomb we are still astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.*

**Gathering**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

**Prelude** An Easter Medley Arr. B. Thompson

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through **☩** Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen**.**

**\*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.** *Be seated.*

**Hymn of Praise (solo)** O God Beyond All Praising B. Thompson

1. *O God beyond all praising, we worship you today*

*and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;*

*for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,*

*at blessings without number and mercies without end:*

*we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,*

*we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*

*2. The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,*

*its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;*

*but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—*

*though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:*

*for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,*

*and we through him are given the final victory.*

*3. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,*

*that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;*

*and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,*

*we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:*

*to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,*

*and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.*

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who 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** Psalm 118:1, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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

**Second Lesson** Colossians 3:1-4

*Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.*

1If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Gospel Acclamation (Solo)** ELW #175AlleluiaB. Thompson

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

**\*Gospel** John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation (Solo)** ELW #175AlleluiaB. Thompson

*Be seated.*

**Sermon**  The Rev. Melody Eastman

**Hymn of the Day (Solo)** ELW #375 Alleluia! Christ is Arisen

*(Refrain) Alleluia! Christ is arisen.*

*Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.*

*1 Run, faithful women, to the grave-side.*

*Marvel, the stone is rolled away!*

*Hear from the angel, "He is risen."*

*Christ goes before you all the way. (Refrain)*

*2 Rise, Magdalena, from your weeping;*

*Christ stands before your very eyes.*

*Quickly return to the disciples;*

*bear the good news: "He is alive." (Refrain)*

*3 Gather, disciples, in the evening:*

*suddenly Christ your Lord appears.*

*"Look, it is I, your wounded Savior.*

*Peace be with you, and do not fear." (Refrain)*

*4 Thomas, where were you on that evening?*

*"I'll not believe unless I see."*

*Christ comes again, and ev'ry Lord's day:*

*"Touch me and see; have faith in me." (Refrain)*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*Sharing the peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*(You may extend a proclamation of peace by bowing to the people around you.)*

**\*Apostles’ Creed** *(Speak the creed silently to yourself as the presider speaks it aloud.)*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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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**

*Each petition concludes with “Lord in your mercy,” congregation may speak the response* ***“****hear our prayer****”*** *silently to yourself as the presider speaks it aloud.)*

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** Ecumenical Version

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. *(Pray the prayer silently to yourself as the presider prays it aloud.)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**Sending**

**God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

**\*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.**

**\*Sending Hymn** Easter Medley B. Thompson

**\*Sent to the World**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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**Current Prayer Requests**

**Name Relation to Grace Prayers For**

Family of Madeline Fisher-Pietsch Member Comfort in Grief

Chris Danly Son of Mark & Pat Danly Healing & Strength

Sigrid Elliott Friend of Grace Healing & Strength

Dorothy Tracy Member Healing & Strength

Gary Miller Member at St. Luke Healing & Strength

**Prayers for our homebound Members**

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

**Weekly Announcements**

**The July/August/September issues of *Christ in Our Home* and *The Word in Season* are in. Please let the office know if you would like to pick up copies of one or both and they will be placed in an envelope by the handicap door for easy pickup. Also, let the church office know if you would to have one or both mailed to you and which size you prefer. Thank you.**

**Seeking High School and College Students to help their neighbor:** Are you looking for things to do this summer? Would you be willing to help Grace members with errands or yard work? We are hoping to compile a list of students that would be willing to help homebound and elderly members with any yard work or errands that might otherwise be too difficult for them. Please let Becky Ficarella know if you are able to help!

**Virtual Compassion Camp VBS! July 13-July 17:** Virtual Vacation Bible School registration is available on Grace's Website until July 1st! Volunteer registration can be found here as well. We will need a lot of help with video editing, supply shopping and packing, and supply delivery to participants’ homes. We would be grateful for any support you can provide to this effort!

All links to activities and videos will be available through the end of the summer, so you have the flexibility to enjoy the lessons and activities in your own timing. Please email Becky Ficarella with any questions. [bficarella@graceglenellyn.org](mailto:bficarella@graceglenellyn.org)