

Grace Lutheran Church – 5.2.21

Our Mission: "Grace Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community called to gather, grow, and give together in Grace.

P: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, †† one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: **Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of salvation.

P: Most Merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of †† Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

GREETING

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P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, all people are your children. Claim us with your saving grace, so that we may rejoice in the life given to us through your Holy Spirit. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ

C: Amen.

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Acts

Acts 15:1-18

15 Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ²And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. ³So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. ⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

⁶The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. ⁷After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the

Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. ⁸And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; ⁹and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. ¹⁰Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will." ¹²The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. ¹³After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. ¹⁵This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, ¹⁶After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, ¹⁷so that all other peoples may seek the Lord— even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things ¹⁸known from long ago.'

Sermon – Pastor Andy Tyrrell

Hymn of the Day

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

P: Hear us O God.

C: **Your Mercy is Great.**

The Offering – If you are able to continue to support the church financially during this difficult time, we would be grateful. Options for electronic giving are on our website (gracelutheran1.org). If you need help using the online giving tools please contact Pastor Andy (pastor@gracelutheran1.org). Another option is to mail your offering directly to the church.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Risen One,

as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Inspire us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

C: **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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia! Come to the feast.

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and

nourished us with the body of Christ. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: Now may God live in you, name you his child, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the  Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*catholic means universal/all Christians