

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
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Organist, Choir & Music Director: Mrs. Elyse Adams

Welcome to Grace!

April 29 & May 2, 2021

What We Believe:

✝ As Lutheran Christians we stand with the church of the ages and confess the faith of the **Holy Bible**, which is **God's Word**.

✝ We believe that our **Triune God** created man and woman holy; however, since we sinned and still sin we cannot free ourselves from **sin and death**. Therefore God sent His Son **Jesus Christ**, who is our **only way to salvation**. By His death and resurrection and through no work or decision of our own, we have forgiveness, life, and salvation.

✝ We joyfully receive these gifts in His Word, and in the holy sacraments of **Baptism** and the **Lord's Supper**.

✝ In all our teaching and preaching we seek to be faithful to God's holy **Law** which shows our sin, and to proclaim His precious **Gospel**, which is the good news of our **salvation in Christ!**

✝ We subscribe also to **Luther's Small Catechism** and the other documents in the Book of Concord of 1580 because they faithfully confess these biblical truths.

Guests and Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life and salvation.

Holy Communion is also a statement of our unity in Christ (*community*). Those who receive the Lord's Supper at Grace Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

For this reason, *only members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* are ordinarily communed at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine of Close Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the service.

Nursery: If your child becomes restless during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Nursery downstairs.

Fellowship Time: Immediately following the 9:00 AM Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Large Print Hymns: Are available from the ushers!

Electronic Devices: PLEASE silence all devices during worship. Thanks!

May the Lord bless your worship today!

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 29 & May 2, 2021 – Divine Service, Setting One
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

♪ **God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It** **LSB 594**

Invocation **LSB 151**

Confession of Sins and Absolution **LSB 151**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ **Introit** *Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*



- P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.
- C** **I will extol you, my | God and King,***
and bless your name forever and | ever.
- P** Every day I will | bless you*
and praise your name forever and | ever.
- C** **The LORD is gracious and | merciful,***
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!
- C** **My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,***
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

♪ **Kyrie** **LSB 152**

♪ **Hymn of Praise – *This Is the Feast*** **LSB 155**

♪Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading – Acts 8:26–40

Pew Bible, p. 917

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Epistle – 1 John 4:1–21

Pew Bible, p. 1023

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the

antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

♪ Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel – John 15:1–8

Pew Bible, p. 901

¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

The Second Article

Redemption

[I believe] in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

[Jesus redeemed me] that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

♪ **At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

LSB 633

Sermon

Nicene Creed

LSB 158 or inside back cover of hymnal

Prayer of the Church

♪ **Offertory**

LSB 159

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪ **Preface**

LSB 160

♪ **Sanctus**

LSB 161

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

♪ **Pax Domini**

LSB 163

♪ **Agnus Dei**

LSB 163

Distribution – *If you are visiting with us, please read "Guests and Holy Communion," printed on the inside page of the worship bulletin. If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your pew, please notify the pastor or an usher. If possible, please sit near the center aisle, and it will be brought to you at the conclusion of the distribution. Wine greatly diluted with water is available in purple-tinted cups in the center of each Communion tray for those with alcohol sensitivities.*

Distribution Hymns:

♪Lift High the Cross	LSB 837
♪Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared	LSB 622
♪Abide, O Dearest Jesus	LSB 919
♪Post-Communion Canticle – <i>Thank the Lord</i>	LSB 164
Post-Communion Collect	LSB 166
♪Benediction	LSB 166
♪All Who Believe and Are Baptized	LSB 601

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF May 2nd THROUGH May 9th

<u>TODAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE I WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Sunday School & Bible Study
<u>TUESDAY</u>	10:00 AM	Board of Missions and Evangelism Meeting
	7:00 PM	Elders' Meeting
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	10:00 AM	Board of Stewardship Meeting
	6:00 PM	Confirmation Class
<u>THURSDAY</u>	6:30 PM	DIVINE SERVICE I WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	7:30 PM	Board of Christian Care Meeting
<u>FRIDAY</u>		Office Closed
<u>SUNDAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE I WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Sunday School & Bible Study



About the Bulletin Cover: Christians, like branches, bear fruit. Such is the only possible result of branches being connected to Jesus, the vine. Jesus is our source of life. He is the source of the fruit that we bear. For in Jesus, there is never-ending life that conquered the grave in order to forgive and give us life. A life in Jesus always bears much fruit, so we need the Word of forgiveness and life poured into us each day.

Our Partnership in the Gospel

Grace's Mission: We are friends in God's family through Jesus, strengthened by His Spirit to represent Christ in our daily lives, our community and the world.

Grace's Vision: To be an active, growing Christ-centered congregation offering youth and adults traditional Lutheran worship, Bible study and fellowship while reaching out especially to our neighbors, families and friends with the Gospel invitation.

2021 Theme: *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."* Joshua 1:9

Our Worship Attendance:

April 22 & 25, 2021: 93 (25/68)