

Fourth Sunday in Easter

Our Mission: Love Jesus and help others love Him through word and actions.

Grace Lutheran Church

Contemporary Worship



May 11, 2025
9:00 a.m.



Welcome in the name of Jesus!

We are happy you're here. We pray that the Lord will bless your time of worship with us and give you peace in the week ahead. Newcomers are our special guests and we ask that you sign the register at the entrance to help us get to know you and be sure to pick up a gift bag from our welcome desk at each entrance.

You can now donate to Grace with PayPal!

Scan this QR code with your phone camera and open the link. You have the option to donate once, weekly, or monthly.



**Please stand as you are able.*

Worship Introduction

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Gathering Songs

Verse 1

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless
heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your Grace is Enough

Pre-Chorus

Chorus 1

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

Chorus 1

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

People Turn to God

REFRAIN

People people hear the words I say
People people bow your heads and pray
He gave His son for us!
He died upon the cross!
So people people turn to God today.

Verse 1

From Bethlehem God's son came to earth as just a babe
From child to man he grew into our King.
He died upon the cross taking all our sins from us
He rose from death that we may live with Him!

REFRAIN

Verse 2

I'm thankful most to God for the gift He gave to us
His only Son who died upon the cross.
Let's praise God's holy name as we worship Him today
Rise up people rise up and live for Him!

REFRAIN

Welcome, Announcements, God and Me Moments, Greeting each other

***We Gather To Worship**

L: The God of love and grace invites us in.
C: Blessed be the God of love!
L: The God of power and might welcomes us here.
C: Glory to God on high!
L: The God of wisdom and truth speaks to us now.
C: Praise the One who speaks truth to our hearts!

*Opening Prayer

L: Shepherding God, guide us in this time of worship. Help us receive your wisdom and respond with lives of faithful discipleship. Walk closely with us and help us feel your constant presence, both now and forevermore.

C: Amen.

Young Person's Message

Reading Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

*Gospel Reading John 10:22-30

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

Message

Pr. Paula Smith

Song

Holy Forever

Verse 1

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Verse 2

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Pre-Chorus

Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Repeat Chorus 1

Chorus 2

Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Chorus 1

And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

Tag

You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Time of Offering *If you would like to give electronically please scan the PayPal QR code in the front of the bulletin.*

Offering Response Song

Instrumental

Prayer of thanks for our offering

L: God of Grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

*** Apostles Creed**

C: **I believe in God the Father, Ruler of all, the Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our LORD; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary the virgin.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified; was dead, and was buried. He went to the realm of the dead; on the third day He rose from the dead.

He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy and universal Church, the fellowship of the godly, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life eternal. Amen.

Prayers of the Community and Our World

L: Gathered together in the spirit, ...Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

***Confession**

L: God of love and grace,

C: **we yearn for a world where love and grace guide our steps and bless our days. We want families and communities led and guided by grace. Yet, division, danger, and death dampen hope for our lives and the lives of others. Forgive us when we fail to act; unify us with your love and grace, that we might offer your abundant love and amazing grace wherever we go. Amen**

***Words of Assurance**

L: In God's love, we are held. In Christ's grace, we are forgiven.

In the Spirit's power, we are strengthened. Give thanks for these marvelous gifts.

C: Amen.

We will commune beginning with those people on the right side of the sanctuary, facing the altar. We will serve communion via intinction; meaning, you will receive a wafer and then dip the wafer either in the wine or grape juice. Pastor will serve the wine. The worship leader will serve the grape juice. When the last person in the row in front of you has vacated their pew, please follow behind them. Once all on the right side has communed, the left side begins. All who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome to commune. If you prefer a prepackaged communion, it is located on the left side, first pew in a bowl. All wafers are low gluten and are approved for celiacs disease with less than 20 PPM gluten. They meet the FDA standard for "gluten free".

***Dialogue**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

***Words of Institution**

****Lord's Prayer Song***

Verse

Father let your kingdom come (holy holy)
Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven (let it be done)
Right here in my heart

Bridge

It's yours it's yours
All yours all yours
The kingdom the power
The glory are yours
It's yours it's yours

Chorus

Give us this day our daily bread
Forgive us forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned
Against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

All yours all yours
Forever and ever
The kingdom is yours

Verse

Tag
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart

Verse

Communion

Communion Invitation

Communion Song

Amazing Grace...our chains are gone

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Communion Blessing

P: ... strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Sending

*Sending Song

Prince of Peace

(Verse: men sing each line, women echo; men and women sing different choruses.)

Verse

(Men) You are holy / (Women) You are holy (continues throughout verse)
You are mighty / You are mighty
You are worthy / You are worthy
Worthy of praise / worthy of praise
I will follow / I will follow
I will listen / I will listen
I will love You / I will love You
All of my days / all of my days

(Men and Women sing their different words at the same time:)

Chorus Men

I will sing to and worship
The King who is worthy
And I will love and adore Him
And I will bow down before Him
And I will sing to and worship
The King who is worthy
And I will love and adore Him
And I will bow down before Him
You're my Prince of Peace
And I will live my life for You

Chorus Women

You are Lord of lords You are King of kings
You are mighty God Lord of ev'rything
You're Emmanuel You're the Great I Am
You're the Prince of Peace who is the Lamb
You're the living God You're my saving grace
You will reign forever You are Ancient of Days
You are Alpha Omega Beginning and End
You're my Savior Messiah Redeemer and Friend
You're my Prince of Peace
And I will live my life for you

(repeat entire song)

(Ending: Men and Women together)

You're my Prince of Peace
And I will live my life for You.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Psalm: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹ The LORD ¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

² The LORD makes me lie down ¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.

³ You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹ for your name’s sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall ¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ¹ comfort me. R

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever. R

Remember in Your Prayers and Visits

Viva Senior Care (formerly Commonwealth): June Peishel

Homebound: Sy Moua, Julia Stockstill

The Groves: Evelyn Lorenz

The Reserve at Spring Hill TN: Vicki Quraishi

If you have a minute — Please send a card to one of our members who is homebound or in assisted living. They've been isolated from family and friends for months, and are struggling with loneliness.

Members: Carol Hulsey, Evelyn Lorenz, Pr. Steve Damos, Julia Stockstill, Pam Williams, Vicki Quraishi, June Peishel, Caryl Thompson, Brittany Moua, Sy Moua, Penny Frew, Greg Long, James Bauman, Becky Ball, Kris Brenner.

Friends and Family: Michael Peterson, Julie Collins, Patricia Dooley, Alan & Bonnie Becker, Reina Piñero, Caroline Fragoso, Luis & Maria Teresa Vega, Elizabeth Edwards, Cheryl Scappaticci, Elizabeth Stone, Zoe Moore and family.

Missionaries: David and Alicia Brondos, and all members of Grace Church.

Our Guatemalan Companion Synod Partners: Pastor Karen Castillo, her sister Ms. Beatriz Castillo and son Diego.

+++

Pat Hunsicker passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 6, 2025. Funeral services are pending and will be announced at a later date. Please keep her cousin Eileen Neri (Collins), and her family in prayer as they grieve.

Long time member Claudia Lever passed away peacefully on April 29, 2025. The memorial service will be on Saturday, May 24, 2025 at 10:30am here at Grace. Please keep her sister Janet Lockhart, and son Ed Lever and their family in prayer as they grieve.

This Week at Grace

Monday, May 12

5:30pm	Administering Meeting	Room 101
7:00pm	Boy Scouts	Pavillion
7:00pm	Serving Meeting	Online
7:30pm	Stewarding Meeting	Online

Tuesday, May 13

5:30pm	Proclaiming Meeting	Room 101
7:00pm	Stephen Ministry	FH

Wednesday, May 14

4:30pm	Nurturing Meeting	Room 101
5:45pm	Ringspiration	Sanctuary
7:00-8:00pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary

Thursday May 15

10:00-2:00pm	Blanket Workshop	FH
--------------	------------------	----

Friday, May 16

10:00am	Food Pantry	Drive-thru
6:00-9:00pm	Boating Safety Class	Room 101

Saturday, May 17

9:00-12:00pm	Boating Safety Class	Room 101
2:00pm	Grace Photographers	Room 101

Sunday, May 18

9:00am	Contemporary Worship	Sanctuary
10:00am	Adult Sunday School	Room 101
10:05am	Sunday School	JL, Room 254
11:15am	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary

ESOL Classes:

Beginners- T, W, Th 9:30-11:30am
Tue. 6:00-8:00pm
All classes are in Room 210

Early Intermediate- 9:30-11:30am
in Room 213

Intermediate- T, Th 9:00-11:00am
Wed. 6:00-8:00pm
All classes are in Room 210

Advanced- Friday 9:30-11:30am
in Room 101

GED Class- T, W 10:30-12:30pm
in Room 107

Upcoming Commemorations

Matthias, Apostle Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars

Grace's Purpose Statement

Grace Lutheran is a Christian church dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to a diverse community by loving our neighbors as ourselves, developing vibrant ministries to meet current and emerging needs, and helping people know Jesus.

Serving Today

Preaching and Presiding Pastor: Rev. Paula Smith

Reader: Paul Gurecki

Worship Leader: Janet Rawl

Young People's Message: Pr. Paula

Offering Stewards: Donna Hoglund, Carol Donath

Altar Guild: Pam Asher, Gloria Caton

Flower Guild: Carnations

Greeters: Saylor Hummel, Valerie Hansen



Grace Lutheran Church

131 W. Gettysburg Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Office (865) 483-3787

E-mail: office@graceor.org Website: www.graceoakridge.org

Rev. Rosalina Rivera, Pastor

Slade Trammell, Director of Music

David Ensley, Organist

Pam Woodard, Secretary

Ingrid Busch, Sound Technician

Liturgy licensing: Beu, B. J. *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2018: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year*. Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition. Liturgical texts and music from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* and *With One Voice*, both by Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000404. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. © 2024 Christian Copyright Licensing International. All rights reserved.