

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Racine, Wisconsin

May 4 & 7th, 2023

**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**
3700 Washington Ave., Racine, WI 53405
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262-633-4831

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. David W. Hintz
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Welcome to Grace!

May 7th, 2023

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.

Friendship Pad: Please sign the Friendship Pad when it is passed during the service.

Offering: The offering plates are not passed. Rather, they are located at the back of the nave. Please place your offering in one of the plates as you enter or leave the church. You may also hand it to one of the ushers.

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

Large Print Hymnals: Are available from the ushers!

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

May the Lord bless your worship today!

5th Sunday of Easter
May 4th & 7th, 2023 – Divine Service, Setting Three

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

♪ **The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done**

LSB 464

Invocation

LSB 184

Confession of Sins and Absolution

LSB 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ **Introit**

Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1



P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song, *
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

C I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up *
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

P O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help, *
and you have | healed me.

C O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol; *
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

P Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints, *
and give thanks to his | holy name.

C For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime. *
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

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 Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song, *
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!!

♪ **Gloria Patri**

LSB 186

♪ **Kyrie**

LSB 186

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

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 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

Pew Bible, p. 914

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

²And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷But they

cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Epistle – 1 Peter 2:2–10

Pew Bible, p. 1014-1015

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

♪Alleluia and Verse

LBS 190

Holy Gospel – John 14:1–14

Pew Bible, p. 901

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come

again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

Catechism Time – The Lord’s Prayer

Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 325

The Conclusion

*For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. * Amen.*

What does this mean?

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in Heaven, and are heard by Him; for He himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Apostles’ Creed

LSB 192 or inside back cover of hymnal

♪At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing

LSB 633 -

Sermon Theme: “What Happens When The Heavens Open!”

Acts 7:55-56

Offering

The offering plates are not passed. Please see note on the first page of the bulletin.

♪Offertory -

LSB 192-193

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪Preface	LSB 194
♪Sanctus	LSB 195
Lord’s Prayer	LSB 196
The Words of Our Lord	LSB 197
♪Pax Domini	LSB 197
♪Agnus Dei	LSB 198

Distribution – *If you are visiting with us, please read “Guests and Holy Communion,” printed on the inside cover of the Friendship Pad. 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:	
♪ You Are the Way; through You Alone	LSB 526
♪ Food Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing	LSB 475
♪ Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me	LSB 722
♪Nunc Dimittis	LSB 199-200
♪Thanksgiving	LSB-200
Salutation and Benedicamus	LSB-201-202
♪Benediction	LSB 202
♪ Christ the Eternal Lord	LSB 829



CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF May 7th THROUGH May14th

<u>SUNDAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE 3 WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Voters Meeting

WEDNESDAY

<u>THURSDAY</u>	6:30 PM	DIVINE SERVICE 3 WITH HOLY COMMUNION
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FRIDAY

<u>SUNDAY</u>	9:00 AM	DIVINE SERVICE 3 WITH HOLY COMMUNION
	10:30 AM	Bible Study

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +

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.

Our Worship Attendance:

March 16 & 19, 2023: 103(39/64)