

**Third Sunday of Easter  
April 23, 2023—8:30am**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

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Chesapeake, VA 23325  
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[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.

**Third Sunday of Easter—April 23, 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**

“Open Our Eyes” *arr. by Sharon Wilson*

**+ 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**

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

**Refrain:** Open the eyes of my heart,  
Lord, open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see You, I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your pow’r and love as we sing, “Holy, holy, holy.”

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy;  
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

Paul Baloche

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**+ Prayer of the Day**

ELW p.33

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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.*

**Bell Choir**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”  
*arr. by Karen Lakey Buckwalter*

**First Reading**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from Acts.

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>36</sup>“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup>And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

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### Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from First Peter.

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

### + Gospel Acclamation

ELW #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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 quarter note on G4, followed by a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. This is followed by a half note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. The second staff begins with a quarter note on G4, followed by a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. This is followed by a half note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the first staff, and 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the second staff.

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### + Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

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

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. <sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed

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and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

### Young at Heart Message & Sermon

The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

### + Song of the Day

“Build My Life”

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe, we live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe, we live for You,  
we live for You

**Refrain:** Holy there is no one like You, there is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You  
are  
And fill me with Your heart, and lead me in Your love  
to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone, and I will not be shaken

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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

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Ever-present God, you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread and in the bonds of community. Reveal yourself to us in the faces of all we meet. Strengthened by your body and blood, let us boldly live out your good news.

As we know you in the breaking of the bread, we know you in the grains of the field and the flowing waters. Care for the earth you lovingly create. Strengthen those who safeguard threatened land and water.

You are the authority to whom we dedicate our lives. Help us keep the needs of those most vulnerable at the forefront of our community. Move us to care for any who are disregarded or oppressed.

### **Refrain**

Mothering God, you feed and comfort those who hunger. Open the hearts of those who hoard resources and lead them to share your abundance. We pray for anyone hungering for your comforting presence this day, especially those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).

We remember with thanksgiving all your beloved saints. As you have raised them to eternal life, abide with us in your promise of resurrection.

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](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**

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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

“Travelers on a Journey”

**Refrain:** We are trav’lers on the journey yearning to believe!  
Hearts are burning, eyes are opened.  
We are trav’lers on the journey of love.

What is life really all about – in the struggle of faith?  
Hear the word reaching out to you, Jesus is alive today.

Do we walk in our foolishness – with our hearts ever slow.  
To the touch of the Holy One who is with us on this road?

We are blessed in the gathering – at the table of grace.  
Free to see in another’s pain the face of Jesus here today.

Hans Peterson | Larry Olson  
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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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