

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY MAY 26, 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 AND GREETING

The grace of our savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Announcing God's approaching reign, Jesus healed many of sickness and sorrow. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us name our need for renewal.



Holy God, draw near to us, for today some of us are lost or lonely, some of us feel frightened or frenzied, some of us are wearied by the changes and chances of life. Show us the tender compassion of Christ, who struggled like us, and mourned with us, and bore grief and pain for us.

Send your Spirit to make our gathering a safe shelter, where we can be real and released from shame, trusting that you already know us and love us completely.

Maker and mender of all, hear the honest prayers of our hearts...

Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.

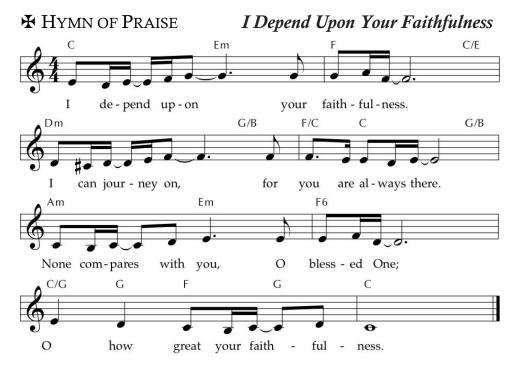
Assurance and Peace

God calls us beloved from the first day until the last, and in Jesus Christ has found us and freed us. As disciples of Jesus, let us continue the work of healing for the sake of the wounded world. **Amen.**

The peace of 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.



FIRST READING

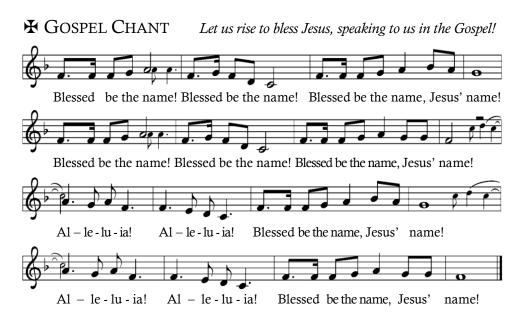
Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the LORD sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of God's robe filling the temple. Winged creatures were stationed around the LORD. Each had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew about. They shouted to each other, saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of heavenly forces! All the earth is filled with God's glory!" The doorframe shook at the sound of their shouting, and the house was filled with smoke.

I said, "Mourn for me; I'm ruined! I'm a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I've seen the sovereign one, the LORD of heavenly forces!" Then

one of the winged creatures flew to me, holding a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. It touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt has departed, and your sin is removed." Then I heard the LORD's voice saying, "Whom should I send, and who will go for us?" I said, "I'm here; send me."

This is the word of life. Thanks be to God.



★ Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with them."

Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it's not possible to see God's kingdom."

Nicodemus asked, "How is it possible for an adult to be born? It's impossible to enter the mother's womb for a second time and be born, isn't it?"

Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. Don't be surprised that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said, "How are these things possible??"

Jesus answered, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that everyone who believes in the Son won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

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

SERMON

Jon Olsen, guest preacher

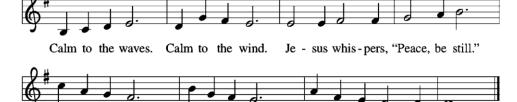
Jon Olsen has called Grace home since 2020 and currently serves on Grace's transition team. They are a graduate of Luther Seminary, holding a Master of Arts in Theology. Jon bakes bread every week, and they would love to talk to you about the spirituality of shaping and baking loaves.

BLESSING ASHLEY TETER AND ERIK NELSON

Seminarians Ashley Teter and Erik Nelson will be chaplains this summer, learning with other students in a clinical setting. Ashley is serving in Maple Grove and Burnsville, and Erik is serving in Zumbrota.

Prayers of the People

To the storm Jesus said, "Peace, be still!" For creation, the world, and all in distress, let us pray, "Hear us, O God," and call upon Jesus' peace, singing:



Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.

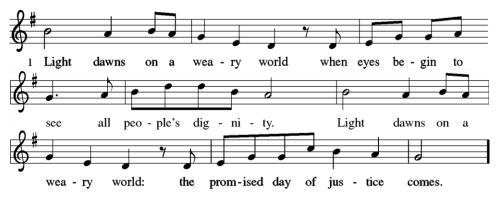
OFFERING OUR GIFTS

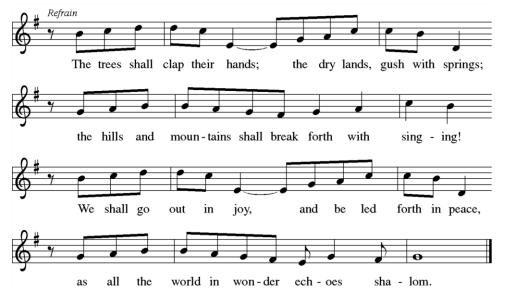
Let us offer our lives to God. You can give online at gracenempls.org/give or scan the code at the right. You can also place your offering in the plate as you come up for communion.



★ THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

In the beginning, God said, "Let there be light." Let us give thanks for God's creative Word.





Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word.

All that has life and breath praises your name.

For your Word that sustains the earth,

we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry,

preached your mercy, and called us to faith.

For your Word in our Savior Christ,

we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word, that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption, and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world. For your Word to transform our lives,

we entreat you, O God.

We entreat you, O God.

Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer, for the sake of your living Word, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.

₩ BENEDICTION

based on Isaiah 6

May the triune God—holy, holy, holy Lord, whose glory fills the earth—bless you, transform you, and send you with purpose and power. **Amen.**

HYMN

Heaven Opened to Isaiah

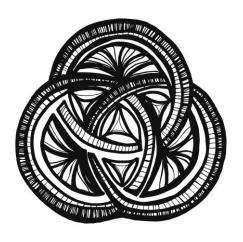
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¥ SENDING

Go in peace, born anew to share God's love with all. **We will. Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



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SOURCES AND PERMISSIONS

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Worship with us Sundays at 10 AM
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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-restric

a no-boundaries, no-restrictions food shelf serving all people.



Interested in volunteering?

Email Lynn at admin@gracenempls.org

Need food? Pre-register by phone

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



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