



Grace  
Episcopal  
Church

# The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

*online bulletin*



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# YOU ARE WELCOME!

Grace Episcopal Church is a place for all – the curious, the hurting, the imperfect, and the joyful. We gather as a lively and visible group of Christians dedicated to social justice and positive change in Chicago's South Loop neighborhood and beyond.

Whoever you are, whatever you bring to God's table, you are in the right place this morning. Welcome!

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## Praying with Grace

- Masks are optional at Grace and are always welcome.
- A gender-neutral restroom is located to the left of the altar along the east windows.
- Customary times to stand or sit are indicated by the italicized instructions throughout the service. It's perfectly fine to remain seated as you're comfortable.
- Everyone, without exception, is invited to receive communion. All the communion bread is gluten free. To receive a blessing; keep your hands folded across your chest.

## Connecting with Grace

- Find Grace online at [gracechicago.org](http://gracechicago.org) and sign up for our weekly e-newsletter
- Contact the clergy and staff at [info@gracechicago.org](mailto:info@gracechicago.org)
- Email your prayer requests to [prayers@gracechicago.org](mailto:prayers@gracechicago.org)
- Follow Grace @graceplacechi



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## Grace Leadership

### Vestry

2025 Nolan Cooper (Treasurer), Emma Koch (Clerk) and Wendy Manning (Co-Warden)

2026 Melissa Moore and Ted Otto (Co-Warden)

2027 Kevin Malone and Tim Paprocki

### Clergy

The Rev. Amity Carrubba, Rector

The Rev. Andrea Billhardt, Deacon

### Staff

Marilyn Haverly, Minister of Music

Darrial Brown, Sexton

Sara Filipiak, Parish Administrator

### Committees

**Building:** Tim Paprocki, Ted Otto, Kate Eakin, J Burger, Craig Bivins

**Communications:** Gail Purkey, Wendy Manning

**Liturgy:** Melissa Moore, Emma Koch, Kim Callis, Andrea Billhardt, Kevin Malone, Marilyn Haverly

**Service & Advocacy:** Marilynn Rochon, Andrea Billhardt, Doreen Baker, Wynette Edwards, Mary Beth Weigel, Paula Morrow

*Cover artwork: The Anastasis (The Harrowing of Hell) Icon*

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Prelude

*He Giveth More Grace/No One Ever Cared for me Like Jesus, arr. M. Hayes*

*Please stand as the bells rings*

Opening Hymn *sing verses 1, 3 and 4*

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the  
\*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we  
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on  
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the  
\*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the  
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is  
3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the  
4 Lord of lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of  
5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the  
2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the  
3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -  
4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -  
5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

*Hymn continues on next page*

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a  
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty  
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,  
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our  
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery  
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his  
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the  
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and  
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.  
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

*The Hymnal 1982 #460*

*The presider welcomes the congregation.*

## The Word of God

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

## The First Lesson *please be seated*

*the readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV), one of 14 Bible translations authorized by the Episcopal Church and many Christian denominations for use in worship*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>20</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles. *Acts 1:15-17, 21-26*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 1 *the psalm is said antiphonally by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law of the LORD, \***  
**and they meditate on his law day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
everything they do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so with the wicked; \***  
**they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, \***  
**but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

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## The Second Lesson

A reading from the first letter of John.

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. *1 John 5:9-13*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation *sing three times*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Celtic Alleluia*

## The Gospel

*You are invited to cross yourself at the + below.*

+The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John..

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus prayed for his disciples saying, <sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.

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<sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

*John 17:6-19*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon** *silence follows the sermon beginning and ending with a bell*

**The Nicene Creed** *all stand*

*From Enriching Our Worship.*

**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.**

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# The Prayers

From *Intercessions for the Christian People*, adapted

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for Christ is risen and walks among us. Let us confidently bring before God the needs of all our world.

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. Give us hope, for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed!**

In this season which brings joy to all Christians, may we commit ourselves to work toward the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one, for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed!**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed!**

For all who need the gift of Easter, for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love, especially

The people of the Holy Land & all those in conflict zones	Sarah & family (Kevin Malone's friend)
Larry (Kim Callis' uncle)	Arthur (Craig Bivins' uncle)
Nathaniel (Anderson)	Brody (grandson of Mary Lou Wade)
Bernard & Brenda (Monique Patterson's family)	Cynthia (Marvin Foltz's wife)
Richard (Dan Wilson's friend)	

that death may have no more power over us, for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed.**

May we be one in faith with all who have died in Christ, for our life is hid with Christ in God; for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed.**

Celebrating the gift of parenthood on this Mother's Day, we give thanks to all who have been like mothers to us through their care, their strength and example; for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed.**

May we rejoice with those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and all the blessings of this life, especially:

Nathan (Stringer - 12)	Danielle and Nathan (getting married on June 1)
Our Straut Legacy Fund Grantees	
Grace's faith partners (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Onnuri Church & Hope's Table Chicago)	

for Christ is risen:

**Christ is risen indeed.**



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I invite your prayers and petitions.

*People may add their own prayers.*

*Online worshippers are invited to unmute and offer their prayers first.*

*Those in the sanctuary are invited to come to the microphone.*

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## The Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people greet one another.*

## Announcements

*Some announcements will be given; more information is at the end of this bulletin.*

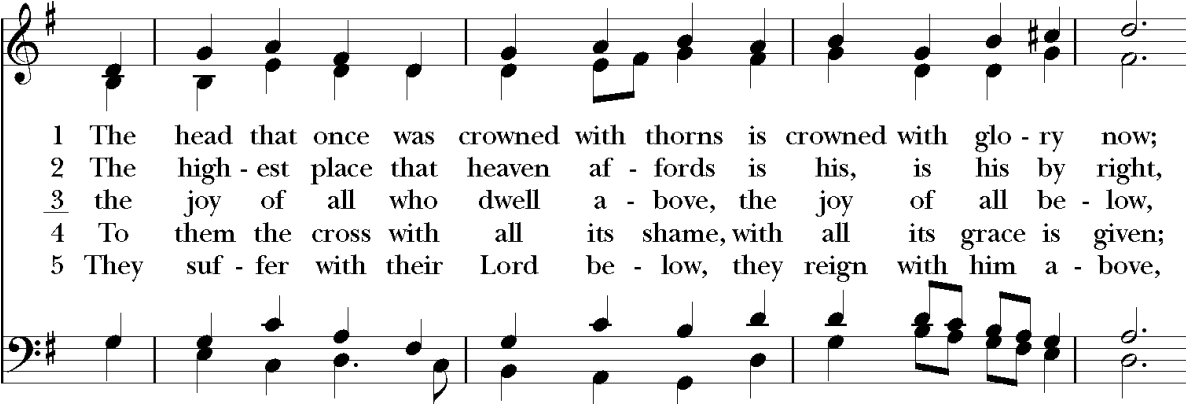
### ***Giving to Grace***

*You can give online to Grace during worship (or anytime) using your phone; simply scan the QR code and the church's online donation provider VANCO will appear in your browser. Thank you for supporting Grace's ministries! On the first Sunday of each month, the cash offering is designated for Grace Church's Discretionary Fund.*

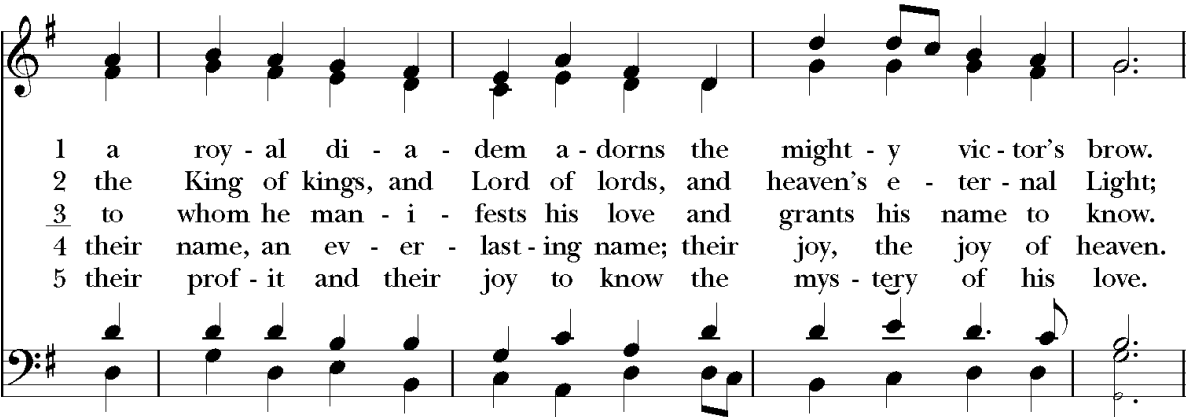


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## Offertory Hymn



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;  
2 The high - est place that heaven af - fords is his, is his by right,  
3 the joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low,  
4 To them the cross with all its shame, with all its grace is given;  
5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low, they reign with him a - bove,



1 a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.  
2 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's e - ter - nal Light;  
3 to whom he man - i - fests his love and grants his name to know.  
4 their name, an ev - er - last - ing name; their joy, the joy of heaven.  
5 their prof - it and their joy to know the mys - tery of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,  
though shame and death to him:  
his people's hope, his people's wealth,  
their everlasting theme.

*The Hymnal 1982 #483*

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# The Table of God

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 1*

God 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Hymnal 1982 #S125*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

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Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the +Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

*Cantor or Choir*

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, } in the  
*The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus* }

1. *Congregation* | 2. *Cantor or Choir*

break - ing of the bread. Be bread. The  
 bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, Is the com -  
*Congregation*

mun - ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be  
*The dis -*

known to us, Lord Je - sus, } in the break - ing of the  
*ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus* }

*Cantor or Choir*

bread. One bod - y are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though

*Congregation*

man - y we share one bread. Be known to us, Lord  
*The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord*

Je - sus, }  
 Je - sus } in the break - ing of the bread.

*Wonder Love & Praise #875*

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God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

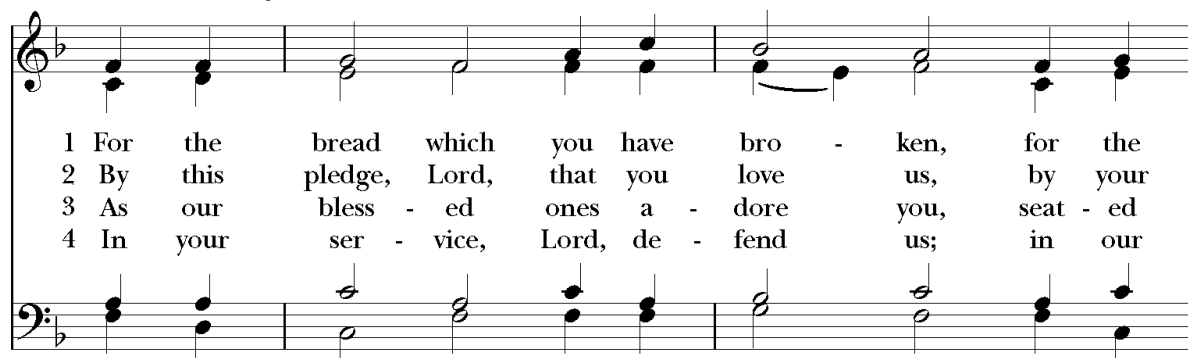
## Instrumental Interlude

*The invitation to Communion comes from Jesus himself; everyone, without exception, is welcome to receive. Those at home may unwrap their host and consume it. If you do not have communion at home, you are invited to pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion below.*

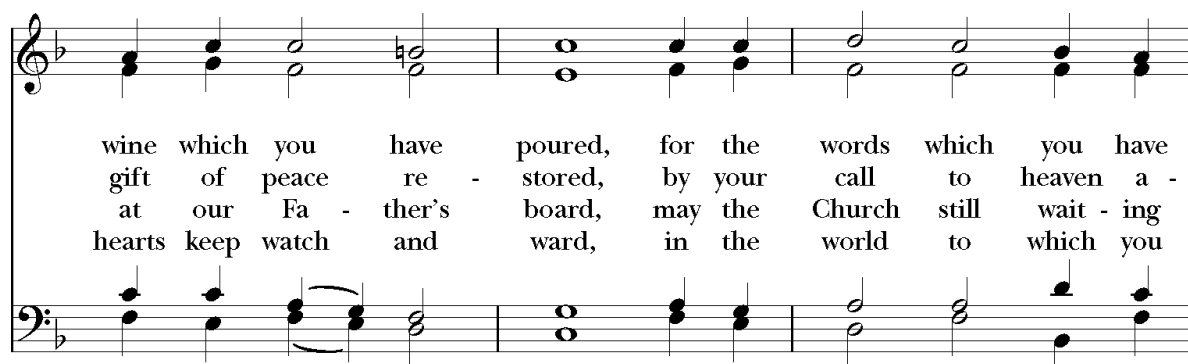
### **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

In union, dear Jesus, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, I offer you my praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament and that you are able, even when received by faith alone, to heal, enrich, and sanctify me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you and you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

## Communion Hymn



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the  
2 By this pledge, Lord, that you love us, by your  
3 As our bless - ed ones a - dore you, seat - ed  
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our



wine which you have poured, for the words which you have  
gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -  
at our Fa - ther's board, may the Church still wait - ing  
hearts keep watch and ward, in the world to which you



spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

*The Hymnal 1982 #341*

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# Sending Forth

*At the + below, you are invited to cross yourself.*

Let us pray.

God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the +risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

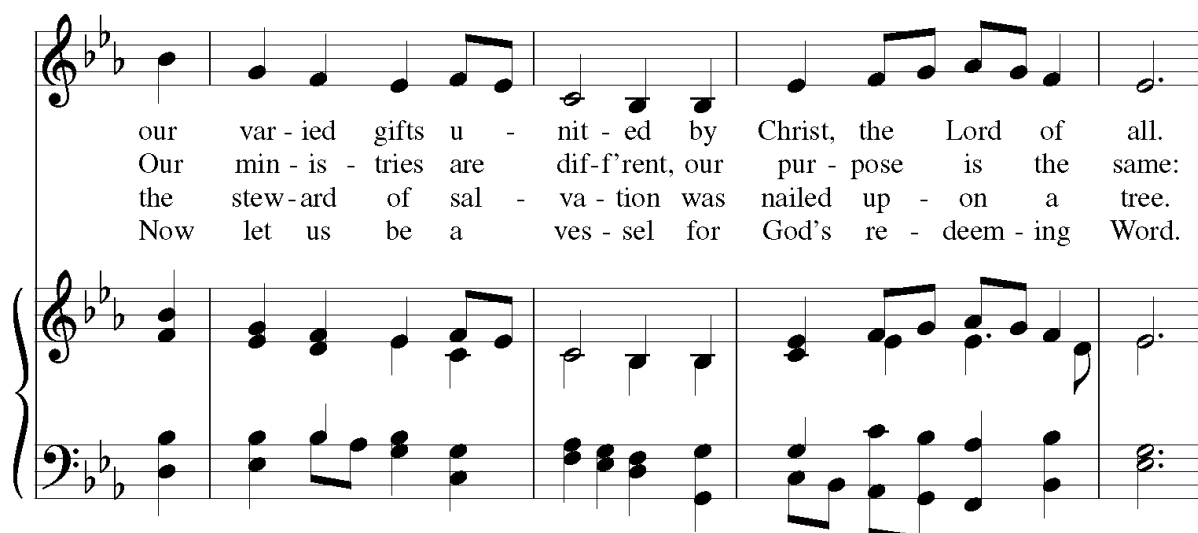
May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with new life; and the blessing of God Almighty, +Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**



## Closing Hymn



1. We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,  
2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.  
3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;  
4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:  
the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share  
We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

*Hymn continues on next page*



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
 so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.  
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.  
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

*Wonder Love & Praise #778*

## Dismissal

Christ is risen. Go in peace. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## Postlude

*Please remain online for an Adult Forum.*

### TODAY'S MINISTERS

#### **Presider & Preacher**

Amity Carrubba

#### **Deacon**

Andrea Billhardt

#### **Minister of Music**

Marilyn Haverly

#### **Online Host**

Janet Harper

#### **Servers**

Kim Callis (lead), Wynette Edwards, Tom Haverly, Chris Wenderoth

#### **Bread Baker**

Sara Filipiak

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# Announcements

## Last Easter Storytelling Session TODAY

Throughout the season of Easter, we read from the Acts of the Apostles as our first lesson each Sunday. This New Testament book tells of the founding of the Christian Church and the spread of its message to the Roman Empire. Inspired by Acts of the Apostles, Grace members are telling stories of their life and faith during Adult Forums throughout the Easter season. Using The Moth format, stories must be true, told without notes, and up to 5 minutes long.

*Our final storytelling session of the Easter season will be after worship TODAY.*

### The Feast of Pentecost is next Sunday, May 19

Get ready for the feast of Pentecost, one of the major feast days of the church year. Pentecost marks the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit, and is considered the birthday of the church. To celebrate this day, we will have a guest musician, special prayers, and a festive coffee hour.

Help Pastor Amity and others decorate for the feast this Saturday, May 18 from 11:30am until 1pm. Sign up at the Welcome Table on Sunday morning, or email Pastor Amity to let her know you are coming.

Be sure to attend this special Sunday, and start planning your **red outfit** now!

### Pentecost Adult Forum on Pronouns

Join Grace next Sunday for an Adult Forum conversation about sexuality, sex, gender, and pronouns after worship on Pentecost Sunday. Vestry member Melissa Moore Gillespie will present on the current best definitions and language to use when talking about LBBTQ+ people and issues. We will also explore some of the connections between names and pronouns, scripture and theology.

## Call for Volunteers

- Calling all bakers! Grace is looking for more people to help bake batches of Communion bread. It's an occasional commitment, baking about 4-6 loaves at a time. We have the recipe and can provide the gluten-free ingredients, you give your time and your care for the Grace community. Contact Deacon Andrea for details.
- Do you love Grace *and* love social media? Then we have the perfect opportunity for YOU! The church is looking for someone to help manage our Facebook and Instagram accounts. Let Pastor Amity know if you would like to learn more.
- Help serve with our faith partner Hope's Table Chicago on Saturday, June 15 from 7-10am in the first floor community space. Sign up on Sunday at the Welcome Table, or email Pastor Amity.
- Interested in serving in Sunday worship? We always want to include more people in the liturgy, which literally means "the work of the people". From greeting at the Welcome Table, to reading a lesson, to helping wash the dishes after worship, there are lots of ways to participate. Contact Pastor Amity or Deacon Andrea for more information.

## Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Grace Treasurer Nolan Cooper gave a quarterly review of Grace finances last Sunday. Copies of the summary are available on the Welcome Table. Some highlights from his report include:

- 2024 Occupancy Agreements with Grace tenants Onnuri Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran are updated
- Building expenses were slightly higher in March due to a quarterly insurance payment
- The Outreach account was closed, and \$32,000 from that account was moved to Reserve account for more efficient interest accrual
- Both actual revenue and actual expenses are each about one percent higher than budgeted
- Additional funds to the Discretionary account were approved by the Vestry

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## Discussions on CAT Survey Results Begin

Grace members completed The Church Assessment Tool (CAT) survey early in 2024, and the compiled results are now guiding discussion among members. Last Sunday, Co-Warden Wendy Manning facilitated an adult forum in the first of an ongoing effort to drill down on the results to guide the parish in future efforts and mission.

Building relationships was a discussion focus, ranging from opportunities to share meals, entertainment, or service projects. Additionally, those in attendance felt energized and responsible for developing these ministries.

There will be more discussion about enacting these priorities in upcoming adult forums. If you have something that you would like to lead, please email...insert warden email. Feel free to also speak with Pastor Amity and members of the Vestry.

The top three future priorities identified by those who completed the survey are:

**Outreach:** Expand outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society. (i.e. homeless, immigrant, transient persons)

**Relationships:** Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc).

**Outreach:** Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.

Stay tuned for future opportunities to discuss and understand the CAT survey.



One of the learnings from the CAT Survey is that Gracers want more time to build relationships and socialize. This summer we will offer outings and opportunities to get together and have fun. If you would like to help organize Grace's summer social calendar, get in touch with Pastor Amity. Also, add your ideas to the list on the Welcome Table, and let's get social this summer.