

**Second Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023—8:30am**



Grace Lutheran Church

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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.

Second Sunday of Easter—April 16, 2023—8:30am

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

“Because He Lives” *arr. by William G. Gaither*

+ **Easter Acclamation**

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

+ **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew. Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

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+ Gathering Song

“He Has Been Raised”

Lost and frightened, feeling sadness, someone you loved has gone away. Seeking answers, finding questions. Could it be true what the people say?

Refrain: He has been raised. He is not here.
Can you believe your ears?
Let go of all your hurts and fears. Jesus is alive!

We are struggling, we are wond'ring, can we walk the streets of faith? We are loved and we're forgiven. Why don't we trust in these arms of grace?

Our mourning and weeping has turned to rejoicing, the stone from His tomb has been rolled away. Life has come from death today now!

James Desai | Larry Olson
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+ Prayer of the Day

ELW p.32

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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+Word+

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

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

A reading from Acts.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

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

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Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from First Peter.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

+ Gospel Acclamation

ELW #174

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written on a five-line staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a common time signature. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the first staff. The second staff is identical to the first, but it ends with a double bar line. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the second staff.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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+ Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

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

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Young at Heart Message & Sermon

The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

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+ Song of the Day

“Living Hope”

How great the chasm that lay between us. How high the mountain I could not climb. In desperation I turned to heaven, and spoke Your name into the night. Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness tore through the shadows of my soul. The work is finished, the end is written. Jesus Christ my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken I am forgiven, the King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever. Jesus Christ my living hope.

Refrain: Hallelujah praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ my living hope.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise, Your buried body began to breathe. Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me. Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe. Out of the silence the Roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me. Jesus Yours is the victory, whoa

Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham
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+ Nicene Creed

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: "How Great Is Our God"

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Refrain: How great is our God! Sing with me, How great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

Chris Tomlin Ed Cash Jesse Reeves © 2004 Rising Springs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work.

As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction.

You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love.

Refrain

You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief, especially those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).

Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Refrain

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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.

*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.

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.107

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

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+ Lord's Prayer

ELW p.112

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

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

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

“The Old Rugged Cross”

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

O the old rugged cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

In the old rugged cross stained with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true
Its shame and reproach gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share

+ Sending +

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

Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

Announcements

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+ Sending Song

“Unstoppable God”

Heaven thundered, and the world was born
Life begins and ends in the dust You formed
Faith commanded, and the mountains moved
Fear is losing ground to our hope in You

Refrain: Unstoppable God, let Your glory go on and on
Impossible things, in Your name they shall be done

Freedom conquered, all our chains undone
Sin defeated, Jesus has overcome
Mercy triumphed, when the third day dawned
Darkness was denied, when the stone was gone

Nothing shall be impossible
Your kingdom reigns unstoppable
We'll shout Your praise forevermore
Jesus our God unstoppable

Chris Brown | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye
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+ 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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