



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 28, 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 [gracnempls.org/give](http://gracnempls.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 [gracnempls.org](http://gracnempls.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!**



1 Oh, I woke up this morn - ing with my mind, and it was  
 2 Can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, when you keep it  
 3 Makes you love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your mind, when you keep it  
 4 The dev - il can't catch you in your mind, when you keep it  
 5 Je - sus, the cap - tain in your mind, when you keep it



stayed, stayed on Je - sus, woke up this morn - ing with my  
 stayed, stayed on Je - sus, can't hate your neigh - bor in your  
 stayed, stayed on Je - sus, love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your  
 stayed, stayed on Je - sus, dev - il can't catch you in your  
 stayed, stayed on Je - sus, Je - sus, the cap - tain in your



mind, and it was stayed, stayed on Je - sus,  
 mind, when you keep it stayed, stayed on Je - sus,  
 mind, when you keep it stayed, stayed on Je - sus,  
 mind, when you keep it stayed, stayed on Je - sus,  
 mind, when you keep it stayed, stayed on Je - sus,



woke up this morn - ing with my mind, and it was  
 can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, when you keep it  
 love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your mind, when you keep it  
 dev - il can't catch you in your mind, when you keep it  
 Je - sus, the cap - tain in your mind, when you keep it



stayed, stayed on Je - sus, hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu, hal - le -



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

## ✠ 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

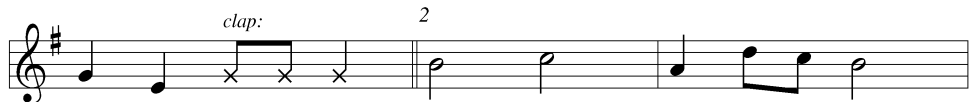
The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*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.*

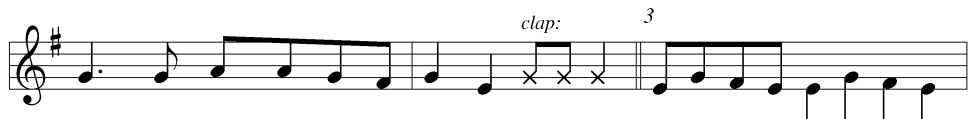
## ✠ HYMN OF PRAISE



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. When invited, you are welcome to join the choir in singing the refrain:*



I am the Vine, you are the



branch - es; if you be - lieve you



will be free. You are my sheep,

I am your Shep - herd. You will bear  
fruit, — come fol - low Me.

FIRST READING

*Psalm 98*

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory. O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations. You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the sovereign one, the LORD. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth. The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

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!

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: “I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vineyard keeper who removes any of my branches that don’t produce fruit, and trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me.

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Abba is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.”

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

SERMON



✠ HYMN

*O Blessed Spring*



1. O bles - sèd spring, where word and sign em - brace us  
 2. Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain  
 3. When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their  
 4. As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our  
 5. Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to  
 faith, re - bell - ious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
 hea - vy har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will  
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take  
 this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re-



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a — gain.  
 move with gifts of beau — ty, wis - dom, love.  
 wing and trust the prom — ise of the spring.  
 —vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

**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 Aotearoa New Zealand, let us affirm our faith.*

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
 You create our world and give us life.  
 Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
 You have always been with us.  
 You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
 good beyond all measure.  
 You came to us before we came to you.



You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.

You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.


You are our God. We worship you.

*This affirmation of faith comes from A New Zealand Prayer Book, He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa, an authorized prayer book of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. It is increasingly common to refer to the island nation by both its Māori and English names.*

### 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

### 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](http://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.*



**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.

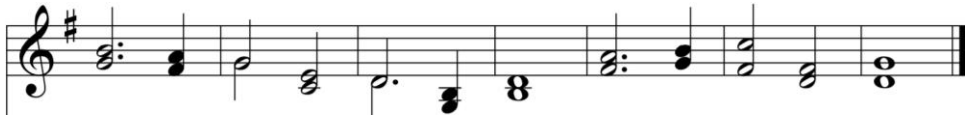
## HYMN

*Son of God, Whose Heart Is Peace*

Māori hymn



1 Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most ho - ly,  
 2 Take a - way our sin - ful - ness, e - vil that im - pris - ons us;  
 3 Warm our hearts to love you, Lord, you who died to save us;



to your pres - ence we have come; give us now your love.  
 free us from what trou - bles us; give our souls re - lease.  
 gath - er us with - in your arms, Je - sus, on this day.



## HYMN

*When at This Table*

1 When at this ta - ble I re - ceive a bless - ing,  
 2 If at this ta - ble I have need of heal - ing,



the bro - ken bread, the wine of life for me,  
 un - bid - den grief, re - la - tion - ship gone wrong,



then let me share the peace with you, my neigh - bor,  
 then let me know the hands of God en - fold - ing,



and let the Spir - it set our spir - its free.  
 and let la - ment be - come be - liev - ing song.

- 3 **If at this table I forget the hungry,  
the dispossessed and warfare's spreading stain,  
then let this bread become the bread of judgment,  
this wine the sharp awareness of that pain.**
  
- 4 **If at this table I make dedication  
to give my life in serving what is good,  
then let my center be where God invites me,  
and show the words of Jesus understood.**
  
- 5 **What faith I have, I bring to join this table,  
what hope I hold, in Christ is taught and true;  
with all creation I will share this blessing,  
the feast where God is making all things new.**

✠ **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*

May the grace of the risen savior, Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God, who wipes away our tears,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, renewing all creation,  
surround you, support you, and lead you on,  
today and always. **Amen.**

- 1 **Praise, praise, praise the Lord!**  
**Praise God's holy name! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*  
**Praise God's holy name! Hallelujah!**  
**Praise God's holy name! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*
- 2 **We have seen your glory**  
**streaming through the clouds! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*
- 3 **We have felt your power**  
**rising from the earth! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*
- 4 **God, who fills the oceans,**  
**fill our hearts with love! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*
- 5 **God, who spins the planets,**  
**lead us in the dance! Hallelujah!** *Repeat*

✠ 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 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413 • 612-788-2444**

**[www.gracenempls.org](http://www.gracenempls.org)**

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



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beyond these walls.**  
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food shelf serving all people.

**Little Kitchen  
FoodShelf** 

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for community life

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empowering lives through  
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Call 612-810-6988 or email Lorrie Stromme at  
[Lorrie@GraceCtr.org](mailto:Lorrie@GraceCtr.org)