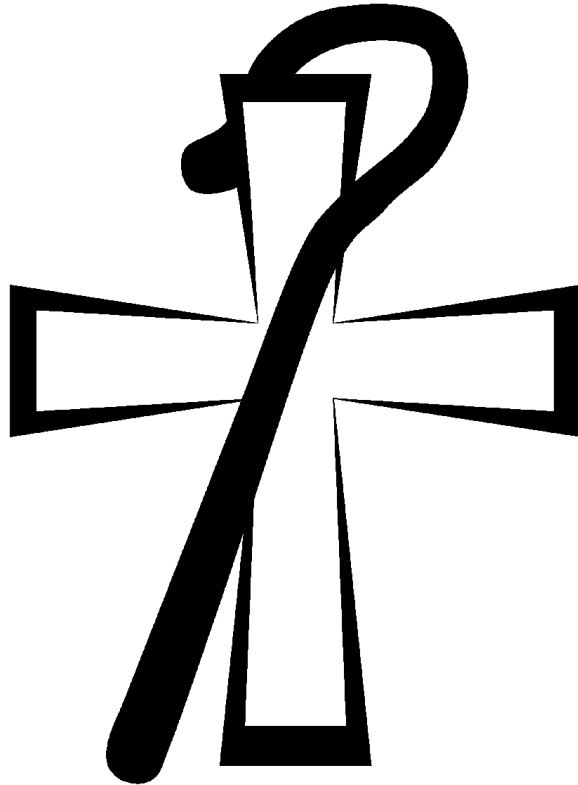


Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 26, 2026

Welcome to Grace

We give thanks that you have come to worship with us at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and pray that you will receive God's awesome GRACE, mercy and love as we receive Word and Sacrament, the means of grace!

We invite our guests and visitors to worship with us often! If you will, we invite guests to take a welcome bag at the Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form in the bulletin or at the Welcome Desk to let us know you were worshipping with us today. Visitor/Member Information sheets may be returned to the pastor, an usher, or placed in the offering.

The complete worship service is contained in this worship folder. Large print worship folders and Busy Bags for our very young worshipers are available from the ushers! We love having children in worship! Should parents have need of nursery during worship, our professionally staffed nursery for childcare is available. Please see an usher for directions.

Our worship space is equipped with a hearing assistance system to accommodate those with hearing difficulties. Please ask the sound technician (at the rear left of the worship space) for a receiver, if desired. Printed copies of the sermon are available at the ushers table in the entry-way, if desired.

Please remember to turn off or silence personal communication devices. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the worship space.

In accordance with the Biblical mandate and our Lutheran tradition, we seek to worship God "in Spirit and in truth...for these the Father seeks to worship him!" (John 4:23-24). If you are not familiar with liturgical worship, it is "the work of the people," as God speaks, the ministers speak and the congregation responds in a spoken, chanted and sung dialogue! Everything in our worship is focused on God and His incarnate, embodied presence in our midst! We pray that you will experience the Word made flesh as we worship today!

To establish and maintain a spirit of reverence, we remind worshipers to please greet one another and fellowship in the gathering space before entering the sanctuary, where others will be preparing their hearts and minds for worship. We appreciate your understanding!

Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available at either worship service, after the Gospel reading for children ages 3 through third grade During Little Lambs Children's Ministry children and their leader go to the Nursery to enjoy age appropriate Biblically-oriented activities during the Sermon, creed and prayers. They return during the offering to join us for Holy communion! This gives little ones a Bible break during the service, while allowing parents to focus on the sermon!

We invite you to learn more about our congregation at www.grace43081.org and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) at www.thenalc.org!

PRELUDE

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" - *arr. Walter L. Pelz*

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" - *arr. John Ness Beck/ trans. Janet Linker*

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1: 8-9)

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Merciful Father,
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

(John 20: 23)

C **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!

Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!

of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!

at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Liturgy of The Word

THE INVITATORY AND APOSTOLIC GREETING

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:14*)

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE



Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



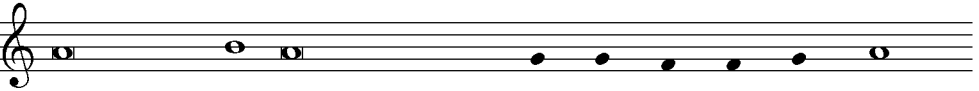
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. Ⓞ A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Worthy is Christ” (Revelation 5:9-12)



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P

Let us pray.

O Almighty God, you called from death our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, whose voice we know and follow. As He leads us, may the lost be rescued, the injured healed, and may we be fed with knowledge and understanding, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

⁴²{The believers} devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Refrain



The LORD is my shep- herd; I shall not be in want.

Psalm Tone



L ¹The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

C ²**He makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

L ³He re- | vives my soul
and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

C ⁴**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. Refrain**

L ⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

C ⁶**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. Refrain**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

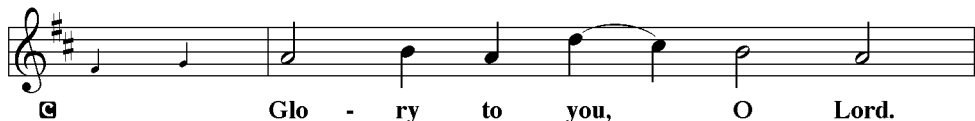
ALLELUIA VERSE (*John 6:68*)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

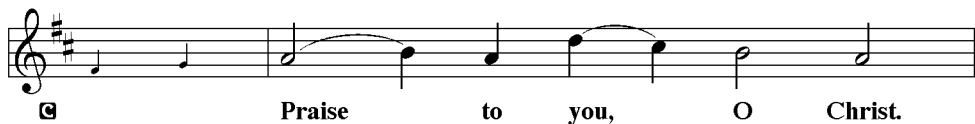
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 10th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹{Jesus said to the Jews,} “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

LITTLE LAMBS

At this time, Little Lambs Children's Ministry is available for children ages 3 through third grade at both services after the Gospel reading. The children leave the sanctuary with the teacher and enjoy an age appropriate Biblically oriented lesson and activity. They return during the offering to join us for Holy Communion.

SERMON: “The Two Tasks of the Shepherd”

The Rev. Dr. David Wendel

After the sermon, a time of silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

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

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

THE NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God,
Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made:
Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven,
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
And was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried;
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified,
Who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A Lord, in your mercy;

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Remember in our prayers... David Doll, Katie Singleton, Linda Slates, Rich Meneley, Twyla Ridder, Jennifer Rockwood, Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Ernestine Dietz, Betty Milner, Rod Rice, Sue Ross, Mary Ross, Jim Ross, the family of Amy Seifert Unkefer

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. (*Matthew 5: 22-24; John 20: 19*)

C **And also with you.**

*You may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "Down to the River to Pray" - *arr. Mary McDonald*

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

11:00 "Fantasy for Saxophone and Piano" - David Vitale

Joseph Worrell - Saxophone, Linda Hoch - Piano

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

THE OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you,
C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER


(2 Timothy 4: 22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *The Presider continues with the preface, concluding:...*we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


THE SANCTUS (Isaiah 6: 3; Matthew 21: 9)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.
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.
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

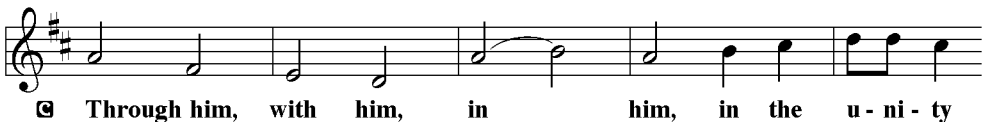
P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



of the Ho-ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al-might- y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6: 9-13)*

C 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/THE FRACTION

A time of silence...

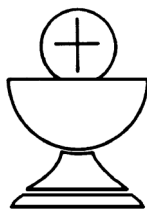
P Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. *(1 Corinthians 5: 6-8)*
C Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

LAMB OF GOD *(John 1: 29)*

C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a- way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS



All who are baptized, have received the Lord's Supper and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, are welcome to commune. Children or adults who do not commune are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing!

The Lord's sacramental Blood is available in individual glasses and common cup. As the communion assistants approach, simply indicate which you prefer by a nod of the head or pointing to individual cups or chalice. Grape juice is available in the center ring of each tray. Please place empty individual glasses in the basket provided to either side of the altar area. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who require them. Indicate your preference to the minister administering the hosts.

Private prayer before receiving Holy Communion:

O merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to your Table, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose will it is always to have mercy. Make me, I pray you, worthy now to receive this Holy Communion. Grant me, gracious Lord, so to consume the very Body and Blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ in this Holy Sacrament, that He may evermore dwell in me, and I in Him, that my sinful body may be made clean by His Body, and my soul washed through His most precious Blood. Amen.

Private prayer after receiving Holy Communion:

Almighty God, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that as I have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, He may abide in me, and I in Him, and that all who have received may be filled with the power of His endless life. By your grace, help me to walk worthy of my calling, and to learn to bring glory to your name in all things. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC Selected Communion Music by Larry Seifert

After all have communed, please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION (*Numbers 6: 24-26*)

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

□ A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

The image shows a musical score for the text "Amen, Amen, Amen". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics "A - men, A - men, A - - - men." are written below the treble staff, with a square symbol (□) at the beginning. The first two "Amen"s are each followed by a comma, and the third "Amen" is followed by three dashes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



THE RITE OF SENDING

Children Go in peace, serve the Lord!
C **Thanks be to God.**

P Christ is risen!
C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Linda Hoch

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!" - *arr. Benjamin Culli*

Offering: An offering plate will be placed by the baptismal font for offerings to be presented during the offering procession. Offerings may be placed in the plate before or after the service.

Flowers are given by...

Joanne Figge in celebration of our 45th wedding anniversary Thursday.

Glen & Jeanice Alexander in celebration of our 63rd wedding anniversary.

Please keep Larry and Becky Seifert and family in your prayers, as Larry's daughter Amy Seifert Unkefer passed away April 19, 2026.

Romans 14: *Whether we live or whether we die, we belong to the Lord.*

WELCOME, GUESTS! We welcome you as our guest in our church home and invite you to continue to worship with us. We invite guests to take a welcome bag at the **WELCOME** Welcome Desk to learn more about Grace and fill out a Welcome Form and place it in the offering or hand it to an usher to let us know you were worshipping with us today.



Scan to *Simply Give*

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our giving without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. **It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. You can now give:**

- online <https://grace-evangelical-luther.subspla.sh/87gkvf2>,
- through the app (<https://subsplash.com/grace-evangelical-luther/app>) or
- Scan the QR code to *Simply Give* today.

Financial Update: If you would like a copy of the full monthly Treasurer's report as presented to Council, please reach out to the Treasurer, Jim Caldwell and it will be emailed to you.

Third Sunday of Easter, April 26: 8:15: 57; 11:00: 109; total: 166

MUSIC NOTES

“Savior, Like a Savior Lead Us” – arr. Walter L. Pelz

This hymn is attributed to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847). In the 19th century hymnal editors often failed to identify authors. In the first edition of *Hymns for the Young* (1836), Dorothy Thrupp left all hymns unsigned, since women often did not like to press their cause. The words are based on the idea of Jesus as Shepherd plus a few ideas from Psalm 23. It was intended for children rather than adults.

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” – arr. John Ness Beck/ trans. Janet Linker

The text for this hymn by Henry W. Baker (1821-1877) is not just another metrical version or paraphrase of Psalm 23. Rather, it treats the psalm freely and gives it a distinctively Christian framework. Christ, the Good Shepherd, is the center of the setting, and the Cross (a symbol of Christ’s laying down his life for the sheep) is followed by a sacramental emphasis on the Lord’s table and the eucharistic chalice. The last words Baker spoke upon his deathbed are said to have been from the third stanza of the hymn.

“Down to the River to Pray” – arr. Mary McDonald

This dynamic medley captures the spirit and message of two popular songs that deal with the significance of prayer for the individual believer and the church as a whole. The spiritual *Down to the River to Pray* is seamlessly combined with Ken Medema’s *Lord, Listen to Your Children*.

“Fantasy for Saxophone and Piano” – David Vitale

The piece “Reflection and Fantasy” by David Vitale is written in two contrasting but complimentary moods describing two different kinds of daydreams. A challenging piece, it displays the wide range of the saxophone. The “Fantasy” movement captures the joyful flight of an imaginary world where the melody dances in a world of wonder and excitement.

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!” – arr. Benjamin Culli

Jane E. Leeson (1807-1881) made this metrical translation of the sequence “Victimae Paschali laudes” (sometimes attributed to Wipo of Burgundy (d. c. 1050)). It appeared in Henry Formby’s *Catholic Hymns arranged in order for the principle Festivals, Feasts of Saints, and other occasions of Devotion throughout the Year* (London, 1851). The tune LLANFAIR is a Welsh tune that comes from the early 19th century and first appeared with the name BETHEL. As described by Robert McCuthchen in his *Hymn Tune Names* (1957), LLANFAIR is the first eight letters of one of the longest words in any language: *Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch* (“Church of St. Mary in the hollow of white hazel near the rapid whirlpool of the Church of St. Tysillio by the red cave”).

The LORD is My Shepherd

Find the 46 **bold** words from Psalm 23 (ESV).

S K D A Y S W R N J L C R V P
D X U R R K L A W T N I O N A
E D I S E B W O H R G E V K T
A G G L S H L A L H A D A E H
T H S O T L P O T Y L E R U S
H H W E O T R E V E R O F V E
E A O F R D O C H A R O S I R
N F L I E U N N P S L S D J L
E F F T S G T E T T T L A C N
M A R N U B R S S A H I E N Z
I T E A O P O E A S B J L Y M
E S V W H U F R E P C L L L G
S X O I L C M P K N A M E S C
X G Y D N W O D A H S L W V Y
E S G M E R C Y S H Q U D Q N

The **LORD** is my **shepherd**; I shall **not want**. He makes me **lie down** in **green pastures**. He **leads** me **beside still waters**. He **restores** my **soul**. He leads me in **paths** of **righteousness** for his **name's sake**. Even though I **walk** through the **valley** of the **shadow** of **death**, I will **fear** no **evil**, for you are with me; your **rod** and your **staff**, they **comfort** me. You **prepare** a **table** before me in the **presence** of my **enemies**; you **anoint** my **head** with **oil**; my **cup overflows**. **Surely goodness** and **mercy** shall **follow** me all the **days** of my **life**, and I shall **dwell** in the **house** of the **LORD forever**.

Pray for Our VBS

Jesus, we pray that through VBS, kids in our community will grow in their relationship with you. We ask that you begin to break down any walls that might be preventing their young hearts from receiving your love. We ask that the truth of who you are sink deep into their hearts. Let them leave knowing who you are and the overwhelming, joyful love you have for each and every one of them. May the impact of VBS last a lifetime.



Serving Today

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| PREACHER/ OFFICIATING | The Rev. Dr. David Wendel |
| COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER | Molly King |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | 8:15 Fred Pfanz 11:00 Roger Retherford |
| ORGANIST | Linda Hoch |
| SACRISTAN | Fred Pfanz |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Dr. Helen Kang |
| BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR | Maria Laderman |
| LECTOR | 8:15 Dorothy Crain 11:00 Gregg Rearick |
| CANTOR | Fred Pfanz |
| ACOLYTE | 8:15 Lauren Place 11:00 Philip Young |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANTS | 8:15 Vanessa Stewart, Ted Ray 11:00 Nelson Grover, Denise Reynard |
| USHERS | 8:15 Ande Ucubagabriel, George Paulus, Steve & Sue Miller 11:00 Andy Laderman, Mike King, Tom Moser |
| LITTLE LAMBS | 8:15 Cathy Burner 11:00 Amy Quinn |
| GREETERS | 8:15 Vanessa Stewart 11:00 Vicki Morrison |
| NURSERY ATTENDANTS | Kaitlyn F., Donna P. |
| ALTAR GUILD | Team 2: Julie Hartfelder, Karen Bale, Tami Banks, Carolyn Rearick, Sue Miller, Bonnie Sawyer, Marge Cepek, JoAnn Slemmer |
| SOUND TECHNICIANS | Chris Banks, Eric Bush, Dan George, Paul Grant, Brice Graves |

Acknowledgements

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Hymns:

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!” Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt. .Music: Robert Williams, 1781–1821. Text and Music: Public Domain.

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is.” Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877. Music: Irish tune. Text and Music: Public Domain.

“Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us.” Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Text and Music: Public Domain.

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” – arr. Walter L. Pelz, from *A Walter Pelz Organ Anthology* by Walter Pelz, ©2018 Augsburg Fortress

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” – arr. John Ness Beck/trans. Janet Linker, from *John Ness Beck Favorites for Organ: Seven Hymn Settings Transcribed by Janet Linker*, ©1985, 1990 Beckenhorst Press

“Down to the River to Pray” with “Lord, Listen to Your Children” – Ken Medema/ arr. Mary McDonald, ©2016 Hope Publishing Company

“Reflection and Fantasy” – David Vitale, ©2000 Great Works Publishing, Inc.

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!” – arr. Benjamin Culli, from *New Songs of Celebration: Ten Settings for Organ* by Benjamin Culli, ©2014 Augsburg Fortress



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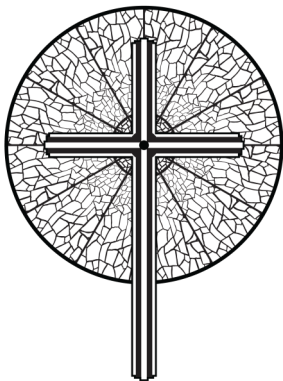
<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

Vision Statement: We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.



This Week at Grace: April 26– May 3, 2026

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

April 26

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:15 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School and Confirmation
9:45 am Adult Learning (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 am Worship Service
2:00 pm Columbus Fury Game (Ticket deadline, April 20)
5-9pm Columbus Rings Concert Rehearsal
6-8pm Lakeside Forest HOA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

MON

1:00 pm Euchre Group (Loave and Fishes Café)
No Monday Night Bible Study on Romans (resumes Monday, May 11)

TUES

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

WED.

Women's Bible Study on break and will resume June 3
7:00 pm Grace Singers Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Rose Garden 2&3)
7:30 pm Scioto Valley B&PC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURS

7:30 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

FRI.

Ohio Mission Region Convocation @ St. John Grove City
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SAT

Ohio Mission Region Convocation @ St. John Grove City
9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

May 3

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (PRESIDING: PR. WILL HARTFELDER, EMERITUS)

8:15 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School and Confirmation
9:45 am Adult Learning (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 am Worship Service
5:00 pm Concert Set-up and Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7-9pm Columbus Rings with Scioto Valley Brass and Percussion Company
Concert (Sanctuary)

| Date | Upcoming Events |
|--------------|---|
| May 3 | No Lunch Club |
| May 17 (Sun) | OWL Reveal Party |
| May 30 (Sat) | Westerville Putt Putt |
| June 8 | Graduate Sunday (turn in photo and information by May 17) |
| July 12–16 | Vacation Bible School – Rainforest Falls |

Service Recording: The recorded 8:15am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Vanessa Stewart with any questions or concerns.



Each Sunday we enjoy seeing flowers on the bema. It reminds us of the beauty of God's creation. The arrangement can honor an event, a loved one or give thanks and glory to God. To help cover the cost, we are asking for a minimum donation of \$40.00. The flowers are not the property of the donor, but will be enjoyed by all. With care they can last a week or more in the gathering space.

We encourage you to continue this tradition. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line through our giving page, or call the office.

**HELP
WANTED**

Little Lambs Children's Ministry serves children ages 3 through 3rd grade, providing a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson during the 8:15 AM and 11:00 AM worship service. Children leave after the Gospel reading and return during the offering for Holy Communion. **We are currently seeking caring and committed leaders to help guide our Little Lambs each Sunday at our 11:00 AM service.** If you enjoy working with children and sharing God's love in a meaningful way, we'd love to have you join the team! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Molly King.



YOUTH & FAMILY SUNDAY MORNINGS & WORSHIP RESOURCES

We're excited to support families and help children grow in faith. Here's how we welcome and care for your family each Sunday:

NURSERY CARE (INFANTS – AGE 6)

Enjoy worship, Adult Learning, or fellowship in the Loaves & Fishes Café while your little ones are lovingly cared for.

Pagers available for parents if needed.

BUSY BAGS

Keep little hands engaged during worship with age-appropriate books and activities.

Located by the sanctuary entrance.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

Activity-based bulletins that follow the weekly readings.
Available at the usher's table.

LITTLE LAMBS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (AGES 3 – 3RD GRADE)

Children leave worship after the Gospel reading for a fun, age-appropriate Bible lesson.
They return during the offering for Holy Communion.
Offered at both worship services.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (PRESCHOOL – HIGH SCHOOL)

Sundays, 9:40 – 10:30 AM (September through Memorial Day Weekend)
Adult class also available.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is committed to helping children and families grow in faith and community.

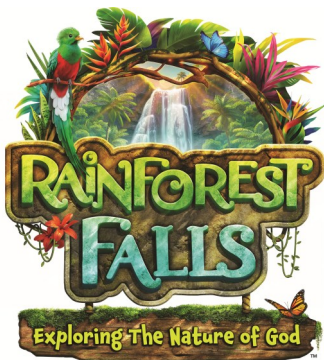
CONTACT: Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org, 614-882-3026

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision Statement: To nurture Youth and Family in Christ through Bible based teaching, music, activities and community outreach.

Youth and Family Events

- May 17, OWL Reveal Party
- May 30, Westerville Putt Putt
- June 27, Family Movie Night
- July 12-16, Vacation Bible School program Rainforest Falls, Exploring the Nature of God
- July 26, Lunch Club
- August 8, Day at the park
- August 14 Clippers Game
- September 12, Columbus Crew soccer game
- September 13, Rally Day



SAVE THE DATE

This year our VBS program is Rainforest Falls, Exploring the Nature of God.

Our program is July 12-16.

COLLECTING ITEMS FOR VBS

VBS Team is requesting Amazon brown packing paper. Save your packing paper when you get your packages. We also need lime green tablecloths.

There is a bin in the gathering space for donations.

If you have any questions let Molly King know.



Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 6:00pm. Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Chancel Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 7:00pm! All are welcome! Contact Helen Kang.

Joyful Voices Youth Choir rehearsal schedule: contact Helen Kang.

BIBLE STUDIES

- **Adult Education class:** Join our Adult Bible Study for “*Don’t Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table.*” In this video-based study, pastor and bestselling author Louie Giglio explores Psalm 23, offering practical insight on overcoming life’s challenges and finding lasting peace and spiritual security.
- Facilitated by Bill Kulju, this study began March 1 and meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall. **Grace Sisterhood’s** next meeting is **May 11 at 7pm at The Hoover Bar and Kitchen.** We will continue meeting the 2nd Monday of each month (so mark your new 2026 calendars so you can join in the fellowship). We are studying, “Women and Identity” by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun & Tracey D Bianchi. All younger/working women of the congregation (and friends!) are invited and welcome! Contact: Melissa Hodek
- **Katharine Circle** will meet **Monday, May 4 at 1 p.m.** at church to continue our study, “Ambidextrous Christianity.” Come and join us for study and fellowship! Call Dorothy Crain, 614-264-5304, with questions.
- **Men of Grace Bible Study:** All men of Grace Lutheran Church (and friends!) —next meeting **Saturday, May 16, 8 AM** in the Loaves and Fishes Cafe. We continue the study of the Gospel of Luke! Pastor Wendel facilitates the study. Join us for breakfast, study and fellowship.
- **Monday Night Bible Study of Romans, continues Mondays at 6:30 PM!** As a young monk, Martin Luther struggled with his own sinfulness, leading to his search for a truly gracious, forgiving God. As Luther’s confessor and Father Superior at the Augustinian monastery in Erfurt, Johann von Staupitz believed Luther’s inner angst would be relieved by his study of Holy Scripture. Staupitz sent young Father Martin to study at the University of Wittenberg, Germany. In his studies, Luther continually questioned the phrase, “the righteousness of God,” Romans 1:17. Habakkuk 2:4, that “The just shall live by faith,” opened Luther’s eyes to a new, more complete understanding of Romans 1:17, resulting in his conviction that the Bible proclaims that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ alone! Finally, Luther came to cherish Paul’s Epistle to the Romans as above all other New Testament books, as it proclaimed the “purest Gospel.” Luther recommended that Romans should be known by heart and studied daily!

As Monday evening Bible Study resumes, Pastor Wendel will lead us in a study of Paul’s Letter to the Romans, beginning April 13, 6:30 PM. If you have hoped for a fuller grasp of Luther and the Lutheran understanding of “justification by grace through faith,” or you would like to refresh what you learned years ago, this study of Romans is for you! Please sign-up at the Welcome Desk at church!

- **Ruth Circle** will meet in Rose Garden Room #1 on **Monday, May 11 at 1:00 p.m.** We will be discussing our study series on Life’s Challenges. All are welcome.
- **Women’s Bible Study** is on break and will resume 10:30am, Wednesday, June 3.

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Euchre group will meet **Monday, April 27, 1pm**– A sign-up sheet is at the welcome desk. If you sign-up and need to cancel close to the group's meeting, please reach out to Lois Rumph or Karen Bale.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14) April Most Needed list:

- Canned Fruit
- Canned Meat
- Canned Tomatoes (Diced, Paste, Sauce)
- Cereal
- Condiments (salad dressing, ketchup, mustard, mayo, BBQ sauce)
- Flour
- Paper Products (Paper Towels, Toilet Paper)
- Sugar



We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM). Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

FOOD/HYGIENE MONTHLY TOTAL= 172 lbs.; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL=801 lbs.
MONTHLY MONETARY= \$1,180.00; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL MONETARY= \$3,171.50

Become a 2026-2027 Grace Ambassador: Reach out to the community with the love of Jesus and help us to grow disciples! As a Grace Ambassador, you will have opportunities to attend community events to be the presence of Grace. Greet people, give them printed materials to invite them to events, and love on them. Opportunities to serve will be emailed to you to review and to decide if you could sign up to participate. The Farmer's Markets are our first outreach event this year. **Sign-up at the welcome desk. Questions: Outreach and Visibility**



Team: Joanne Figge, Ellen Paulus, or Sarah Odum

Intercessors are PERSISTANT!: By Donna Dettmann

-Intercessory prayer does not give up.

-It endures all setbacks and overcomes obstacles.

-It's prayer that "presses on" to attain God's will in whatever situation you are facing.

-Prayer is the key to finding breakthroughs in the lives of those around you.

Jesus said: "For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks the door will be opened." Luke 11:10 (NLT).

Those words mean keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking. In God's time

your persistence in asking for prayer will reap a spiritual harvest in your life and the



lives of those around you.

How to make your prayer request:

1. The Prayer Chest at the back of the church – “Let Us Pray For You” - Above the table with prayer request forms and pens.

2. Use the Grace website: grace43081.org The link for “Prayer Request” is found on the top right-hand side of the first page. Your name is optional.

Let the IPT join you in prayer, asking God for your need.



Ohio Mission Region Convocation: Our next convocation will happen on May 1-2, 2026, at St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, OH 43123. The theme of the convocation this year will be “Not Ashamed.” We hope that every congregation and pastor of our SEOMD will be represented! You may click here: <https://forms.gle/119ws9hHCxpGrAAj7> to get to the online registration form. Please get the word out to your congregational leaders and members. It would be great to see a large turnout at this important event in the life of our NALC Ohio Mission Region!

COLUMBUS RINGS
Presents:
Journeys
Sunday, May 3, 2026 @ 7 pm
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 E. Schrock Rd, Westerville Ohio
In concert with the Scioto Valley Brass and Percussion Company
As part of the Amazing Grace Concert Series

Living Out Our Mission,

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church offers:

Two services of Word and Sacrament every Sunday
Traditional, Faithful, Biblical Worship
A Parish that is Committed to “Inreach” and “Outreach”
A Strong Sunday School Program
Children and Youth Ministry and Learning Opportunities
In-depth Adult Education/Adult Studies
Vacation Bible School in the summer
Adult Fellowship Activities
Congregational Fellowship Activities
Grace Care Team
Outstanding Music Program for Worship and Outreach,
including Grace Chancel Choir, Grace Youth Choir,
Grace Ringers
“Amazing Grace” Community Concert Series
Advent and Lenten Midweek Evening Prayer services
Outreach through Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM)
Founding Congregation of Habitat for Humanity Partnership
Alcoholics Anonymous meetings

And more...

In the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Won't you join us?

+ + +

How did you find us?

- Drove by the church, saw the sign**
- Met a member who invited me**
- Saw ad in the Columbus Dispatch (online or print?)**
- Received a mail invitation**
- Attended an Amazing Grace Concert**
- Attended an event (VBS, Youth, etc.)**
- Visited the Grace Lutheran booth at Farmer's Market**
- Searched online**

Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church!

If you are a visitor, thank you for coming! We are pleased to have you with us! We are a congregation which seeks to “Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness...” Psalm 96:9. Our style, our worship environment and especially our music is intended to heighten our glory and praise, in response to God’s gifts of grace in Word and Sacrament! If you have no church home, we invite you to become a member of Grace and to grow with us in faith!

**We would appreciate a record of your visit!
Completed forms can be placed in the offering or handed to an usher.**

Date _____
Name(s) _____
Address _____
Email _____
Phone _____

_____ I am a member of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church/will commune today.
_____ I Am a Visitor (_____ 1st Time _____ 2nd Time _____ Regular Visitor)
_____ I am a Regular Attendee.

I am a member of _____ Church
City/State _____

_____ I am visiting from out-of-town.
_____ I have recently moved to this area from _____
_____ **YES, I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF GRACE CHURCH!**
_____ Please include me in e-mail communications. My e-mail address is:

_____ I would like to talk with the pastor.
_____ I would like information about children/youth ministries.

Today in worship, please pray for (Hand this request to usher before the service):

Other information you would like to share: _____

All who are baptized, have communed before, and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, are welcome to commune with us today