



~ *Grace Lutheran Church* ~  
**Welcome to Wednesday Evening Family Worship**  
**7 pm ~ April 26, 2023**

**202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota ~ 605-886-5737**

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**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH** *(based on Psalm 23)*

Day by day, God leads us:

**to the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.**

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**to pour out ourselves in service, to anoint the stranger with hope.**

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**the community we could be, the family we are called to become.**

**GATHERING SONG:**

***"God is Here!"***

***ELW p 526***

1 God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us  
of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit;  
here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching,  
here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal,  
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!

**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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**READING: Acts 2:42-47**

**Pew Bible p 886**

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad

and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

### **RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### **GOSPEL: John 10:1-10**

**Pew Bible p 872**

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

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and

will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

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

## REFLECTION

**SONG OF THE DAY: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is ELW 502**

1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;  
thy cross before to guide me.

2 Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures  
grow, with food celestial feedeth.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

6 And so, through all the length of  
days, thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy  
praise within thy house forever.

## 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.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Holy and Gracious God, you call us by name, Beloved One, and beckon us to follow you. May we do so through your grace.

#### **PRAYER PETITIONS:**

Like a shepherd tending the flock, you tend to our needs. Be present with those who struggle, suffer, are in pain or sorrow, especially Rhys, Roy, Shannon, Joyce, Dennis, Dick, Judy, Sharlee, Sylvia, Janelle, Lavern, Elvira, Brenda, Frankie, Rick, Roger, Tracy, Dorothy, Glen & LaRue, Marjorie, Raef, Caden, Robert, those in Care Center, Assisted Living or are homebound.

Guide those who are lost, or filled with worry and fear. Protect those who are in harm's way heal those who are ill, mend those who are broken, as only your love can. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of peace, watch over those who lead us, in our various governments and churches. Fill our leaders with wisdom, patience, insight, and mercy.

Help them to lead with kindness and strength. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of love, fill our hearts with the knowledge of You that we can turn from the distractions of life and be more like You. May we be agents of your compassion, offering kindness to those we meet this day. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of all blessings, we thank you for all the gifts of life. For your Son, our Savior, our great Good Shepherd, the one who stands at the gate of all life's challenges and joys, calling out to us in love. Naming us, Beloved. For all this, and more we pray. **Amen.**

**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.**

### **WORDS OF BLESSING**

May the God of peace— who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood— may he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! **Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

***“Have no Fear, Little Flock”***

***ELW 764***

1 Have no fear, little flock;  
have no fear, little flock,  
for the Father has chosen  
to give you the kingdom;  
have no fear, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above;  
praise the Lord high above,  
for he stoops down to heal you,  
uplift and restore you;  
praise the Lord high above!

2 Have good cheer, little flock;  
have good cheer, little flock,  
for the Father will keep you  
in his love forever;  
have good cheer, little flock!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God;  
thankful hearts raise to God,  
for he stays close beside you,  
in all things works with you;  
thankful hearts raise to God!

**SENDING:** Go in peace... You need not want **Thanks be to God. We Will!**

## **Announcements for April 30<sup>th</sup>**

***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, 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 30<sup>th</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>**

Today	8:30 am Worship service 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday school 11 am – Worship Service w/Affirmation of Baptism & Communion
Monday	1-4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm Banquet Meal
Tuesday	6 pm – Preschool Committee meets
Wednesday	10:30 am Service at Avantara 5 pm Grace Executive Committee meets 6 pm Wednesday school 7 pm Family Worship Service 7:30 pm Youth Group
Thursday	NOON – National Day of Prayer Service in Sanctuary
Friday	8 am to Noon: Home Schoolers 1 pm Funeral service for Amanda Raider at Wight Comes Chapel
Sunday	8:30 am Traditional Worship service <b>w/ Holy Communion</b> 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary Worship Service <b>w/ Holy Communion</b> Sunday/Wednesday school children singing & Preschool Sunday & Installation of Josh Casper as Youth and Family Director 1 pm Service at Edgewood 6 pm- Senior Meal w/Pastor

**Upcoming Events:**

May 4<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm – Senior Meal with Pastor Cheryl  
May 7<sup>th</sup> – Preschool Sunday AND Wednesday/Sunday school children singing at the 11 am service and Installation of the Youth and Family Director- Josh Casper  
May 14<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Off – Jack Holmquist supply  
May 21<sup>st</sup> - Senior Recognition Sunday  
May 28<sup>th</sup> – Summer worship schedule – One Service at 8:30 am.

**MAKING AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM TODAY!**

Ashlynn Christine Andrews, daughter of Bill Andrews & Tanya Andrews  
Tigh Bryant Koistinen, son of Chad & Terra Koistinen  
Clarissa Ruiz-Roigoza, daughter of Gladys Raigoza & Jose Ruiz.  
Kimberly Ruiz-Raigoza, daughter of Gladys Raigoza & Jose Ruiz.  
Ariene Nicole Schulz, daughter of Travis & Chelsea Schulz

## **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.

### **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.

### **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 27<sup>th</sup> and is staying with Pastor Cheryl and husband Scott at Wilmot for the first few weeks until employment is obtained.

### **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 7<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com).



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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:  
PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett   Keyboardist: Isaak Montemayor  
Sound/Video Tech Team**