

~ Grace Lutheran Church ~ Welcome to Wednesday Evening Family Worship 7 pm ~ April 19, 2023

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Inspired by Luke 24: 13-35)

O God, you come to us in unexpected places

In isolation, behind closed doors

On dusty roads, as we go from place to place

In video chats with friends and telephone conversations with loved ones.

You come bringing us peace, where there is no peace

You come bringing us hope when everything seems hopeless

You come bringing us courage when we are afraid.

Come and be among us now, in every place where we are.

Open our eyes to see you, open our hearts to know you.

In the name of the Risen Christ we pray. Amen

GATHERING SONG: "We are Called"

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God

(**Refrain**) We are called to act with justice, We are called to love tenderly; We are called to serve one another, To walk humbly with God

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more. (*Refrain*)

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other

As sisters and brothers united in love. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Luke 24: 13-35)

O Jesus Christ, sometimes we are so busy talking with each other that we fail to find you beside us. We walk on, so focussed on our questions that we do

not create the silent spaces which would allow you to speak with us and enlighten our journeying.

Silent reflection

Stay with us, Jesus Christ. Reach out towards us and invite us to pause and meet with you, we pray. As we look at our lives and that of the world around us, we are sometimes too anxious to share our real questions or our doubts and fears. We keep them within us in troubled silence.

Silent reflection

Stay with us, Jesus Christ. Reach out towards us and invite us to pause and meet with you, we pray. We call your name, O Christ, and hope to discover you here in our community of vulnerable faith. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Whether you believe it, or not, Jesus Christ never leaves you nor forsakes you. Open your hearts to receive the grace which Christ brings to you in faithfulness. Hear His Words of Truth: You are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Pew Bible 885

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

¹²How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of the LORD's house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35 Pew Bible p 860

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to

be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

REFLECTION

SONG OF THE DAY: "Open My Eyes That I May See"

- Open my eyes that I may see. Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
 Place in my hands the wonderful key, That shall unclasp and set me free.
 Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.
- 2. Open my eyes that I may hear, Voices of truth Thou sendest clear; And while the wave-notes falls on my ear, Everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, They will to see;

Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine.

Open my mouth and let me bear, Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
 Open my heart, and let me prepare, Love with Thy children thus to share.
 Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine.

APOSTLE'S CREED....

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.

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

OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. Let us give away generously, in this offering, to bless your church, your people, your creation. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession (inspired by Luke 24)
You come to us In unexpected places, In a crowded room,
In a journey on a dusty road, In conversation, In the stillness.
You come in the midst of our doubt, our fear, our sorrow
You come in the power of the resurrection
No pain and suffering is unknown to you.

You bring us peace And we pray for the places where there is no peace Countries torn by war Refugees seeking homes Prisoners facing torture

You bring peace Peace to the tensions and conflicts within us To the regrets, the failure, The broken relationships The lost friendships

You bring peace For you are a friend to us When we are alone When we are lonely Unseen you are there You bring us peace And we pray that we too may become peacemakers.

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.

THE COMMUNION

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

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.

WORDS OF COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION (inspired by Luke 24:13-35) Go now as those who have met with Christ in the morning of this day.

Go now as those who hearts have burned within them, as the Scriptures were explained.

Go now as those who have been touched by resurrection.

And may the blessing of God be upon you, body, mind and spirit, as you leave this place, **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "I Come with Joy" ELW 482

- 1 I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
- 2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.
- 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.
- 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near, is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound by all that God has done,

we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

SENDING: Go in peace... With Opened Eyes! Thanks be to God. We Will!

Announcements for April 23rd

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Dennis Carlson, Dick Everson, Judy Everson, Sharlee Kjellsen. Sylvia Larson, Janelle Marx, Lavern McPeek, Elvira Moen, Brenda Norton, Frankie Raml, Rick Raml, Roger Rust, Tracy Schaefer, Dorothy Schooley, Glen & LeRue Sprouse, Marjorie Stevens, Raef Stolp, Caden Thompson, Robert Wittrock, Bev Landon in the passing of her son Randy, 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 April 23th thru April 30th

Today 8:30 am Worship service w/Holy Communion

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship

9:30 am 140th Anniversary Committee meets

9:45 am Sunday school

11 am Worship service w/Holy Communion

Monday 1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters

5:30 pm Banquet Meal

Tuesday Noon – 6 pm BLOOD DRIVE Wednesday 6 pm – Wednesday School

7 pm Family Worship Service

7:30 pm - Youth Group

Upcoming Events:

May 7th – Preschool Sunday AND Wednesday/Sunday school children singing at the 11 am service

May 21st - Senior Recognition Sunday

May 28th - Summer worship schedule - One Service at 8:30 am.

SPECIAL 140TH ANNIVERSARY QUILT IN THE MAKINGS

Have you picked up your quilt block? Our quilt team is making a commemorative 140th 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**th so it can be sewn together and displayed for the 140th celebration.

April's Mission of the Month is Baby Care – by the Missions Committee Products such as diapers, Pacifiers, bottles and nipples, baby washcloths, baby wipes, baby blankets, sleepers and bibs. There are several organizations in our community in need of baby supplies to support new Mothers. Supplies donated will be taken to the organizations within Codington County in need of Baby Care Products.

GLCW (Glace Lutheran Church Women) collect materials for baby kits for World Relief each year. Those kits include: TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies ®); TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet); TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square; FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred; ONE jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap; TWO pairs of socks; ONE hand towel, dark color recommended; TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars; TWO diaper pins or large safety pins.

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 April 30th in Watertown.

Vasyl Molod, a young man of 23, will arrive in Minneapolis on April 27th. He will be staying with Pastor Cheryl and husband Scott at Wilmot for the first few weeks until employment is obtained.

minor children. He plans to work and help his family come as soon as possible.

For any unable to volunteer or help financially, please remember to keep them in your prayers as they travel and transition to our community.

SUMMER CONFIRMATION CLASS

Summer classes are available to assist you in achieving the important baptismal responsibility of educating young people the catechism. Summer confirmation class is available for any young people 7th thru 12th grade who have not completed this training. If you have questions, would like to sign your child up for a class contact Pastor Cheryl. Cell: 605-237-1501 or email: cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com.

A List of Needs for Our Refugees Coming

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." **Hebrews 13:16**

Preparing for our Ukraine family(ies) - We have created a list of items needed for our Ukraine family for their apartment. They arrive on April 30th. We begin to furnish the apartment on April 25th.

Also suggested: Gift cards and Script for the three local grocery stores (Hy Vee, Country Fair, Walmart) which can be purchased at Grace Lutheran. Between the 25th and the 30th – the refrigerator will be stocked with fresh and perishable items. If you want to donate to these items contact the office or pastor.

During the first week – we'd like to have a meal delivered each day to give them time to unpack and get used to our food – only one meal a day. If you'd like to provide a meal contact the church office or pastor.

And as always – we need people to provide rides to appointments to get started. Contact: Pastor Cheryl – 605-236-1501 or cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com



If you would like to GIVE with a credit or debit card please use the QR code to the left or visit glcwtn.org/give
You can give to General, Refugee, Flower,
Memorial, Radio, Youth, Parking Lot, or Multipurpose Room on that page.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett Keyboardist: Isaak Montemayor Sound/Video Tech Team