



Grace Lutheran Church **Welcomes You to Easter Worship ~ April 4, 2021**

202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota

Web Site: glcwtn.org 605-886-5737 gracelc@midconetwork.com

Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

605-237-1501 OR cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com

(We gather in silence... we gather in darkness – as we left on Good Friday.)

(Opening Video – Jesus is Risen)

Easter Call to Worship

Friends, the tomb is empty! The stone has been rolled away!

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

For three days he lay in that cold, lonely, dark cave.

But God's love cannot be contained by anything, not even death!

Thanks be to God, who gives us victory throughout our Risen Lord.

Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Where, O death, is your victory? **Where, O death, is your sting?**

Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed!**

Come, let us worship the Risen Christ!

OPENING HYMN *"The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"* ELW 366

(Items are returned to the Altar during singing)

- | | |
|---|---|
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | Christ rises glorious from the dead. |
| 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won! | All glory to our risen head! Alleluia! |
| Now be the song of praise begun.
Alleluia! | 4 Christ closed the yawning gates of hell;
the bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluia! |
| 2 The pow'rs of death have done their
worst;
Jesus their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia! | 5 Lord, by the stripes that wounded you,
from death's sting free your servants too,
that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia! |
| 3 The three sad days have quickly sped, | Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia |

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *(inspired by the gospel of St John)*

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

For Jesus told us, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

He said this to you, so that you may have peace. In the world you face trials and struggles. But take courage; Jesus conquered the world!

(The Christ Candle is lite....)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as thanks is given.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray... **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.**

***PRAISE SONG**

"We Know That Christ Is Raised"

ELW p 449

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!
- 2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!
- 4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the
righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia! Lord and Savior”

ELW p. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*THE GOSPEL READING Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸So they went out and fled from

the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Hymn of the Day

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!"

ELW 364

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain

- Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!
- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*
- 3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the graveclothes are lying there." *Refrain*
- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

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.**

(Please Share the Joy of Easter with those around you saying... He is Risen and responding with... He is risen indeed! We greet you all with peace and Easter Joy.).

**THE OFFERING FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY
OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of love, **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

OFFERING SONG “Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring” ELW 691

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring
to place upon your table.
We do not worship as we ought
but only as we're able. | What once was common, daily food
becomes a holy treasure. |
| 2 The vines were planted, seeds were
sown.
They grew in your good pleasure. | 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and
cares
we lift in prayer before you.
Lord, by your grace now come to us,
as humbly we adore you. |

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

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:

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send your Spirit upon us for a revival of your church and tell the good news that death has been defeated.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring rains to those who need rain and dryness to lands flooded. Bring nature to blossom and flourish in due time; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill leader with a desire for your peace. Draw together people of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings, especially for service men and women and their families.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve especially Rhys, Roy, Esther, Jim, Shannon, Roger, Joyce, Nila, Loren, Bruce, Chris, Judy, Jason, Deb, Dianne, Bob, Layla, Raef, Donnie, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living or who are homebound. Assure them of your promises.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. Multiply that joy in your Holy meal, especially those receiving their communion for the first time, so all may share and rejoice in you.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your faithfulness revealed in the resurrection! Fill us with trust and grant us comfort knowing we will join all who have gone before us in proclaiming: "your mercy endures forever!"

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We indeed give thanks and praise to the almighty and merciful God and remember His words spoken on that ancient night...

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.

***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

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

FIRST COMMUNION DECLARATION

This is a special day of celebration and sharing. Jesus shared His life for us and for that we share our Alleluia’s for others. Today is a special day for two young people who are will now share in the Lord’s Supper by receiving sacrament of Holy

Communion.

(Hollynn and Trayce and their families will come forward & respond to this question.)

Do you understand this gift of Jesus body and blood are given for you in the bread and wine?

Yes

Do you understand you receive forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life as Jesus Words promise?

Yes

As these children have learned, all who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table.

(Hollynn and Trayce and their families will partake of communion together.)

(The congregation will remain seated until they have returned to their seats.)

DISTRIBUTION for those who wish to come forward.

THE COMMUNION for those who wish to refrain from close contact:

At this time I ask you may take your bread and juice/wine... and

(Holding the bread, hear these words spoken for you)

The body of Christ, given for you... *You may take the bread...*

(Holding the juice. Hear these words spoken for you)

The blood of Christ, shed for you... *You may take the juice or wine*

And now may this body and blood of our Savior Jesus, strengthen and preservice you unto life eternal. Amen.

Easter Communion Songs:

"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

ELW 389

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die. | where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died. |
| 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time. | 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all. |
| 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, | 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise. |

"Peace to Soothe Our Bitter Woes"

ELW 381

1 Peace, to soothe our bitter woes,
God in Christ on us bestows;
Jesus bought our peace with God
with his holy, precious blood;
peace in him for sinners found
is the gospel's joyful sound.

2 Peace within the church still dwells
in our welcomes and farewells;
and through God's baptismal pow'r
peace surrounds our dying hour.
Peace be with you, full and free,
now and through eternity.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR COMMUNION

Let us pray... **Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.. Amen.**

EASTER BENEDICTION

May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life, strengthen you in hope, enrich you with his love, and fill you with joy in the faith.

May the God of resurrection and life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG:

"Christ, the Lord, is Risen Today"

ELW 369

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
Alleluia!
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
when contending death and life,
Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome strife.
Alleluia!
4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Thank you for worship with us today!

ANNOUNCEMENTS for April 4

Keep in your prayers - Those dealing with Health Issues:

Rhys Arnold, Roy Arnold, Esther Bakeberg, Jim Bakeberg, Shannon Beck, Roger Benthin, Joyce Brever, Nila Davis, Loren Holzwarth, Bruce Jahraus, Chris Johnson, Judy Lien, Deb Schlenner, Dianne Schmeling, Bob Starr, Layla Steen, Raef Stolp, and Donnie Vrtacnik, those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are Homebound. Pray for our school children and those in education, the EMT's, Watertown police and firemen and remember also those working in the medical community during this time of COVID-19. Pray for our military personal and their families as they serve to protect our country.

FIRST COMMUNION Those receiving their first communion today at the 8:30 am worship service are Hollyn Lindner, daughter of Nolan and Heidi Lindner and Trayce Pahl, son of Alyssa and Tony Pahl. May God Blessing you with this sacred meal.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSIST IN OUR WORSHIP:

PASTOR: Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

READER: JoAnn Spartz

SONG LEADER: Leigh Carstensen

PIANIST: Judy Everson

Sound/Video Tech Team: Paul Henrichs, Anthony DeHaan, Wyatt Sprouse, Larry Picht & Gary Rukstad.

USHERS: James & Sharon Goble

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

On the CALENDAR - For the week of April 4 thru 11

Today	8:30 am Easter Worship Service w/Holy Communion First communion for Hollyn Lindner and Trayce Pahl NO Sunday School 10 am Easter Worship w/communion 1 pm – Vespers service at Edgewood
Monday	5:30 Foundation meeting
Tuesday Thru	Thursday: Spring Theological for SD Rostered Leaders
Wednesday	6 pm – Wednesday school 6 pm – Confirmation Class 7:30 pm – Youth Group meets in Youth Room
Thursday	American Legion holding interviews at Grace 6 pm – Grace Council meets
Sunday	8:30 am Worship w/communion 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am Worship w/communion

Upcoming Events:

April 18th – Noon to 2 dinner to eat in or take out
Noon to 4 – silent auction
2 – 4 pm Gospel Jamboree

April 25th – Affirmation of Baptism Service for those being confirmed.

“Raise the Roof” Fund Raising Work: *Your help is needed!*

For Jamboree Sunday – April 18th

For the Sunday Noon Meal: The meal will be served from noon to 2 pm for take out or eat in consisting of pulled pork sandwiches, macaroni salad, baked beans and a bar. We need donations of a pan of bars, water, or pop AND people to prepare and serve the meal, please sign up on the clip board in the narthex.

For the silent auction: Donations of craft items you have made or other items. There is a letter available for volunteers to take to area businesses for donations of merchandise for the auction as well. Please get all items to the office by Sunday, April 11, to be photographed and displayed online.

For the Jamboree: Share your musical talents with the musicians of the day or ask those you know who sing or play instruments to join the fun.

Contact the Committee Communications Coordinators Darcy Raethz or Denise Biller or Pastor Cheryl if you need more information.

MISSION OF THE MONTH – Neighbors in Solidarity – Pine Ridge Retreat Center, Pine Ridge, provides multi-layered ministry designed to foster mutual trust, respect, and understanding, while addressing the deep poverty that exists.

The mission of the Pine Ridge Retreat Center is to strengthen the congregational ministry of our ecumenical partners and to offer cross-cultural retreats for the purpose of building respect of, and understanding for, all of God’s people.

In order to better foster understanding between Indian and non-Indian peoples and to make contributions to the life of the people living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Retreat Center offered overnight accommodations to individuals and groups before COVID. The Retreat Center also structures outreach programs such as construction projects, educational experiences, and participation in youth ministry for guests.

Pine Ridge Retreat Center is a joint ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Because of COVID 19, clothing, diapers and wipes, quilts etc. are not being accepted, only monetary donations which can be sent to the SD Synod marked for the Pine Ridge Retreat Center

A RADIO BROADCAST of the Sunday morning worship service can be heard at 10:05 a.m. each Sunday on KWAT (950 AM). **The RADIO BROADCAST** today is given in loving memory of Gilbert Kittleson from his wife Joan and family. The Altar flowers today are given by Fred and Gwen Peshman in loving memory of Matthew Kuttner. Thank you to all who sponsor the radio and altar flowers each week as they are very important gifts for grace. If you would like to support these special weekly needs, please call the office or send your donation to ***Grace Lutheran, 202 Second Street SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201***