



Grace Lutheran 1883-2022

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter~ May 21, 2023 - 11 am service*

*Senior Recognition Sunday*

***Grace Lutheran Church - Welcomes You to Worship***

*202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota*

**Web Site: [glcwn.org](http://glcwn.org) ~ [gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gracelc@midconetwork.com)**

*Church Office: 605-886-5737*

*Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501*

## **PRELUDE**

## **Congregation responses in Bold Print**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from John 17: 18)*

From comfortable pews, from tricycle seats, from easy chairs in front of TVs:

**God gathers us in to give us the words to proclaim the gospel.**

At kitchen sinks, at laptops and blackboards, at nursing stations:

**Christ calls us to share in serving all creation.**

In communities gathered to pray,

in memories of those who served, in families grilling in the backyard:

**The Holy Spirit fills us with God's joy.**

#### **GATHERING SONG: "Come and Praise the Lord"**

Give thanks to the Lord for His goodness; His faithful love endureth forever.

*(Refrain)* Come and praise the Lord, Come and praise the Lord,

For His mercy is wondrous in our eyes. *(Repeat)*

In my trouble I asked Him to save me. He answered and set me in safety. *(Refrain)*

The Lord, my Redeemer, is for me; No more can the wicked destroy me. *(Refrain)*

The stone which the builders rejected

The Lord has made the cornerstone for all. *(Refrain)*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Heavenly Father, Your blessed Son asked that His Church be one as You and He are one, but Christians have not been united as He prayed. We have isolated ourselves from each other and have failed to listen to each other. We have misunderstood and ridiculed and even gone so far as to attack each other.

**In doing so we have offended against You, against all our brothers and sisters in the Church and against all who have not believed in You because of our scandalous disunity.**

**Forgive us Father, and make us fully one. Blot out our sins, renew our minds, rekindle our hearts, and guide us by Your Holy Spirit into the oneness that is Your Will.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Sisters and brothers, Through Christ death and resurrection, Christ calls you to new life and leads you into righteousness. Hear the good news, Christ forgives you all your sins. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray... **O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.** *(We greet you all in peace.)*

**OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY of Grace Lutheran Church**  
*(This time of offering is for the mission & ministry of Grace Lutheran Church*

## **SONG of OFFERING: “Everybody’s Got Something to Offer”**

*(Refrain)* Everybody’s got something to offer;

Young and old, the prince and the pauper.

Everybody’s got something to offer In the name of the Lord.

To the lost and the lowly ones The message it is clear;  
We have all got a gift to give Our hands, our hearts, our tears. *(Refrain)*

To the believers gathered here The message it is true;  
We have all got a gift to give In all we say and do. *(Refrain)*

## **PRAYER OF OFFERING:**

Let us pray... **Generous God, we give you our gifts of time; our gifts of talents; our gifts of money; building stones for Your Kingdom, awaiting shaping and placing, within Your loving purpose. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14** **Pew Bible p 884**  
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

<sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup>**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire,  
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name;  
exalt the one who rides the clouds;  
I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup>**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup>**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain,  
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup>**Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup>Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**PRAISE SONG:           *"Made for Love"*                           *Praise Team***

***(Refrain)*** We've been molded by the Creator's hand.

Here in Jesus we have grace to stand. Moving by the Spirit, we are made for love.

Sun and starlight, sparkling waters, Morning birds that serenade,  
In the image of the Maker We are wonderfully made. *(Refrain)*

In the water's holy blessing, Spirit coming like a dove,  
We're a witness to the wonder; We are loved and so we love. *(Refrain)*

Live out justice, treasure kindness, Journey humbly ev'ry day.

We are called here into service, A forgiving, loving way. *(Refrain)*

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

**Pew Bibles 986**

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

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL LEAD-IN: "Help us O Lord" (DR Blue p 117)**

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word.

Give us the strength, To live your work each day. *(Repeat)*

**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

**Pew Bible p 879**

*Response Before: Glory to you, O Lord. After: Praise to you, O Christ.*

### **MESSAGE**

**SONG OF THE DAY: "Lord I Lift Your Name on High" ELW 857**

### **BLESSING OF GRADUATES**

Dear friends: Life presents us with various significant milestones that set the stage for the next phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school is one of these milestones. Today we wish to honor those who are moving through this special time of accomplishment, transition, and change, and to show them that we, their community of faith, stand with them and support them as fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Graduates, we are proud of you! It is our privilege to affirm you as members of this congregation and bless your journey as to go out into the world. You have completed an important phase of your lives and you are entering another.

*The graduates stand as they are introduced and come forward.*

At this time of celebration and transition, hear Gods words from holy scripture.

*<sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup> Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup> I will let you find me, says the LORD, (Jeremiah 29:11-14)*

Dear graduates: At this special time in your life, we are eager to show you how delighted we are that you have reached this milestone in your life. As fellow members

of this community of faith we rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next phase of your life. We also want you to know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, when you welcomed the children your invitation included each one of us. Your guiding hand has continually been upon these young men and women. You have sustained them. You have shared in their laughter and wiped away their tears. In times of confusion you have offered direction. In times of sorrow you have offered hope. In times of doubt your Holy Spirit has lifted them up. Grant, O Savior, to each of these graduates the knowledge of your continued presence as they go forth into the future. Bless them and keep them. Guide their steps. Hold them in the hollow of your hand. Bless them and keep them now and forever. **Amen.**

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare for your new endeavors, do you give thanks to God for the many ways your faith has been your strength and guide during this time of growth and development?

*Response: I do with the help of God.*

As you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, before you, behind you, below you, above you, and within you? *Response: I do with the help of God.*

As you make choices about your new vocation, will you offer your gifts to the world as part of the body of Christ and welcome the support of a family of faith? *Response: I do with the help of God.*

Members and friends of Grace Lutheran, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they transition into all that the future holds? **We will.**

Will you, as fellow believers in Jesus Christ, promise to pray for and help these young men and women as need and opportunity arise? **We will.**

*Graduates will kneel as Parents and guardians come forward to place a hand on the shoulder or head of their child as we pray for God's blessing.*

Graduates... remember that we your family of faith here at Grace Lutheran, will continue to be here to support you in all that you do... so come back often.

Now - Receive this blessing:

O God, Giver and Sustainer of all life, we ask your blessing upon these graduates as they stand at the threshold of a new adventure. In their living and loving may they always remember that you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Give them the wisdom to seek your way and to proclaim your peace and justice, that you may be praised and that throughout their life our world may become closer to the designs of your bountiful and loving plans.

Graduates, may God bless you and keep you safe through the journey of this life until you see the smile of God's love welcoming you to your eternal home.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord watch over you and keep you safe.

May the Lord guide your every step.

And may you always know of our unending love for you. **Amen.**

*(Family may return to their seats - Graduates will face the congregation)*

*A gift will be presented to each graduate. – Applause!*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth. United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Help us to see your presence burning in the hearts of others; grant that we may be united in a fellowship of love and prayer; give us the courage to pick up our cross and respond to the needs of the world, give us the stamina to follow you, to be your hands and heart in the world; enable us to witness to your grace and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Millie, Harper, Dennis, Dick, Judy, Sharlee, Sylvia, Janelle, Lavern, Elvira, Brenda, Evelyn, Frankie, Rick, Roger, Tracy, Dorothy, Glen & LaRue, Marjorie, Raef, Caden, Robert, Sandra, the family of Arden Hanson, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with one another. Help us to be the face of Christ and weave your church together with mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks that humankind serves as your body in the world, stewarding your abundant gifts. We pray for our graduating seniors. Walk with them in life and keep the evil one from obstructing their path. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet to live faithfully in their vocation and in their lives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You raise your saints to new life in Christ. We give you thanks for all your saints who have given us glimpses of your redeeming love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, keep us in joyful communion with them until we join the saints gathered at your banquet table.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Lord, we do not come to your table trusting in our own righteousness but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

*At this time the seniors will come forward with the family and friends to the rail to commune together. One family on each side of the rail. As one family leaves another can come forward. Following the seniors, the congregation will come down the center aisle and then to either side .*

**THE COMMUNION**

*ALL WHO BELIEVE IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST ARE INVITED TO COME FORWARD FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER.*

**COMMUNION SONGS: "I Come with Joy" ELW 482**

**"What Feast of Love" ELW 487**

**"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" ELW 461**

**COMMUNION BLESSING:** And now may this body and blood of our Savior Jesus, strengthen and preserve you unto life eternal. Amen.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

Let us Pray **Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**COMMISSION & BENEDICTION:**

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

**As people of faith we now return to the world.**

Go out to share the story of faith, the story of life, with the world around you.

**We share the faith in word and in deed, in speech and in action.**

As you go out to give a living witness,  
as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world,  
go knowing that God goes with you,



sharing the laughter and the hope, the fears and the tears.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face to shine upon you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:**                    **“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”**                    **ELW 543**

**SENDING:** Go in peace... Jesus prays for you. **Thanks be to God. We will!**

***Thank you for worshiping with us today!***

## **Announcements for May 21<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:***

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Denise Biller, Joyce Brever, Millie Brinkman, Harper Evjen, Dennis Carlson, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Sharlee Kjellsen. Sylvia Larson, Janelle Marx, Lavern McPeek, Elvira Moen, Brenda Norton, Martha “Evelyn” Quade, Frankie Raml, Rick Raml, Roger Rust, Tracy Schaefer, Dorothy Schooley, Glen & LeRue Sprouse, Marjorie Stevens, Raef Stolp, Caden Thompson, Robert Wittrock, Sandra Wittrock, the family of Arden Hanson, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, transportation personal, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, EMT and all First Responders.

### **On the CALENDAR - For the week of May 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>**

Today	8:30 am Worship service w/ <b>Holy Communion</b> 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11 am – Senior Recognition during Worship Service <b>w/ Holy Communion</b>
Monday	1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm Banquet Meal
Wednesday	4 pm BeFriends meet 6 pm Education Committee meets 7 pm Family Worship Service
Sunday	MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 8:30 am Worship service (Begin Summer schedule of one service)

**Blessing of the Motorcycles has been cancelled for this year.**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS: A Century of Love**

Let's Celebrate Phyllis (Johnny) Jongeling Turning 100!! On June 4<sup>th</sup> 11 am to 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Grace Lutheran Church. For any unable to attend, you can send a message to Phyllis at [TheJongelings@gmail.com](mailto:TheJongelings@gmail.com).

## **Summer Youth Group meets starting May 31st**

Beginning May 31st Youth Group will be meeting at 6:30 pm.

-Come plan the summer—Have a meal—

Enjoy fellowship with other youth. Bring your friends

All 7th thru 12th graders are welcome!

**Today is Senior Recognition Sunday** at the 11 am Service. The 2023 graduating seniors are: Ethan Aichele-Bohling; Ronald Begalka; Samantha Berg; Mallory Bisgard; Lane Brandenburger; Keegan Carter; Kali Gasper; Adicyn Johnson; Brianna Johnson; Jaydon Morris; Dylan Norgaard; Jordan Nygaard; Aysia Pahl; Christopher Park; Lilian Revalee Clarissa Ruiz-Raigoza.

### **Monday Morning Coffee Bible Study**

Have Coffee with Josh, Youth & Family Director each Monday morning at 9 o'clock beginning May 15 in the Conference Room. Each week there will be a study of the text for the upcoming Sunday. Bring your Bibles—Bring your Friends. All are welcome.

### **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!**

Join the Grace Lutheran Youth Group on a trip to the Sioux Falls Canaries Faith and Family Day June 14. This is a Canaries tradition, with group discounts for churches, a special prayer before the game, and video testimonials from Canaries players and other local luminaries on what having faith in their life means to them. Faith and Family Day is presented by AARP Sioux Falls! We want to be at the Birdcage at 6:35 p.m. for the game against the Winnipeg Goldeyes! Details are still being worked out but we need sign-up of interest to work out the transportations details. Invite your friends. For more information, contact Josh. Sign up or call the office with your name, phone number, and number attending. Office: 605-886-5737,

### **Funding to Renovate the Multipurpose Room**

Funds have been received to fill in the pit and update the lighting of the choir room to renovate it to a multipurpose room, but additional funds are need for finish work and carpeting. If you would like to donate to this project, you can make a designated offering to the Multipurpose Room Fund in your offering envelop or online at [glcwn.org/give](http://glcwn.org/give) and select from the list.

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (95 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** today is lovingly given in memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling" from the Schmeling Radio Fund. Altar flowers are given today from Sharon Goble in honor of James Goble's birthday and their 49th Anniversary. God Bless you all. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to **Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201**

### **SPECIAL 140<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY QUILT IN THE MAKINGS**

Have you picked up your quilt block? Our quilt team is making a commemorative 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary quilt. You are invited to help make this beautiful quilt by taking a blank quilt block and designing it with something to memorialize your family and Grace Lutheran. The design can be sewn, embroidered, or use clothe paints.

The quilt will be approximately 60" X 80" and made of these 7 ½" blocks, which are available

in the church office. When finished, return to Darlene Bresson (or the church office) **no later than August 13<sup>th</sup>** so it can be sewn together and displayed for the 140<sup>th</sup> celebration.

### **May's Mission of the Month is Joy Ranch – by the Missions Committee**

Joy Ranch of South Dakota is both a non-profit organization and an actual 126 acre ranch located a few miles outside of Watertown, South Dakota on Lake Lyle. It is home to over 20 horses, a flock of ducks, generations of cats, a donkey named Eeyore and two goats. Founded in 1989 by Joy Nelson, the organization's core mission is to help challenged individuals get a chance to meaningfully connect with horses. Typical recipients of this program include everyone from foster children to those with life-altering conditions, disabilities or diseases. Joy Ranch of South Dakota hosts numerous kids camps through out the summer. Activities include pontoon rides, swimming in Lake Lyle, horse drawn wagon rides, trail riding, playing basketball, outdoor games on Main Street, popcorn and movies, smores' around the campfire and lots more.

### **UPDATE ON UKRAINE REFUGEE FAMILIES ARRIVING IN APRIL:**

Ihor Pavlovich Tokarev, his wife Lyubov, and children Ramir and Davyd, ages 7 and 10, will arrive on Monday evening in Minneapolis. They will arrive in Watertown on Tuesday late morning. There is a meal train set up for anyone who would like to provide a meal for them for the first week or two at: <https://mealtrain.com/16r9yw> Their apartment is # 119 at Wilkeshire Apartments, 1845 Westminster Ave.

If you would like to donate any perishable food items: fruit, vegetables, dairy products etc., please have them to the church on Monday and they will be taken over to their apartment at Wilkeshire Apartments. There will be a meet and greet.

### ***“Keepers of the Kingdom”* theme for July Vacation Bible School**

Grab your armor and your trusty steed and get ready for a medieval time at *Keepers of the Kingdom!* based on Ephesians 6:10–18 during the 9:30 am to 12 Noon sessions July 24th to 28th VBS at Grace Lutheran Church.

Children learn how they can be part of God's kingdom through salvation in his Son. And they will be equipped with the armor of God as they train to become Keepers of the Kingdom who stand strong in the battle for truth!

But we are not meant to fight this battle alone! God, the ruler of the good kingdom, has given his kingdom keepers spiritual armor to wear.

Be sure to register your children by June 16 for this fun and exciting time of learning about the Armor of God. A registration form is included in this newsletter or at the church office. Please return it by June 16 to order materials. Friends are always welcome at Grace Lutheran Church—202 2nd St SE, Watertown, SD



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:**

**PASTOR:** Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

**READER:**

**KEYBOARD:** Isaak Montemayor **GREETER:** Josh & Michaela Casper

**USHERS:COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** Steve Schlenner

**PRIASE TEAM:** Becky Sprouse, Riley Sprouse, Leigh Carstensen, Judy Everson, Krisma DeWitt, Kayla Mohling, Marian Raml

**SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM:** Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, Anthony DeHaan, & Dylan Jordan

**Pastoral Calls: You can reach Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501(cell or text) or by E-mail: [cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com)**

Check us out on our website at [glcwn.org](http://glcwn.org)  
And Grace Lutheran Watertown FaceBook.



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please use the QR code to the left  
or visit [glcwn.org/give](http://glcwn.org/give)  
You can give to General, Refugee, Flower,  
Memorial, Radio, Youth, Parking Lot,  
or Multipurpose Room on that page.