

Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church, 2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

May 7, 2023



Gathering Liturgy for Fifth Sunday of Easter

GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed!**
Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,
+ one God, by whose hand we
are given new birth, by whose
speaking we are given new life.

C **Amen**

P Joined to Christ in the
waters of baptism, we are
welcomed, restored, and
supported as citizens of the new
creation. Let us give thanks for
the gift of baptism. Holy God,
holy and merciful, holy and
mighty, you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting
wellspring. In mercy and might
you have freed us from death and
raised us with Jesus, the
firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old
life is washed away, and in them
we are born anew. Glory to you
for oceans and lakes, for rivers
and streams. Honor to you for
waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture
both crops and creatures. Praise
to you for the life-giving water of
baptism, the outpouring of the
Spirit of the new creation.

C **Wash away our sin and
all that separates us from
you. Empower our witness
to your resurrection.**



Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P Satisfy the world's need
through this living water. Where
drought dries the earth, bring
refreshment. Where despair
prevails, grant hope. Where
chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask
this through Christ, who with you
and the Spirit reigns forever.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: "You Are the
Way" (ELW #758)

1: *You are the way; to you alone
from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God,
you find
and by your grace set free.*

2: *You are the truth; your word
alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.*

3: *You are the life; the rending
tomb*

*proclaims your conquering arm;
and those who put their trust in
you
not death nor hell shall harm.*

4: *You are the way, the truth, the
life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to
win,
whose joys eternal flow.*

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*This is the feast of victory for our
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who
was slain,
whose blood set us free to be
people of God.*

*Power, riches, wisdom and
strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory
are his.*

*This is the feast of victory for our
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all
creation:*

*Blessing, honor, glory, and
might
be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen.*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to

share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Readings for Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55–60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son-of-Man standing at the right hand of God!”

But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged Stephen out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

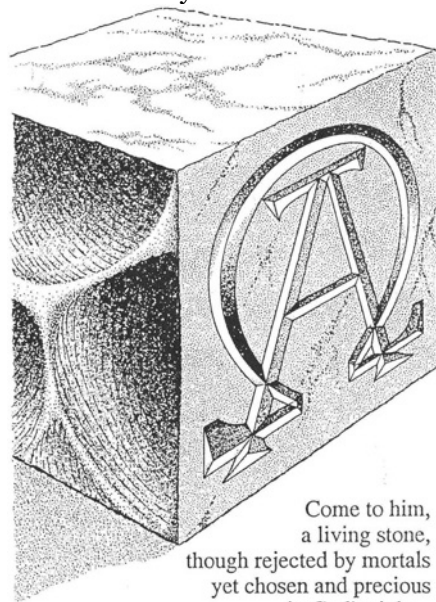
³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth. ...
¹⁵**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”



Come to him,
a living stone,
though rejected by mortals
yet chosen and precious
in God's sight...
1 Peter 2:4 NRSV

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to the Lord, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it

stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in it will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, it is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”
and “A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called you out of darkness into the marvelous light of God.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;

once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL: John 14:1–14

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will

come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to Jesus, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know

and have seen my Father.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”

Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but it is the Father who dwells in me who

does these works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

“Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Creed, Prayers, and Communion Liturgy

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The Church’s One Foundation”
(ELW #654) vv. 1-2

1: *The church’s one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.*

2: *Elect from every nation,
yet one o’er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.*

APOSTLES’ CREED

P Let us confess our faith...

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 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.**

VERSE: “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”
(ELW #752)

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” by Ken Medema copyright © 1973 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicence.net permit #A-733643

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth’s diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt

following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster, *especially...* Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick, especially:

- Mary Andrews (Welcome Center volunteer from St. Anthony's)
 - Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
 - Doug Becker (Marlene Binner's son)
 - Pat Bernacchi
 - Jackie Brichacek (Nancy's sister-in-law)
 - Jean Boothe (Grace soup kitchen supervisor)
 - Hank Buehrens
 - Andrew Calvert
 - Barb Caputo
 - Holly Cummings
 - Eric Dangerfield (Carolyn Reynold's boyfriend)
 - Pastor Rafael Escobedo
 - Gregory Foster
 - Judy Gregory
 - Shirleen Gulick
 - Cogan Holly Hall
 - Aggie Hartnell (Bert's mother)
 - Christine Hill
 - Sydney & Skyler Houston
 - Dick Kauffman
 - Karen Kempinen
 - Becky McCarthy (Jarlene's sister)
 - Rubel Pierce (Randy's father)
 - Carolyn Reynold's children Eddie, Santino, and Lytoshia
 - Martha, Joel, and Jeanette Sanchez
 - Cynthia Schwartz (Norma's daughter)
 - Marcia Swanson
 - Joyce Swift
 - Andrew Tate
 - Ron and Linda Wadham
 - Steve & Heather Waldron
 - Florence and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn's sisters)
 - Timothy Walker
 - Dottie Watts
 - Chris Webb (Bert's sister)
 - Kristi Weiss
- Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us (*especially...*). Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING. "We Give Thee But Thine Own" (ELW #686)

*We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

God of wonder, you formed us in our mother's womb, and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine. We place them on your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life.

C Amen.

DIALOGUE & PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away

our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

COMMUNION SONGS (ELW p. 154)

*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, grant us peace.*

“I Am the Bread of Life” (ELW #485)

1: *“I am the Bread of life.*

*You who come to me shall not hunger,
and who believe in me shall not thirst.*

No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.”

REFRAIN: *“And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.”*

2: *“The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever, you shall live forever.”*

REFRAIN

3: *“Unless you eat
of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his blood,
and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you.”* REFRAIN

4: *“I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
If you believe in me,
even though you die, you shall live forever.”*

REFRAIN

5: *Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,*

who have come into the world. REFRAIN.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together.

Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" (ELW #619) vv. 1 & 8

1: *I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;*

*he lives, my ever-living head!
8: He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!*

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen One!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Grace Council Contact List

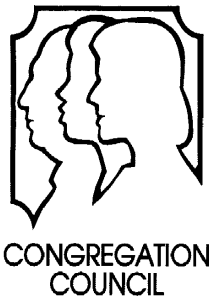
Pastor Barker is on family leave through July 16. During this time, Rev. Stephen Gifford is Grace's Interim Pastor.

In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Barker through Pastor Gifford (262-308-8269). For everything else, Pastor Stephen and church council have the resources to make appropriate decisions.

The following people can field questions and make decisions concerning their chair responsibilities:

- Council President Dawn Houston (262-960-6363)
- Council Vice President Bert Felland (262-945-0771)
- Vivienne Clyne for Grace Welcome Center and Infant Moses (262-496-1441)
- Dennis Eirich for stewardship concerns (262-914-8006)
- Greg Foster for outreach and evangelism concerns (262-822-0689)
- Sydney Houston for any worship, music, and altar guild questions (262-764-2692)
- Randy Pierce for building and grounds (262-914-1474)
- Leah Schaut for peace and justice concerns (262-818-2480)
- David Underwood for youth, family, and faith formation (262-515-7052)

If you're not sure whom to contact, call the church office (262-654-9143). Paul is in the office



from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Grace News Briefs

Gather in the narthex after worship this Sunday to celebrate Dawn's birthday with pizza (vegan and non-vegan available).

Prayer group meets at the church every Monday morning at 8:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you to Jan Recor for giving altar flowers in May, and to Tricia Childs for sponsoring bulletins.

Grace Women's Group welcomes all interested members and friends of Grace! Please contact Dawn Houston (houstondawn24@yahoo.com or 262-764-2692) if you would like more information.

Grace Receipts: April 30, 2023

General.....	\$ 845.00
Pastor's benefits package.....	\$ 165.00
From Non-members:	
General.....	\$ 250.00
Welcome Center.....	\$ 100.00
Holy Assembly building use	\$ 500.00
<u>Internet/banking fees.....</u>	<u>(\$ 25.77)</u>
Total:	\$ 1,834.23
Grace weekly budget in 2023: \$ 2,671.70	

You can contribute by mail, or electronically through the "Donations" link at GraceKenosha.com.

Register for Earthkeepers Summer Kids Club

Earthkeepers Summer Kids Club is coming to Grace June 28 to 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., for youth entering kindergarten through fifth grade.

Each evening will begin at 5:00 with a free community dinner for all. Then kids will join us for some fun songs, games, crafts, Bible stories, and much more as we learn all about God's creation and the ways we can care for it. Participants will come away with books and other goodies to take home.

Register at <https://forms.gle/3PPpgVCzFzCn9uZQ6> (or see the first QR code at right).

We need your help planning "Earthkeepers Summer Kids Club" in June. David and Senja Underwood invite you to join them from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 8 and 22, and June 5 and 19 in the church library.

Elsewhere in Our Area

Blessing of the Bikes

The annual Bike Blessing at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 8760 37th Avenue, is Sunday, May 7 at approximately 12:30 p.m. This is an absolutely amazing sight to see and hear!

EARTHKEEPERS

Summer Kids Club

- June 28-30th
- 5:00 - 6:00 Community Dinner
- 6:00-8:00 Program
- For kids going into K-5th grade in the fall

Join us for some fun songs, games, crafts, Bible stories and much more as we learn all about God's creation and the ways that we can care for it. Those who participate will come away with books for home and some other goodies.

Child Registration
Please register your child using the QR code.



Volunteers Needed
We need lots of volunteers to make this an enjoyable time for the kids in our community. Please scan the QR code to see the list of volunteer opportunities and to sign up.



More Info
Check out the "Events" page on the Grace Lutheran Facebook page for more information.



Sponsored By:



Got Questions????
Dave Underwood
(262)515-7052

CUSH and RIC Urge Asylum Help for Young Family

The CUSH and RIC Immigration Task Forces are working to raise funds to help a young family seeking asylum make a new start in Wisconsin. Fr. Matthew Buterbaugh is a CUSH member and

godfather to one of these family members. Read their story and please consider making a contribution at their Go Fund Me account at <https://gofund.me/e291bcbe>

Grace Reconciled in Christ Statement

Grace Lutheran Church commits to live as a community of people seeking reconciliation and wholeness in our life together and in our ongoing outreach to the world. We commit to the work of anti-racism, anti-ableism, liberation, and environmental justice for all of God's beloveds.

We affirm the sacredness of people of all sexual orientations,



gender identities, and gender expressions. We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, culture, disability, age, or physical demeanor. We affirm the sacredness of those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.

You are absolutely invited to share your gifts as you join us in this lifelong journey. We welcome and embrace all who are seeking God's love and grace. We need each other and our sincere hope is by being in community together we will know the kin-dom of God has come near. — *language adapted from A Community Called Grace in Bemidji MN*

Grace Lutheran Church
2006 60th Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-3893



www.GraceKenosha.com

Worship services 9:30 a.m., in person and livestreamed at www.facebook.com/GraceElcaKenosha

Interim Pastor Stephen Gifford: seekerstevester@gmail.com ☎ 262-308-8269

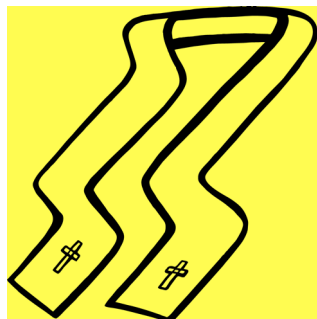
Church office: graceoffice@wi.rr.com ☎ 262-654-9143

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

Congregational Meeting to Vote on Roof Repair

The church council has called a congregational meeting to convene after the worship service on Sunday, May 21. The meeting will focus on a proposal for repair and maintenance of the flat roof.

Golden Anniversary of Graduation from Seminary



Congratulations to Pastor Stephen Gifford on the fiftieth anniversary this month of his graduation from Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, Pennsylvania!

planting party!

POT UP MARIGOLDS AND
ZINNIAS TO GIVE TO OUR
FOOD PANTRY GUESTS



SOIL, POTS, AND SEEDS
PROVIDED
SNACKS, TOO!



**THURSDAY, MAY 11,
3-5PM
GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
2006 60TH ST
KENOSHA**