

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor - Richard D. Rudnik
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President - Mike Cape
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Church Secretary - Lorie Souther
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Accompanists-David West & Mike Cape

Today

Service Elder - John Wegner
Scripture Reader -Dale Boger
Offering Stewards - Lisa Giroir
Altar Guild -Jerrie & Stacie

Next Sunday

Joey Souther
Mona LaCour
Lisa Giroir
John & Rana

Third Sunday of Easter	May 4, 2025
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Welcome to God's house! Please allow us to keep in touch with you by signing the register in the foyer/narthex. Thank you!

Altar Flowers are placed today to the glory of God by Lisa Giroir in celebration of Kade Cormier's birthday.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week. Those Christians who truly believe that they receive the true body and blood of Christ Jesus our Savior, in, with and under the bread and wine are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper.

The Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 set forth, "*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.*"

If you are concerned about having a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper, we urge you to speak with pastor. Questions and answers that may aid your understanding of and preparation for Holy Communion are on pages 329-330 in the pew hymnal.

Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cup trays for those who cannot tolerate alcohol.

† PREPARATION †

HYMN *"With High Delight Let Us Unite" LSB #483*

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalms 30:5, 8*

Pastor: To You, O LORD, I cry,

People: **and to the Lord I plead for mercy.**

Pastor: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

People: **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

Silence for meditation and reflection.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **Amen.**

† WORD †

INTROIT *Psalms 145:4–7, 9; antiphon: v. 10*

Pastor: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

People: **and all your saints shall bless you!**

Pastor: One generation shall commend your works to another,

People: **and shall declare your mighty acts.**

Pastor: On the glorious splendor of your majesty,

People: **and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

Pastor: They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,

People: **and I will declare your greatness.**

Pastor: They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness

People: **and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**

Pastor: The Lord is good to all,

People: **and his mercy is over all that he has made.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

People: **and to the Holy Spirit;**

Pastor: as it was in the beginning,

People: **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

People: **and all your saints shall bless you!**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Praise to You and Adoration" LSB #692

**Praise to You and adoration,
Blessed Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in Your keeping;
Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping
Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You,
And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion,
In Your death and resurrection.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1–22

¹But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Revelation 5:1–14

⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God

from every tribe and language and people and nation,

¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,

and they shall reign on the earth.”

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE *Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32*

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
People: death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.

Pastor: Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road,
People: while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 21:1–19*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *Nicene Creed*

**People: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,**

very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake” LSB #688*

SERMON

MEDITATION

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Emboldened by Your mercy, we come before You, O Lord, with the prayers and petitions of our hearts and with confidence in Your good and gracious will to answer our prayers.

Blessed Lord, You forgave Peter his betrayal and appointed him to feed Your sheep. Forgive our sins, restore us to Your service, and bless all that we do that it may be to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your grace, O Lord, You turned Saul from an enemy of Your kingdom into Your servant and sent him as an apostle to the Gentiles. Turn the hearts of our own rebellion, and by Your Spirit wear down our resistance to Your Word, that we also may be bold witnesses to Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As You have willed, O Lord, Your Son established the church. Continue to set apart pastors to feed the people of Your pasture upon the food of Your Word and Sacraments. Bless [name], presiding in the Synod; [name], our district president; [name], our pastor(s) and all church workers that their service may be fruitful and faithful. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your power, O Lord, You order the nations of the earth and hold our leaders accountable for justice, for the promotion of virtue, and for peace. Bless us with good and honest leaders who will hear and heed Your voice that we may live peaceful and quiet lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: According to Your will, O Lord, You heal the sick. Hear us on behalf of all who suffer any ill of body or mind and grant them strength for the day and keep them in Your grace to everlasting life. [Hear us especially for . . .] Guard us against despair and keep us in the day of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your grace, O Lord, You have named us as Your own in the baptismal water and joined us to Christ's death and resurrection. Grant that by Your grace we may live holy, upright, and godly lives, displaying in our life and conduct the goodness of Your love and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As Your Son has granted, O Lord, we come to His Table there to receive the fruits of His redeeming work in this communion upon His body and blood. Nourish us for faithfulness in this life, and by this Holy Communion nurture in us the grace to keep us to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your love You have provided us with a great company of witnesses through time and history and encouraged us through their witness. Deliver the grieving from their sorrows, [*especially* . . .], and bring us all together with Your servant Paul to behold You face to face in the life that death cannot overcome. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" LSB #955*

† SACRAMENT †

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He

has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, with blessed Paul, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *p. 161 in LSB*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *p. 163 in LSB*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread” LSB #625

"How Can I Keep From Singing" Chris Tomlin & Matt Redman

**There is an endless song, echoes in my soul, I hear the music ring.
And though the storms may come, I am holding on
To the rock I cling.**

Chorus

**How can I keep from singing Your praise!
How can I ever say enough, how amazing is Your love!
How can I keep from shouting Your Name!
I know I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart want to sing!**

**I will lift my eyes in the darkest night, for I know my Savior lives.
And I will walk with You, knowing You'll see me through
And sing the songs You give**

Chorus

**How can I keep from singing Your praise!
How can I ever say enough, how amazing is Your love!
How can I keep from shouting Your Name!
know I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart want to sing!**

**I can sing in the troubled times, sing when I win.
I can sing when I lose my step and fall down again.
I can sing 'cause You pick me up, sing 'cause You're there.
I can sing 'cause You hear me, Lord, when I call to You in prayer.
I can sing with my last breath, sing for I know,
That I'll sing with the angels and the saints around the throne**

Chorus

**How can I keep from singing Your praise!
How can I ever say enough, how amazing is Your love!
How can I keep from shouting Your Name!
I know I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart**

**I know I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart
I know I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart want to sing!**

Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

(p. 164 in hymnal)

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

O almighty God, by Your Son, our Savior, You have always given to Your church on earth faithful shepherds to guide and feed Your flock. Therefore we pray, make all pastors diligent to preach Your Holy Word and to administer Your means of grace, and grant Your people wisdom to hear and heed Your Word, to serve You in willing obedience, and to walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise” LSB #680

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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This Week at Grace

Today	9:00 a.m.	Worship
		Coffee & Youth Biscuits
	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages (<u>Cancelled</u>)
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study (<u>Cancelled</u>)
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	6:00 p.m.	Potluck Fellowship
	6:45 p.m.	Prayer & Praise

For the week May 4– 10, 2025

Birthdays

05/04 Richard Reaves

05/10 Jeannette Burke

In the palm of God's Hands...

PRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS: Carmen Cunningham, Cynthia Ratliff and Todd Cunningham.

BATTLING CANCER: Beau Bourgeois, Helen Duplantis, Michael Hamilton and Nileen Nemeth.

RECOVERING FROM SURGERY/INJURY: Andrew Beasley, Jacqui Kaplan and Joe Deane.

CHRONIC CONDITIONS & ELDERLY: Connie Oswalt, DeAnn Barrios, Donna Von Burgsdorff, Frank Alessio, James Hillman, Jaxon Greene, John Wegner, Kim Cape, Marilyn Beach, Mike Wallace, Rana DaSilva, Richard LaCour and Toni St. Amant.

MOURNING A LOSS: The families of Annick George Matherne, Elaine Waswick, Ellen DeSoto, Patsy Wegner and Richard Hauser.

NEW & EXPECTING MOTHERS: Hailey & baby Crawford, Karoline and baby Cormier and Lei'Lyn and baby Hebert.

SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES & THEIR FAMILY:

Austin Lirette, Haize Shroyer, Jason Reid-O'Neill, Julia Shroyer, Kyle Turcott, Lei'Lyn Hebert and Noah Scheufens.

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Alyssah Kinsella, Jonathan Dahl, Nicholas Scott, Niyah Shroyer and Victoria Thalheim.

