

Pentecost 4 June 16, 2024

Prelude

Confession & Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us gather with true hearts that confess our sins to God, that earnestly ask for forgiveness and that trust in our renewal through the work of our Savior lesus the Christ.

A: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

A: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

A: Almighty God, merciful Father:

C: I confess to you all my sins with which I have offended you and my neighbors. I am sorry for them. I devote myself to repentance and pray for your mercy. In your boundless grace and compassion send me your Holy Spirit that I may be strengthened in my faith and made ready for a life obedient to your will and your way.

P: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of steadfast love. [Exodus 34:6] Therefore, we trust in Christ's promise of forgiveness, living now in that grace with a hope which empowers our response of evermore faithfully following the way of the new life we are given.

C: Amen.



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.

A: This is the day that the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

A: O Come let us worship and bow down;

C: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

A: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth forevermore.

C: From the raising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

A: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High.

C: To declare the Lord's love in the morning and the Lord's faithfulness at the close of the day.

P: Blessed is the One who redeems and saves us.

C: Blessed is our God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.



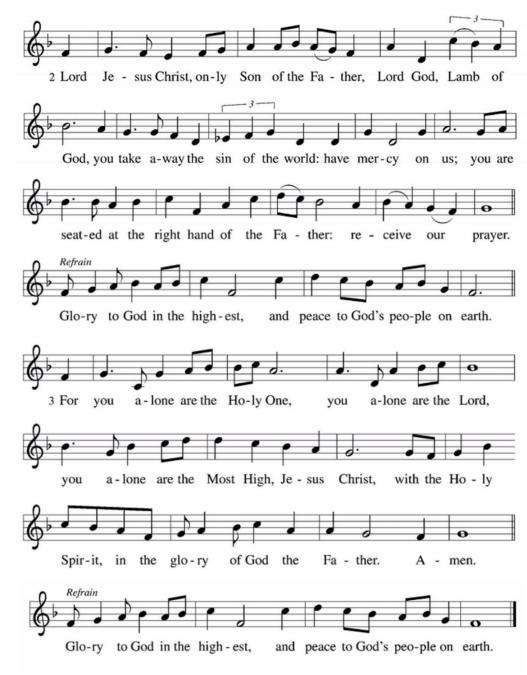




wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray:

C: Creating God, you give us the seeds, the soil and the rain that cause all things to grow and provide for our nourishment. Come with your Spirit and tend the seed of faith which you have planted within us, that we will grow to nourish the world and bear good fruit that is pleasing in your sight. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

first lesson

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!



The righ-teous shall spread a - broad like a ce-dar of Leb-a-non.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy. R

The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still give forth fruit; they are always green and full of sap,

showing that the Lord is upright; the Lord is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in the Lord. R

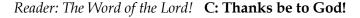
Second lesson

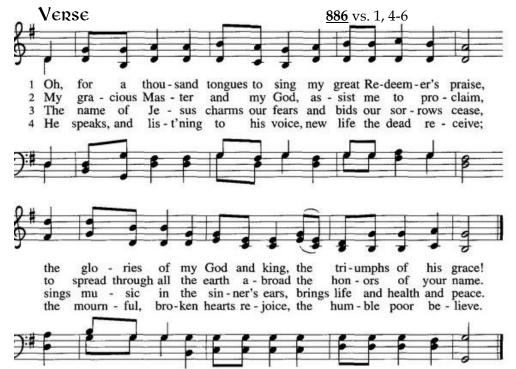
2 Coginthians 5:6-17

Paul writes: For we know that if our earthly "house," the "tent," may be destroyed, we have a "building" from God, a "house" not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in the "tent" we have now, we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly "dwelling" -- if indeed, when we have taken off the "tent" we will not be found naked. For, in the "tent" we groan, being burdened, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. But the one having prepared us for this is God, has given us the collateral of the Spirit.

Therefore, we are always confident, knowing that being at home in the body absents us from the Lord. For, we walkabout through faith, and not by "appearances" because we are confident, appreciating more the absence from the body and presence with the Lord than how we appear presently. And so we aspire, whether being present or whether being absent, to be pleasing our Lord. For it is ordained by God that all of us appear before the judgment seat of Christ, in order that each of us may receive judgment regarding what we have done through our bodies; a decision about whether what we did was good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, I, Paul and my companions try to persuade others regarding this perspective on how to understand ourselves; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are ecstatic, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. Because the love of Christ encompasses us, we are judging thusly - since one died on behalf of all, then all die. And he died on behalf of all so that the living might not live life of themselves, but of him - who on their behalf, having died, was resurrected. So that we now know no one according to the flesh; even if we know Christ according to the flesh - but now we are no longer knowing in this way. So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!





- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race! Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 4^{th} chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel Mark 4:1-34

Again, Jesus began to teach beside the sea and a plentiful crowd gathered toward him so that he embarked into a boat set in the sea and all the crowd was by the sea on the shore.

And Jesus taught them many parables, and in his teaching he said to them:

"Listen! Behold, going out sowing he sowed. And as he sowed, some fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. And other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. And other seed fell into the thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it did not give fruit. And other seed fell into the good soil and gave fruit, growing up and increasing and bore in one case thirty and in one sixty and in one a hundredfold."

And he said, "Whoever is afflicted with ears hearing, hear!"

And when he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables.

And he said to them, "To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; 12 in order that

'they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.'"[Is 6:9-10]

And Jesus said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? The one sowing the word sows. But these are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they may hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is being sown in them. And these are the ones being sown on rocky ground: whenever they may hear the word,

they immediately receive it with joy, and they are not afflicted with root in themself, but are temporary; then, comes cross-tribulation or persecution through the word, immediately they are made scandalized. And others, the ones being sown among the thorns, these are the ones who hear the word and the anxiety of the age, and the seduction of wealth, and the desire for other things coming in, chokes the word and it becomes unfruitful. And these are the ones being sown on the good soil: these are the ones hearing the word, and accepting it, and bearing fruit, one thirty and one sixty and one a hundred."

Jesus said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? For there is nothing now hidden if not in order that it may be made manifested; nor has anything been hidden except in order that it may come into manifestation. If anyone is afflicted with ears to hear, hear!"

And Jesus said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; in the measure being measured you will be measured and more will be added. For the one who has, more will be given; and from the one who has not, even what they have will be taken away."

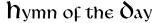
Jesus also said to the crowd, "The kingdom of God is like a man who scatters seed on the ground, and then sleeps and gets up for several days afterward and sees the seed sprout and grow without understanding how the seed does this. On its own the ground bears fruit; first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. And then, when the sower wants to share the fruit, he immediately sends out the sickle, because the harvest is at hand."

Jesus also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that, empowered under its shadow, the birds of the heaven abide."

With many such parables he spoke the Word to the crowds, as they were empowered by God to hear it; but apart from parables, he did not speak to them, only privately, to his private disciples, did Jesus explained everything.

P: The Gospel of the Lord! **C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon





- 5 So may our new be-gin-nings prove, like liv-ing bread and wine, that through our com-mon hu-man love we taste what is di-vine; that through our com-mon hu-man love we taste what is di-vine.
- 6 Our lives will be ful-filled and blessed if through the seeds we've sown and by the love that we pro-fess the love of Christ is known; and by the love that we pro-fess the love of Christ is known.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

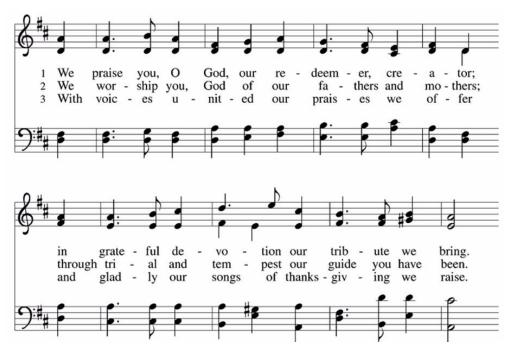
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

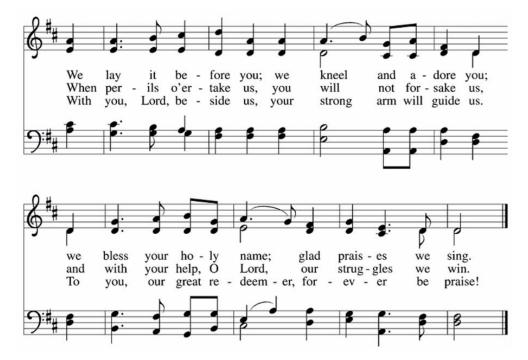
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Passing of the Peace

Offertory





Offertory Prayer

A: Let us Pray

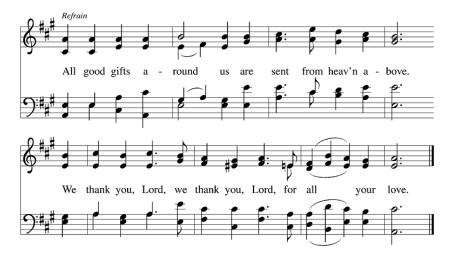
C: God of grace and abundance, we joyfully offer these gifts of thanks for your blessings in our lives. We pray that you find what we bring in this moment to be an acceptable and adequate reflection of our gratitude, that you will continue to look on us as your faithful people, worthy of your favor and beneficence. And with humbleness in the face of our hubris, we beg your forgiveness for our lack of attention, respect and care for all you provide. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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. 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 now and forever. Amen.

Benediction





Oismissal

Altar flowers are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of Ruth Rupprecht by her daughter Annette Rupprecht.



Sunday, June 16

Deadline to RSVP for June Dining Out 8:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, June 17

7:00 p.m. Social Ministry & Green Team Meeting

Tuesday, June 18

6:30 a.m. Early Birds Breakfast

Wednesday, June 19

9:00 a.m. Peacemakers Quilting Group

Thursday, June 20

6:00 p.m. Grace Dining Out @ Four Brothers in Mahopac

Sunday, June 23

8:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship



Grace's education program needs someone to help coordinate calendars, manage supplies and ramp-up communications—some basic admin to support, which will empower the teachers to focus on the curriculum, students and teaching. This is not a commitment to being present every Sunday—it can fit your schedule—and there will be plenty of support from Grace's staff! Is this where God is calling you to serve Grace?? Talk to Pastor Chris or Laura Borneman.



Grace Lutheran Church

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