



140 Years of
Grace Lutheran 1883-2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 14, 2023 ~ 8:30 am
Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You to Worship

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota
Web Site: glcwtm.org ~ gracelc@midconetwork.com
Church Office: 605-886-5737
Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501

PRELUDE

Congregation responses in Bold Print
Welcome and Announcements

Setting 4 p 147

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *pg 94*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN:

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

ELW 398

- 1 Holy Spirit, truth divine,
dawn upon this soul of mine;
breath of God and inward light,
wake my spirit, clear my sight.
- 2 Holy Spirit, love divine,
glow within this heart of mine;
kindle ev'ry high desire;
purge me with your holy fire.
- 3 Holy Spirit, pow'r divine,
fortify this will of mine;

- by your will I strongly live,
bravely bear, and nobly strive.
- 4 Holy Spirit, peace divine,
still this restless heart of mine;
speak to calm this tossing sea,
stayed in your tranquility.
- 5 Holy Spirit, right divine,
king within my conscience reign;
be my guide, and I shall be
firmly bound, forever free.

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.**

KYRIE *ELW p 147 – 148*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *“Glory to God in the Highest” ELW p 148 & 149*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... **Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Pew Bible 902

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or

silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹**Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³**I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷**I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹**but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unailing love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Pew Bible 985

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not

as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia! Lord and Savior" p 151

Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:15-21 **Pew Bible 877**

The Holy Gospel according to St John, the fourteenth chapter.

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Loving Spirit" **ELW 397**

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| 1 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me. | hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high. |
| 2 Like a mother you enfold me,
hold my life within your own,
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone. | 4 Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
in your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest. |
| 3 Like a father you protect me,
teach me the discerning eye, | 5 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be—
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me. |

BLESSING OF THE MOTHERS....

God of all creation, pour out your blessing on all mothers and those who provide motherly care. You have made them in your image and given them children to love and care for in your name. Bless them with a heart like your heart: loving and kind, comforting and strong, nurturing and grace-filled. As they participate in your ongoing creativity, give them discernment to help their children discover their unique gifts. As they teach their children, grant them wisdom to know what is truly valuable. As they

strive to share your unconditional love, give them long-suffering patience and a lively sense of humor. As they model your mercy, help them extend the forgiveness they themselves freely receive from you. In all circumstances fortify their faith, that they may love you above all. We ask this in Jesus' name. **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

SONG of OFFERING: **“Voices Raise to You”** **ELW 845 vs 1 & 5**

1	Voices raised to you we offer; tune them, God, for songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in tribute for your gifts through all our days. Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to you we sing!	5	How can any praise we offer measure all the thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voices— gifts of love we can bestow. Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to you we sing!
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OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... **God of abundance, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

PRAYER SONG: **“Hear Our Prayer”** **ELW 178**

*Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people,
hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.*

PRAYER PETITIONS:

Responce to: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PRAYER SONG: **“Hear Our Prayer”** **ELW 178**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

SENDING & BENEDICTION: (*based on John 14:18-19*)

SENDING SONG: **“Now Thank We All Our God”** **ELW 839**

1	Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.		and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
2	Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,	3	All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. The Spirit goes with you. **Thanks be to God. We Will!**
Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Announcements for May 14th

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Shannon Beck, Joyce Brever, Millie Brinkman, 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, Sandra Wittrock, 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 14th – 21st

Today	HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 8:30 am Traditional Worship service 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11 am – Contemporary Worship Service
Monday	9 am Coffee Bible Study with Josh 1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm Banquet Meal
Tuesday	PCC Pastors meeting and text study 6 pm Ukrainian gathering for meal, English 2 nd Language class
Wednesday	10 am Service at Town View 10:30 am Service at Jenkins 7 pm Family Worship Service
Thursday	Law Enforcement/First Responders Luncheon 11 am – 1 pm Committal Service for Arden Hanson at Hayti at Noon
Sunday	SENIOR RECOGNITION DAY 8:30 am Traditional Worship service w/communion 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11 am Contemporary Worship service w/communion Bike Blessing meal 11:30 with Blessing at 12:30

Communion in May - on the 1st and 3rd Sundays due to pastor gone May 14th.

Upcoming Events:

May 21st – Senior Recognition Sunday at 11 am Worship service
Blessing of the Motorcycles:
11:30 am – fund raiser meal in fellowship hall
12:30 pm – blessing service followed by ride around Lake Kampeska

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

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!

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,

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: JoAnn Spartz

USHERS: Geri Mohror & Steve Vogt

PIANIST: Isaak Montemayor

SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstensen

SOUND/VIDEO TECH TEAM: Paul Henrichs, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht

Gary Rukstad, Anthony DeHaan, and Dylan Jordan.

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

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 13th** so it can be sewn together and displayed for the 140th 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, have been delay due to corrections necessary on their immigration papers. We hope this will be resolved soon.

Vasyl Molod, arrived on April 27th and is staying with Pastor Cheryl and husband Scott at Wilmot for the first few weeks until employment is obtained.

“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

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** is given in loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling” from the Schmeling Radio Fund. Altar Flower for this Mother’s Day are given by Geri Mohror in memory of my mother and mother-in-law and in honor of all the mothers at Grace. Your gifts are greatly appreciated for the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran inside and out of our walls. If you would like to help with these special weekly needs, a sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to sponsor the radio broadcast or altar flowers, stop at the office, call the office, or send your donation to: *Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201*

**Check us out on our website at glcwtwn.org
And Grace Lutheran Watertown FaceBook.**



**If you would like to GIVE online?
Use the QR code to the left or visit glcwtwn.org/give
You can give to General, Refugee, Flower,
Memorial, Radio, Youth, Parking Lot,
or Multipurpose Room on that page.**