

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Love
one another*

JOHN 13:34



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, NJ 08244

Office: 609-927-3082 † Fax: 609-927-6672 † Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretaries: Michelle Allen & Diana McArdle



~Welcome~

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

~Mission Statement~

- ◆ Inviting all people to **belong** to the church of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Equipping those who **believe** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and...
- ◆ Sending members to **become** caring servants of God in the world.

~Serving in Worship Today~

Worship Assistant: Kevin Thomas **Altar Guild:** Brenda Traa

~In Our Hearts and Prayers~

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace!

If you notice someone missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea by phone, Facebook, email or by calling the church office so we can lift their name in prayer next service.

Members of Grace: Jon N., Ruth T., Debbie K., Marlene D., Joyce B., Carol F.

Family & Friends: Donna W., Gage, Donna L., Diana S., Virginia, Elliot (*Pastor Althea*); Payton (*Joyce Bianco*); Deb, Glen, Marilyn, Peggy, Jeanne (*Bowdens*); Annmarie, Michael Ann, Rod (*June Jordan*); Shirley & Carl (*Debbie Kleuser*); Bob (*Dale Kredatus*); Jim & Vicki (*Meg LaSpina*); Bernadette, Lou, Ron, Berl, Cindy, Eric, Donny, Carol (*Renee Pugliese*); Catherine & Sal (*Corinne Rhodes*); Karen (*Sue Robinson*); Dottie Currie (*Deborah Walker*); Jeff & Amanda (*Welfields*); Eileen, Marie, Beverlee, Darlene, Family & Friends of Betty Neupauer.

Those serving our country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

At Home: Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, Lois Rahme & Skip Uhrmann

Shores @ Wesley Manor: Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

ELW Setting 4

*Please refer to your brown Celebration Hymnals (CH)
the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnals (ELW)
as well as the blue With One Voice (WOV)*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won! by Anton Wilhelm Leupold

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no
secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy
Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and
given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In
your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW #367

GREETING

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

KYRIE

ELW p. 147

THIS IS THE FEAST

ELW p. 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

Please turn to the baptism ceremony program for Guinevere Lily Phillips

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying,

“Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?”

⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying,

⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me,

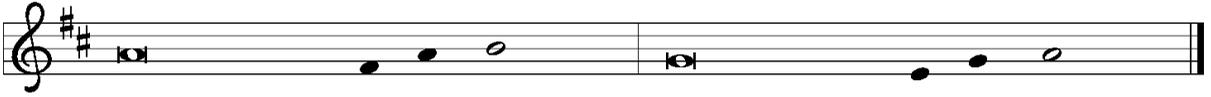
‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven,

‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’

¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said,

John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?”¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM: Psalm 148 *The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD! from the heavens; praise God | in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels; sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon; sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens, and you waters
a- | bove the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast fore- | ver and ever, giving them a
law that shall not | pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD! from the earth, you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;**

⁹mountains | and all hills, fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle, creeping things and | flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples, princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens, old and | young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose
splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all |
faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

John’s vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said,

“See, I am making all things new.” Also he said,

“Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me,

“It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

Please stand as you are able

Please to your red hymnals to the front section, as we will now sing the Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 151

The Holy Gospel according to John, the tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said,

“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rev. Althea Albright

*All Children are invited to follow our Sunday school teachers downstairs
for a children’s lesson. Children return for Communion.*

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

HYMN OF THE DAY

With High Delight Let Us Unite

ELW #368

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 power of 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

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING - Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots

Monthly special offering for a designated local, national and international ministry.

Our Third-Sunday usher team takes a few extra minutes before our regular weekly offering to collect this special offering of coin donations. Today's offering is for Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots. It is a cross-cultural ministry sharing Jesus Christ with First Nations people in remote areas of Canada.

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Give To You a New Commandment

by Peter Nardone

Please stand as you are able

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Pastor: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to God for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Brief silence

Leader: Loving God, lead us that we may follow your ways, rather than our own prejudices or desires. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us especially here in Somers Point. Urge us toward more deliberate and better care of the world you have made.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: Humble the rulers of all nations. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Pastor: Send your Comforting Spirit among those who are in pain or distress especially all those we name now or in our hearts. As Christ knows our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give us all a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of every person's identity, every person's journey, and every person's faith. In your mercy, O God, hear our prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p.152

PREFACE

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 LORD

ELW p. 153

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

On 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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

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

We pray for the gift of the Holy Trinity: in our gathering; within this meal; and in the many ways you make yourself known to your people throughout the world. May all blessing, praise, and thanks be to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.
Come to us, Lord Jesus.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Saturday, May 21, there will be a Memorial Service for Kirsten Kjaerulf Hansen at 11 am. There will be a private lunch at Doc's Place and committal ceremony to follow.



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

May Almighty God, Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

ELW #383

POSTLUDE

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

by Mark Sedio

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God!**

DEDICATIONS

The sanctuary flowers were dedicated by Linda Rihl, in celebration of her granddaughters',
Mya, Madyn & Nora's, May birthdays with love, Mom Mom Linda.



EVENTS WITH GRACE

May 15, 2022 - May 22, 2022

Sunday, May 15, 2022

8:00 am -Spoken Service
 8:45 am -Adult Sunday School
 10:15 am -Liturgical Worship
**{Baptism Ceremony for
 Guinevere Lily Phillips}**
 3:30 pm -AA Group

Monday, May 16, 2022

9-11:30 am -Food Pantry
 10-12:00 pm -Clergy Bible Study
 7-9:00 pm -AA Meeting- Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

9-11:30 am -Food Pantry
 2:00 pm-Moving with Grace-
 (Walking Group) This group meets in the
 lounge, before walking.
 6:30 pm - NA Meeting
 7-9:00 pm -Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

9-11:30 am -Food Pantry
 11:30-3:00 pm-Bayside Duplicate Bridge
 7:00 pm - NA Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2022

9-11:30 am -Food Pantry
 5-6:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
 6-7:30 AA Meeting-12 Steps
 7:800 pm-Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, May 20, 2022

10:00-Grace Stitches
 7:30-8:30 pm -AA Meeting

Saturday, May 21, 2022

11:00 am -**Memorial Service
 for Kirsten Kjaerulf Hansen**
 4:00 -pm Moving with Grace -
 (Walking Group) This group meets in the
 lounge, before walking.

Sunday, May 22, 2022

8:00 am - Spoken Service
 8:45 am - Adult Sunday School
 10:15 am - Liturgical Worship
 3:30 -AA Group



If you are visiting our church for the first time or have been away, welcome. Please sign our visitors book in the Narthex (lobby) or fill out a connection card located in the seating areas of the sanctuary. Thank you for visiting and please join us again.

**Worship Assistants needed for
 the month of June. Please call
 or email the office to volunteer.**



~CHURCH OFFICE HOURS~

10:00 AM—3:00 PM

(OR BY APPOINTMENT)

OFFICE # (609)927-3082

FAX # (609)927-6672

EMAIL:office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net