

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter—May 15, 2022—8:30am**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

521 Providence Road  
Chesapeake, VA 23325  
757-420-4704

[www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](http://www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org)



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)  
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

**Our Mission Statement:**

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

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Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.  
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.  
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.  
+ Please stand as you are able.

**+ Gathering +**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude**

“Simple Gifts”  
*arr. by Cindy Barry*

**+ Easter Acclamation**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

**+ Gathering Song**

“God of Wonders”

Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky,  
The heavens are Your tabernacle; glory to the Lord on high.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy.  
The universe declares Your majesty. You are holy, holy.  
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.  
And as I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night.

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.

Text: Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong  
Text © 2000 Never Say Never Songs  
(Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

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**+ Prayer of the Day**

ELW p.34

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**+Word+**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading**

Acts 11:1-18

A reading from Acts.

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by

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which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

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**+ Gospel Reading**

John 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Young at Heart Message & Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton

**+ Song of the Day**

“The Power of Your Love”

Lord I come to You, let my heart be changed, renewed  
Flowing from the grace that I found in You  
And Lord I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away by the pow'r of Your love

Hold me close, let Your love surround me  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side  
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle and I will soar with You,  
Your Spirit leads me on in the pow'r of Your love

Lord unveil my eyes, let me see You face to face  
The knowledge of Your love as You live in me  
Lord renew my mind as Your will unfolds in my life  
In living ev'ry day by the pow'r of Your love

Text: Geoff Bullock Text © 1992 Geoff Bullock Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
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**+ Nicene Creed**

ELW p.104

With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and  
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\* universal

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**+ Prayers of Intercession**

sung refrain: ELW #642

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

**Refrain: Where true charity and love abide,  
God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there.**

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect.

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us (local natural areas may be named). Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made.

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power.

**Refrain**

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress, especially for those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*). As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need.

Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**Refrain**

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice* English Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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+ Peace

+Meal+

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Offering**

*Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able! Electronic donations can be made at*

[https://tithely.com/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611](https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611).

*Checks can be also be sent to church:  
521 Providence Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23325*



**+ Offering Prayer**

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



+ **Great Thanksgiving**

ELW p.199

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

+ **Thanksgiving at the Table**

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

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**+ Lord's Prayer**

ELW p.201

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

**+ Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ dwells with us here.  
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

***Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace***

*When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.*

*Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors. If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.*

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### Communion Song

“Round the Table”

Come together 'round the table. Come and taste the wonder,  
A healing touch and a deep connection from the living center  
of it all.

Seeking meaning on the run you try and save the day.  
But all is ready will you come? Love invites the way.

Bring a friend or enemy or one you hold or blame.  
With each other we are one, here in Jesus' name.

Hear creation groan for life. Will hate and hunger cease?  
In the roar of violence the world cries for peace.

Text: Larry Olsen & Hans Peterson  
Text © 1990 Dakota Road Music

### + Sending +

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### + Blessing

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### Announcements

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### + Sending Song

“Remembering the Promise”

We are remembering the promise of God's love.  
Oh, we are remembering the Savior's dying love.  
Oh, we are remembering the promise of God's love  
And we know that we will never be alone.

Through the years and through the wonder, we will never be alone.

Through the tears and through the laughter, God is here with us.

Through the fear and through the silence, we will never be alone.  
Through the life and through the dying, God is here with us.

Through the word and through the water, we will never be alone.  
Through the cross and the risen Savior, God is here with us.

Text: Larry Olson  
Text © 1991 Dakota Road Music

### + Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

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