The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and pink. Numerous birds are seen in flight, scattered across the sky. In the foreground, the silhouettes of tall grasses and a large wooden cross are visible against the bright light of the sun.

resurrección
REALity

Easter Season

Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday

Easter 3

April 14, 2024



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

God's Word for this Week

A platitude is a statement aimed at helping soothe some sort of emotional unease. While platitudes may be well-intentioned, they don't do any good. And since platitudes provide no real help, they can actually make a situation even worse.

The resurrection victory gives believers the ability to offer *so much more* than mere platitudes. We have a meaningful message to share: of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power, of victory. The reality is that we have something important to say to every single person. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

Before Worship

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes. For personal preparation for Communion, see Red Hymnal: p.156.

General Information

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall. Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall. If you need special assistance for communion, please notify an usher and/or the pastor.

Serving in Worship

Music: Rachel Halldorson
Ushers: Mike Jensen, Kurt Knurr
Pastor: Wayne Halldorson
Pastor's Cell: 903-717-1922
Pastor's Email: grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com

Church Information

Address: 6788 FM 115 - Scroggins, TX 75480
Phone: 903-860-3749
Website: www.graceneartheLake.com
Email: GraceNearTheLake@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/GraceNearTheLake1
Prayer Requests: prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com / text to 520-236-9673

T-Loop Hearing Assistance

If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal ear-buds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.



WORSHIP SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

445 *He's Risen, He's Risen*

CW 445 sts. 1–3, 5



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.
pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.
with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Text: tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.; C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887, abr.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11133502

Tune: Public domain

Stand

Opening Blessing

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Easter Call to Worship / Confession & Absolution

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Death has been swallowed up in victory!

For Christ the Lord is Risen!

He wipes away the tears from our faces.

He removes the disgrace of his people.

The season of Lent, and especially the sadness, betrayal, and horror of Good Friday remind us how costly our redemption is. He did what was needed right up to the perfect standards of God, and faced the torturous fate of hell that the sinner deserves.

We confess, O Lord, that we are by nature sinful. We caused the hell You endured on Good Friday by the sins that we have committed.

You paid the price in full. We are eternally grateful. We bring to You the sins and weaknesses that especially trouble us . . .

Because of His victory over the grave, and by His authority, I proclaim the good news to you: All your sins are indeed forgiven in the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All praise and honor to our Triune God for the marvelous plan of salvation. For carrying it out with perfection, and for making it all ours by the gift of Faith.

We lift up our hearts with joy today and exclaim:
He is risen! He is risen indeed!

445 He's Risen, He's Risen

CW 445 st. 4

4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;
re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a '4' below the staff, indicating the start of the fourth stanza. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a clear melody and accompaniment.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God, by the humiliation of Your Son, You lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By His resurrection to life, grant Your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 3:11–20

¹¹While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon’s Colonnade. ¹²When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

¹⁷“Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

Psalm 150

read responsively

Praise God in His sanctuary;
praise Him in His mighty heavens.

Praise Him for His acts of power;
praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise Him with the harp and lyre,
praise Him with timbrel and dancing,
praise Him with the strings and pipe,

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD.

Second Reading

1 John 1:5—2:2

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

¹My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Alleluia. The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in His Name to all nations. Alleluia.

442 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

CW 442 st. 4

4 Christ, who once for sin - ners bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
now the first - born from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!
throned in end - less might and pow'r, Al - le - lu - ia!
lives and reigns for - ev - er - more. Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '4' indicating the measure number. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some phrases being held over from the previous staff. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36–49

³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

459 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Again*

CW 459 sts. 1, 3, 5–6



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n a - gain; Christ has bro - ken
3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up -
5 He who slum - bered in the grave is ex - alt - ed
6 Now he bids us tell a - broad how the lost may



death's strong chain. Hark, the an - gels shout for joy,
on the cross lives in glo - ry now on high,
now to save; now through Chris - ten - dom it rings
be re - stored, how the pen - i - tent for - giv'n,



sing - ing ev - er - more on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hal - le - lu - jah!
that the Lamb is King of kings. Hal - le - lu - jah!
how we too may en - ter heav'n. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534, abr.

Tune: Latin, c. 1100, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Acts 3:17-20 *“The Easter Season”*

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 in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Father in heaven, let the joy and peace of the Risen Lord Jesus fill us, that we may ever more and more reflect Your love and truth in this dark world.

Accept our humble thanks for all Your rich blessings, and help us to rejoice in the resurrection of Christ our Savior. Thank-you for granting us a fellowship united in Your truth that has the resolve to stand on the teachings of your Word in a time where people are not willing to put up with sound doctrine.

We pray for those in the world who have not yet heard about Jesus' glorious resurrection, or have rejected the truth You have given us . . .

We also pray for all those loved ones of ours who are hurting, suffering, or struggling right now in either body, mind, or soul . . .

Preserve our congregation in the pure truth of Your saving Gospel and the right use of Your holy sacraments. Renew our faith and strengthen our resolve to live for You, and to produce the fruit You look for. Make us bold and eager to confess you as the Risen Savior of this world, with the time that we have left, as we long for the Day when all Your people get their own personal Easter resurrection.

When we stumble in our service Lord, forgive us, and renew in all of us a zeal to fight those spiritual battles we face, to be strong in faith, and to overcome all sin, lies, and evil through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

THE SACRAMENT

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who by His willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by His glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

953 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

CW 953 st. 1

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of
all, we bow be - fore you. All on
earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -

bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -
main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my ✝ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✝ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your
 sa - cred name they hal - low; proph - ets
 swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed
 mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to set of
 sun through the Church the song goes on.

Distribution

Our Practice of Close Communion

In line with Scripture, Grace Lutheran Church follows the practice of close communion. In 1 Corinthians 1:10 we are told, “I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.” That unity takes work to establish (courses are available), and 1 Corinthians 10:17 highlights the powerful unity we express by communing together: “Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.” Therefore (just as the early church did) we invite forward only those who are in full agreement with the teachings

of our church. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, but rather it is a call for all visitors to examine and judge the teachings of our church body in light of God's Word. We therefore welcome confirmed members of our synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and members of our sister synod (ELS) to partake of the Lord's Supper with us today. We humbly, respectfully, and lovingly ask that visitors speak with our pastor after the service if there are any questions about our doctrine or practices.

Song of Simeon

CW 951

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are placed directly below the corresponding notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us in this Easter season with your saving gifts. We pray that through them You will strengthen our faith in You and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

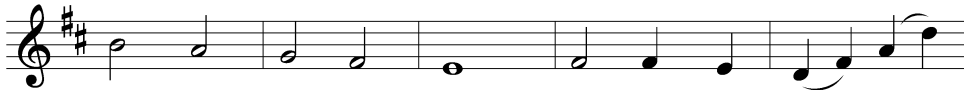
Amen.

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CW 441 sts. 1–3, 5



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739–1799, abr.
Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Five from Christian Worship

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grace Outreach Event

We're planning another event for children and families this spring – Grace Fun Day. It's planned for Saturday, May 4th. Please speak with Mike Jensen if you have any questions, and reply to his email if you can help out and participate. We'll need plenty of volunteers to carry this event off.

Bible Classes

Please consider participating in one (or more) of our weekly classes – Genesis (final lesson this week before we begin Exodus) on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm / Revelation on Thursdays at 6:00 pm. The monthly Parables class on the last Friday of the month (10:30 am at Grace) with the men's and women's lunch out to follow at 11:30 am. The Discovering Grace class on Christian doctrine is available to anyone interested, and you are most welcome to attend one of the classes currently running.

A Look at our Church Library

On Giving Advice to God - Part 1 & 2

Wanting to strengthen your devotional life? Are you looking for something meaty that challenges your spiritual growth? "On Giving Advice to God" Parts 1 & 2 by Daniel Deutschlander is available in the church library for you to check out. Developing the theme "The Wisdom of God and the Foolishness of Man", the author reminds the reader how far God's wisdom goes beyond our human thoughts and understanding. Part 1 takes us from Advent through Ascension, following along the church year and the familiar accounts of Scripture we've come to anticipate year after year. The insights you are sure to gain will deepen your understanding and appreciation for God's wisdom and magnanimous love! Part 2 takes us through Pentecost and beyond. Once you get into it, you may even be tempted to buy a copy for your own personal library because you will want to come back to this again and again - one read through is

not enough! It makes a great couples' devotion too, and offers plenty of discussion opportunities each time. Your devotional life will never be the same!

Upcoming Schedule

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Apr. 17	3:00 pm	Exodus Bible Class begins
Apr. 18	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
Apr. 18	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Apr. 21	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship
Apr. 22-23	all day	Spring Pastor's Conference (Shiloh)
Apr. 24	3:00 pm	Exodus Bible Class
Apr. 25	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Apr. 26	10:30 am	Parables Bible Class (Grace)
Apr. 26	11:30 am	Ladies' and men's lunch out

— LET'S CELEBRATE —
EASTER
— TOGETHER —