

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

422 Valhi Boulevard  
985-879-1865

Houma, Louisiana 70360  
[WWW.GRACEHOUMA.ORG](http://WWW.GRACEHOUMA.ORG)

*Pastor - Richard D. Rudnik*  
pastor@gracehouma.org

*President - Mike Cape*  
president@gracehouma.org

*Church Secretary - Lorie Souther*  
secretary@gracehouma.org

*Accompanists-David West & Mike Cape*

## ***Today***

*Service Elder - John Wegner*  
*Scripture Reader -Shelby Giroir*  
*Offering Stewards - Lisa Giroir*  
*Altar Guild -Pastor Rich & Bridgette*

## ***Next Sunday***

*Joey Souther*  
*Debra Shevlin*  
*Lisa Giroir*  
*Mary Lou & Lorie*

Fifth Sunday of Easter	May 18, 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 in celebration of Bret & Penny Cuneo's 33rd wedding anniversary on Friday.

***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.

## AS WE GATHER

The Fifth Sunday of Easter bears the traditional name of Cantate, from the Introit's "Oh sing to the Lord a new song." Not only people but all creation is urged to break out in song. Throughout our worship today we will do just that, for the resurrection news cannot be left to quiet contemplation. Though it was difficult for Peter to convince the others, when they realized Gentiles had received the Spirit, they rejoiced. The vision of heaven in Revelation has no more pain or sorrow; what can be left but joyful singing?

At the end of Jesus' talk to the disciples, He promises "I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). When we are filled with such joy, singing is inevitable. Much of today's worship has us singing a few (or all) of the stanzas of familiar hymns. Let us join the joyful multitude in heaven and earth!

### † PREPARATION †

*Stand*

**HYMN**        *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" LSB #700*

*Stand*

### INVOCATION

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

**People:**        **Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES        *Psalm 98:1–2, 4*

**Pastor:**        Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**People:**        **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

**Pastor:**        The Lord has made known His salvation;

**People:**        **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

**Pastor:**        Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**People:**        **break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We have come together to praise and thank God for His overwhelming grace and mercy. Singing and rejoicing are natural for us, but we cannot come to God with our sins and failures. Let us therefore confess our sins and ask for mercy for the sake of Christ.

**People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: God has called you to life, He has given His Son to pay for your sins, and He has given you and all believers in Christ the faith to trust all His promises. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## † WORD †

**INTROIT** *Psalm 98:2–6; antiphon: v. 1*

Pastor: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**People: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

Pastor: The Lord has made known his salvation;

**People: he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**People: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**People: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,

**People: with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

Pastor: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

**People: make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!**

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: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!  
People: **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

## KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us.  
People: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Pastor: Christ, have mercy on us.  
People: **Christ, have mercy on us.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us.  
People: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

**HYMN**      *"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God" LSB #941*

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.  
O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.  
People: **Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
People: **Amen.**

*Sit*

**FIRST READING**      *Acts 11:1–18*

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, <sup>3</sup>“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” <sup>4</sup>But Peter began and explained it to them in order: <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. <sup>6</sup>Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. <sup>11</sup>And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup>And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ <sup>15</sup>As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *adapted from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead.

**People: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.**

Pastor: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

**People: He has put all things under His feet.**

**EPISTLE** *Revelation 21:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Then 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, 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, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>And 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 from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup>The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**HYMN**      *“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” LSB #821, verse 1*

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph,  
His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
Has redeemed us by His blood."**

**HOLY GOSPEL**      *John 16:12–22*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*(The Gospel is read.)*

<sup>12</sup>*[Jesus said:] “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.*

<sup>13</sup>*When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on*

*his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*

*<sup>16</sup>“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” <sup>17</sup>So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” <sup>18</sup>So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” <sup>19</sup>Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup>When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup>So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”*

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*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" LSB #633*

## **SERMON**

## **MEDITATION**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**      *Psalms 98:1*

**Pastor:**      Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various conditions.

For ourselves, that the faith within us be evident to the people around us, that they will want to find out more about our risen Savior.

**People:**      **In thanksgiving may they sing a new song with us!**

**Pastor:**      For those who call out to God for relief from poverty, discrimination, and injustice, that God provide relief so that they live peaceful and fruitful lives.

**People:**      **In unbounded joy may they sing a new song with us!**

**Pastor:**      For those who are ill and those who care for them, [*including . . .*], that God would restore them to health and provide the strength they need.

**People:**      **In their relief may they sing a new song with us!**



Pastor: For all who carry the Gospel in far-flung lands, that God open doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel.

**People: In all corners of the earth may they sing a new song with us!**

Pastor: These and any other things God would have us ask of Him, that He grant them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Amen.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**      *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB #805*

## † 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, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS HYMN**      *"The God of Abraham Praise" LSB #798, verses 8 & 9*

**The God who reigns on high  
The great archangels sing,  
And, "Holy, holy, holy!" cry,  
"Almighty King!  
Who was and is the same  
And evermore shall be;  
Jehovah, Father, great I AM!  
We worship Thee!"**

**The whole triumphant host  
Give thanks to God on high.  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
They ever cry.  
Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!  
I join the heav'nly lays:  
All might and majesty are Thine  
And endless praise!**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, for You stopped at nothing to forgive our sins to the point of giving Your own Son for our salvation. We gather with the faithful here on earth to

sing Your praises until You bid us join all who sit at table with the Lamb in His kingdom.  
To You alone, heavenly Father, be all praise and glory, 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 HYMN**       *“Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise” LSB #946, verse 2*

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world’s sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict’ry won,**

Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*"Love in Christ Is Strong and Living" LSB #706*

*"That's Why We Praise Him" Tommy Walker*

He came to live, live a perfect life,  
He came to be the living word, our light.  
He came to die so we'd be reconciled,  
He came to rise to show His pow'r and might.

That's why we praise Him,  
That's why we sing.  
That's why we offer Him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this King,  
'Cause He gave His everything,  
'Cause He gave His everything.

He came to live, live again in us,  
He came to be our conquering King and friend.  
He came to heal and show the lost ones His love,  
He came to go prepare a place for us.

That's why we praise Him,  
That's why we sing.  
That's why we offer Him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this King,  
'Cause He gave His everything,  
'Cause He gave His everything.

Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.

That's why we praise Him,  
That's why we sing.  
That's why we offer Him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this King,  
'Cause He gave His everything,  
'Cause He gave His every ---

That's why we praise Him,  
That's why we sing.  
That's why we offer Him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this King,  
'Cause He gave His everything,  
'Cause He gave His everything.

*CCLI# 2668576 / © 1999 Doulos Publishing / We Mobile Music*

*"How Wide the Love of Christ" LSB #535*

*Stand*

**POST-COMMUNION**    *"I Love You Lord"*    Laurie Klein

**I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice  
To worship You, oh my soul, rejoice!  
Take joy, my King, in what You hear,  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.**

*Repeat again to finish.*

CCLI# 844980 / 1978, 1980 House of Mercy Music

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

**Pastor:**        Let us pray.  
Heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper  
of Your Son's body and blood.

**People:**        **Keep us firm in the true faith that we may join the rest of Your good creation in  
singing Your praises at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has  
no end;**

**Pastor:**        through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:**        **Amen.**

**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**        *"Church of God, Elect and Glorious" LSB #646*

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

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**"...no one will take  
your joy from you." - John 16:22**

## BUILDING SECURITY & STEWARDSHIP

If you're among the last to leave the church building at any time, please be sure ***all*** doors are locked ***and*** closed completely. Also, please make sure all thermostats are returned to vacant-building settings.



OTHERS TALK, WE HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: The Promotion of "Rogue" Seminaries in the LCMS, The Movie "Thunderbolts," A Christian's Joyful Countenance, The Biblical Foundation for the Nicene Creed and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

### This Week at Grace

Today	9:00 a.m.	Worship Coffee & Youth Biscuits
	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	12:00 p.m.	Board Of Director's Meeting
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
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 18– 24, 2025

#### Birthdays

05/18 Suni Dupre  
05/19 Tamie McDonald  
05/20 Donald Greene  
05/24 Jared Moise

#### Baptismal Anniversaries

05/19 Jeannie Thalheim  
05/22 Raymond Godail  
05/24 Ethan Spolarich

#### Wedding Anniversaries

05/20 Mike & Charlene Shroyer  
05/23 James & Molly Blakely  
Bret & Penny Cuneo

## **In the palm of God's Hands...**

**PRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS:** Carmen Cunningham, Cynthia Ratliff, Josephine Hebert 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.



## ***Grace's Mission***

***Building one body in Christ through Worship, Witness, Stewardship, Service,  
Love, Teaching and Fellowship***