

SECOND SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRESENTED BY PASTOR CARLENE RHODY

SUNDAY 4.07.24

# GATHERING

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

# Welcome Prayer

Welcome, everyone, to this blessed gathering. Let us join together in prayer.

Heavenly Father, as we gather here today, we invite your presence among us.

Bless our time together and fill our hearts with Your love and grace. **Amen.**

C O N F E S S I O N

&

F O R G I V E N E S S

E L W P . 9 4

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.**

GATHERING  
SONG

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright

ELW 384

**1 That Easter day with joy was**

**bright;**

**the sun shone out with fairer light**

**when, to their longing eyes**

**restored,**

**th'apostles saw their risen Lord!**

**2. O Jesus, king of gentleness,  
with constant love our hearts  
possess;  
to you our lips will ever raise  
the tribute of our grateful praise.**

**3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all  
in this our Easter festival,  
for you will be our strength and  
shield  
from ev'ry weapon death can  
wield.**

**4 All praise, O risen Lord,**

**we give**

**to you, once dead, but now alive!**

**To God the Father equal praise,**

**and God the Spirit, now we raise!**



# 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.**

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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 4:32-35

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE  
READING:

Psalm 133

1. How good and how  
pleasant it is, when  
kindred live together in  
unity!

**2. It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

3. It is like the dew of  
Hermon flowing down upon  
the hills of Zion. For there the  
Lord has commanded the  
blessing: life forevermore.

# SECOND READING

1 John 1:11-2:2

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



# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

# SERMON



By: Pastor Carlene Rhody

H Y M N O F T H E D A Y

**We Walk By Faith**

ELW 635

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er  
spoke:

"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands  
and side,  
nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice,  
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near  
and seek where you are found:

4 For you, O resurrected Lord,  
are found in means divine:  
beneath the water and the word,  
beneath the bread and wine.



5 And when our life of faith is  
done,  
in realms of clearer light  
we may behold you as you are,  
with full and endless sight.

# APOSTLE'S CREED

ELW P. 152

**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.**



PRAYERS  
OF  
INTERCESSION

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. Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day.

Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**



Your world cries out, O God, and you listen.  
Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and  
other first responders to work for the well-  
being of communities and the dignity of  
every person, that no one may need to live  
in fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain especially,

Rhys, Roy, Rose, Shannon, Allen, Denise,  
Danny, Dennis, Dick, Harper, Ted, James,  
Greg, Kristi, Chad, Jan, Sylvia, LaVerne,  
Elvira, Rick, Roger, Lynn, Tracy, Kaisley,  
Tori, Robert, Raef, Ron, Ashlea, Robert,  
Sandra, Harley & Marilyn,

those in Care Centers, Assisted Living, or who are homebound. Pray for members of the Armed Forces and their families, transportation personnel, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, EMTs, and all First Responders. Pray for our Church during this transition period.. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship.

Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

# The offering for the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran Church

## Offering Song

## We Are An Offering

ELW 692



SCAN WITH A  
SMART PHONE  
TO GIVE  
ELECTRONICALLY

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives  
up to you: we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use  
our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.**

**All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to  
be, we give to you, we give to you.**

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives to  
you: we are an offering, we are an offering.**

OFFERING

PRAYER



Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
Through your goodness you have blessed us  
with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our  
possessions. Use us, and what we have  
gathered, in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



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.**

# 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 SONG

**I Want To Walk As A Child Of  
The Light**

ELW 815

**1 I want to walk as a child of the  
light.**

**I want to follow Jesus.**

**God set the stars to give light to  
the world.**

**The star of my life is Jesus.**

# *Refrain*

**In him there is no darkness at all.**

**The night and the day are both alike.**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of**

**God.**

**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**



**2 I want to see the brightness of God.**

**I want to look at Jesus.**

**Clear Sun of righteousness, shine**

**on my path,**

**and show me the way to the Father.**

*Refrain*

# *Refrain*

**In him there is no darkness at all.**

**The night and the day are both alike.**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of**

**God.**

**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.**

**I want to be with Jesus.**

**When we have run with patience the**

**race,**

**we shall know the joy of Jesus.**

*Refrain*

# *Refrain*

**In him there is no darkness at all.**

**The night and the day are both alike.**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of**

**God.**

**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**