

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

APRIL 28, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church
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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to us even now, O Lord of Life,
and fill this place with your presence!

We praise your name and rejoice in your love,
we stand in utter amazement of who you are!

Everyone who calls upon you will find fulfillment,
They will rejoice forever, because you are God!

Rejoice and give thanks!

Halleluiah! Amen!

OPENING HYMN

WE ARE CALLED

ELW 720

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, 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 8:26-40

P. 892

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 22:25-31

P. 435

25 From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

29 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

30 Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ALLELUIA

P. 151

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 15:1-8

P. 878

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

STATEMENTS OF FAITH BY CONFIRMANDS

Olivia Anderson, Soren Bisgard, Allison Henrichs, Brom Koistinen, Bryn Koistinen, Jensen Wientjes

MEDITATION BY PASTOR CARLENE RHODY

HYMN OF THE DAY

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

ELW 798

PRESENTATION & PRAYER

Let us pray,

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH BY CONFIRMANDS PROFESSION OF FAITH BY CONFIRMANDS AND ASSEMBLY

APOSTLES' CREED P. 235
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
ASSEMBLY RESPONSE
PRAYER OF BLESSING
ASSEMBLY RESPONSE

HYMN

LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

ELW 857

OFFERING FOR THE MISSION & MINISTRY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

OFFERING HYMN

WE ARE AN OFFERING

ELW 692

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,
hear our prayer.



**SCAN WITH A SMART
PHONE TO GIVE
ELECTRONICALLY**

We pray for those on our hearts who are sick or homebound, in care centers and assisted living facilities. We pray for all first responders and members of Armen Forces and their families. We pray for our church during this season of transition. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER SONG

HEAR OUR PRAYER

ELW 178

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

ELW P. 152

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW 154

COMMUNION HYMN'S

LAMB OF GOD

ELW 154

O BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN

ELW 480

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

ELW 359

COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from Heaven, your son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in Him and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

THE LORD SENDS US FORTH

ELW 538

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.