



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

Welcome to worship!** We are a congregation with a long history of loving God and serving our neighbors. **We welcome and celebrate all of you, including race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, age, and family.

*We welcome you to share fellowship with us in your joys and struggles. If you hunger for a good meal, a bag of groceries, the bread of communion, an opportunity to serve your neighbors, or a welcoming church home, **there is a place for you at Grace!***

✠ When you see this symbol you're invited to stand as you are able.

We love to sing! When music and words are not printed in the bulletin, you can find the song in the red hymnal underneath the chairs at the page number listed.

Children belong in worship! We recognize that children aren't wired to "sit still" for an hour, so we welcome their quiet movement, joyous singing, and encourage their involvement in worship. Children of any age may pick out a book, toy, or art supplies in the Commons for use during the service.

Help love reach beyond these walls. You can give online at gracenempls.org/give or scan the code at the right. You can also place your offering in the plate as you come up for communion (envelopes are on the cart in the Commons).



All are welcome at Jesus' table to receive holy communion. We set the table with wheat bread, gluten-free crackers, white grape juice, and red wine.

Join us for fellowship time! All are invited to stay after worship for coffee, treats, and community connection in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Stay connected to what's happening at Grace: sign up for our weekly online newsletter, "The Scroll." Find the latest editions and the link to subscribe on our home page at gracenempls.org.

Two single-stall and wheelchair-accessible restrooms are just outside the sanctuary in the Commons, and another one is down the hallway across from the gym.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

In this season of joy, feel free to make a joyful noise with every "alleluia"!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

✠ HYMN

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

#851

verses 1, 2, 3, & 5

✠ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

For the gracious mystery of the new creation, let us bless the living God.

We praise you, Creator, for your fruitful love:
igniting the stars, greening the earth,
filling the oceans and rivers with life.

We praise you, O God!

We praise you, O God!

We thank you, Covenant-Maker, for your faithful love.
In the clouds you placed your rainbow.
Through the sea you led your people to freedom.
Over the river your voice thundered,
“This is my beloved child.”

We thank you, O God!

We thank you, O God!

We bless you, Compassionate One,
for your love poured out:
forgiving our sin, calming our fears,
sending us to feed your sheep.
Send your Spirit upon this water
and root your church in resurrection life,
that we might bear good fruit.

We bless you, O God!

We bless you, O God!

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
our Courage and Comfort,
be all glory and honor, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE

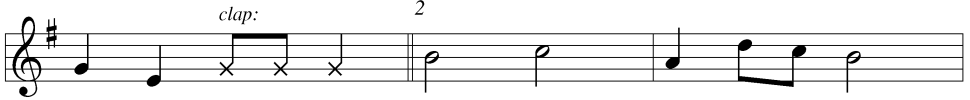
The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with others as you are comfortable. When the hymn of praise begins, you may return to your seats and remain standing.

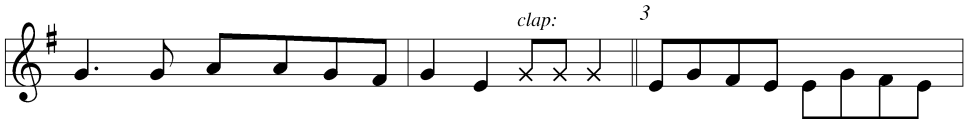
✠ HYMN OF PRAISE



Sing un - to the Lord, praise the ho - ly name, come and praise God with a
Chcem o - sla - vo - vat' svoj - ho Pá - na, chcem Mu spie - vat' no - vú



new song. Shout for joy, all the earth,
pie - seň. Chcem ho chva - lit',



come and praise God with a new song. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
chcem Mu spie - vat' no - vú pie - seň. Al - le - lu - ja, al - le - lu - ja!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Come and praise God with a new song.
Al - le - lu - ja, al - le - lu - ja! Chcem Mu spie - vat' no - vú pie - seň.

OBJECT LESSON

Any children who are interested and comfortable are invited to come forward for a reflection and short prayer. Parents and guardians are welcome too!

CHORAL OFFERING

As we prepare to hear the Word, music opens our hearts to receive God's blessing.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:1-5, 11-15

The LORD's word came to me: Human one, prophesy against Israel's shepherds. Prophesy and say to them, The LORD God proclaims to the shepherds: Doom to Israel's shepherds who tended themselves! Shouldn't shepherds tend the flock? You drink the milk, you wear the wool, and you slaughter the fat animals, but you don't tend the flock. You don't strengthen the weak, heal the sick, bind up the injured, bring back the strays, or seek out the lost; but instead you use force to rule them with injustice. Without a

shepherd, my flock was scattered; and when it was scattered, it became food for all the wild animals.

The LORD God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the LORD God says.

This is the word of life.

Thanks be to God.

✠ GOSPEL CHANT *As Jesus is risen, let us rise with joy to greet the Gospel!*



Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,



hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

✠ GOSPEL READING *John 21:1-19*

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Later, Jesus himself appeared again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened: Simon Peter, Thomas (called Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples were together.

Simon Peter told them, "I'm going fishing." They said, "We'll go with you." They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't realize it was Jesus.

Jesus called to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." He said, "Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they did, and there were so many fish that they couldn't haul in the net. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they weren't far from shore, only about one hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you've just caught." Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore. It was full of large fish, one hundred fifty-three of them. Yet the net hadn't torn, even with so many fish. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples could bring themselves to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep."

He asked a third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, “Do you love me?” He replied, “Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.

“I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don’t want to go.” He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, “Follow me.”

This is the Good News.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

✠ HYMN *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* #817

AFFIRMING FAITH WITH THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Each Sunday in the Easter season, we celebrate our connection to Christ’s body around the world. With Christians in Ghana, let us affirm our faith with the words printed on the insert.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit intercedes for us and opens our hearts to Jesus’ own heartbreak and hope for the world.

Part II



O - pen my heart, o - pen my heart. Repeat

As you feel led, join in singing the higher part:

Part I



O - pen my heart, o - pen my heart. Repeat

AFFIRMING FAITH WITH THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Each Sunday in the Easter season, we celebrate our connection to Christ's body around the world. With Christians in Ghana, let us affirm our faith.

We believe in God, Creator and Sustainer of all life,
who calls us as partners in the healing
and redemption of the world.

We believe that God in Jesus Christ
is revealed as the one who covenants
with and for humanity and all life on earth.

We live within the promise that Jesus Christ came
so that all might have life in fullness.

We believe that God in the power of the Holy Spirit
gives us a basis for global life in respect for creation,
restoration of community,
transformation of the individual,
a just distribution of resources,
and celebration of life for all.

We believe that the church is especially called
to stand by suffering people
and to voice the cry of the earth
in the face of mounting economic injustice
and ecological destruction,
so that justice may roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

This affirmation of faith was adopted in longer form by delegates of the World Communion of Reformed Churches meeting in Accra, Ghana, in 2004. The Accra Confession declares justice in the economy and for the earth a priority of Christian faith.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Trusting in God's resurrection power, we invite you to help us match \$10,000 generously donated by members of our community. At each \$1000, we will add a flower to our Spring Match field and dream about what God can do through us. You can give online at gracenempls.org/give or scan the code at the right. You can also place your offering in the plate as you come up for communion.

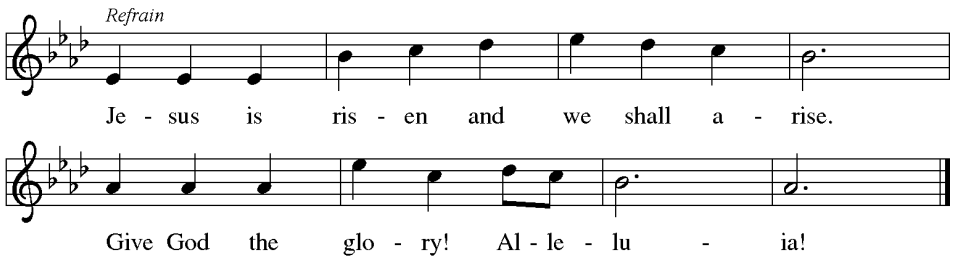


✠ COMMUNION: SINGING THE STORY

#377

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it,
said to the fearful, "God's peace be with you.

Eat and remember this is my body.

All that was promised is now coming true!" *Refrain*

The cup he shared with the disciples
Jesus now drinks in this heavenly feast.

Mercy for you, life for all people—
share the good news with the greatest and least! *Refrain*

✠ COMMUNION: PRAYER

...And so with heaven and earth we shout:

"Alleluia!" Alleluia!

Echo the "Alleluia!" as you are invited.

With disciples in every time and place, let us pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION: SHARING THE MEAL

The risen Christ dwells with us here.

All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Alleluia! Amen.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you wish to receive, ushers will invite you forward. The pastor will place a piece of bread or a gluten-free cracker in your cupped hand as you hear "Body of Christ, given for you." In the brass trays are cups of red wine or golden grape juice. Take a small cup as you hear, "Cup of Christ, given for you." You may respond with "Amen," "Thank you," or with quiet acceptance.

If you cannot come forward but wish to receive communion or a blessing, please let an usher know and the servers will come to you. If for any reason you do not wish to receive, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing with your arms crossed over your chest.



As we celebrate Communion, you may join in singing:

HYMN

Lamb of God

ACS Setting 12



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.

HYMN

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

#708

HYMN

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

#472

✠ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Now may the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray:

Living God, our grateful hearts rejoice in this foretaste of the feast you prepare for all peoples.

As grains become a single loaf, so unite your church and make us bread to feed the hungry world in Jesus' name. Amen.

✠ BENEDICTION

based on 2 Corinthians 13:13

HYMN

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

#548

✠ SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace. In word and deed, proclaim the good news!

We will. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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ELCA • LGBTQ+ Affirming

Worship with us Sundays at 10 AM

1500 6th Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413 • 612-788-2444

www.gracenempls.org

We are called
to love God,
serve neighbors, and
tell the story of Jesus Christ,
welcoming all.



**Help love reach
beyond these walls.**
Scan this QR code
with your phone's
camera app
to give online.

**We're the home of
Little Kitchen Food Shelf,**
a no-boundaries, no-restrictions
food shelf serving all people.

**Little Kitchen
FoodShelf**

Interested in volunteering?

Email Lynn at admin@gracenempls.org

Need food? Pre-register by phone

9 - 11 AM Monday - Friday, 612-788-2444

Grace Center
for community life

**We're the founders of
Grace Center for Community Life**
empowering lives through
faith, learning, and service.

Interested in reserving space at Grace Center?

Call 612-810-6988 or email Lorrie Stromme at
Lorrie@GraceCtr.org