

**April 6, 2025**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*



# **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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+

Divine Service:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am  
*Sundays*

Adult Bible Study &

Sunday School:

9:30 am

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

Organist:

Patty Barnes

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

April 6, 2025

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...***The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

### PRELUDE

"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"  
"I Love to Tell the Story"

arr. H. Livingston  
arr. A. Whitworth

### WELCOME

*Stand*

### INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Isaiah 43:1; Psalm 126:3*

- P** But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, . . . "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
- G** **I have called you by name, you are Mine."**
- P** The LORD has done great things for us;
- G** **we are glad.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Isaiah 43:1, adapt.*

**P** As the Lord God delivered His chosen people from Egyptian slavery through the sea yet on dry ground, and as He delivered His chosen people from their captivity in Babylon of old, so has He now delivered His chosen people to this day from slavery to sin and death through the cross and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Remembering that your Holy Baptism is still a present reality today, let us return to the Lord our God in true repentance and faith.

**C** **Lord God, we confess that we have sinned against You and have fallen back into our old ways of neglecting You and our love for our neighbor. Create a new heart and spirit within us and make us to be Your new creation by faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live under Him and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness both today and forever.**

**P** But now thus says the Lord, He who created you and formed you, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine." Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

† **SERVICE OF THE WORD** †

*Sit*

**HYMN**

"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"

**LSB 782**

1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings  
 2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion  
 3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior  
 △ 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing

New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies  
 Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that  
 Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of  
 Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.  
 end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.  
 ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

*Refrain*



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo-ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,

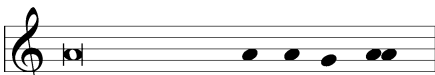


Through the shar-ing of Your bless-ings May bring glo-ry to Your name.

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946, Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati, Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811, Tune: Public domain

**KYRIE**

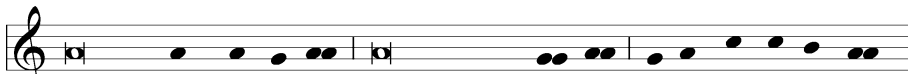
*LSB 168*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



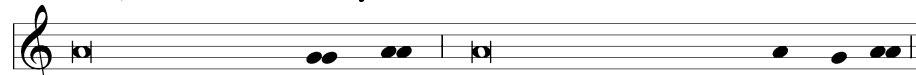
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



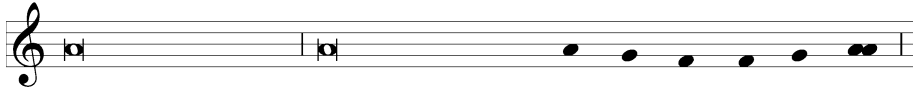
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



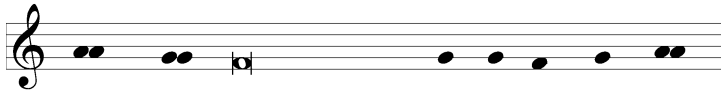
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 43:16–21*

The Word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

**SENIOR CHOIR DUET:** "Love Divine! All love Excelling (from the Daughter of Jairus)"  
Wayne Smith, Tenor, Dawn Smith, Soprano; J. Stainer © 1889 Schirmer Music Co.

Love Divine! all love excelling,  
Joy of Heaven to earth come down, Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful Mercies crown.  
Jesus! Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded Love Thou art, Visit us with Thy  
Salvation, Enter ev-'ry Trembling heart. Love Divine!  
Come Almighty, to deliver; Let  
Us all Thy Grace receive.  
Hasten to return and never, Never more Thy temple leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy Hosts above; Pray and praise  
Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect Love.  
Love Divine!

**EPISTLE**

*Philippians 3:8-14*

The Word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**VERSE**

*Luke 20:17b*

**P** The stone that the builders rejected,

**G** **has become the cornerstone.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 20:9-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Word is read...

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**SERMON**

**HYMN**

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

**LSB 575**

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'  
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on  
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I

blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
 His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
 in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
 then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -

own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*  
 On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt., Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901, Text and tune: Public domain

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS *Gabrielle Herrin, John & Roxanne Rinehart*

*\* If no new members received, skip to Nicene Creed on page 9*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *Yes, I do.*

**A** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

**R** *Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**A** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**A** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**A** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?



**R** *I do.*

**P** Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

**R** *I will, with the help of God.*

**P** Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them with the hearts to believe and with the mouths to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** The grace of our  $\text{✠}$  Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**C** **Amen.**

*New Members return to their seats*

**NICENE CREED, *If no new members are received.***

**C** **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
- O God, our Creator and Redeemer, we give thanks to You for Your whole world of nature and that You continue to sustain it in summer and winter, in seedtime and harvest, through times of trouble and in times of peace. We pray for peace continually that we may attend to Your Word and worship and proclaim Your majesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**A** We give You thanks especially for our redemption from sin and everlasting death. Though even as You count us as Your redeemed people, still we struggle to be faithful. In Your mercy, You remain true to Your promises and continue to provide the everlasting invitation, salvation, and healing through the forgiveness of sins for the sake of Christ. Bless and empower Your whole church on earth with steadfast faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for all those in the authority of government, that they may be guided in the way of truth and justice, providing for the peace and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**A** We pray also for all who are ill, the hungry, those in bondage, and all who travel. Grant that the prayers of all who turn to You in their need graciously come before You, so that they may receive Your help, provision, and comfort. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. For all Your works of mercy of old, we praise You. For Your gifts of deliverance, renewal of life and hope, and the promise of eternal life through the cross and resurrection of Your Son, we praise You. Hear us for His sake, living and reigning with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

**OFFERING**

**VOLUNTARY**

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

arr. D. Wagner

*Stand*

**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

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 Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

LSB 178

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C Amen.**

**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
 sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"O Christ, You Walked the Road"

LSB 424

1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.  
 2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.  
 3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.  
 4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,  
 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.

You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.  
 Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.  
 Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.  
 Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.  
 Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591, Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811, Tune: Public domain

**VOLUNTARY**

"O Christ, You Walked the Road"

setting: T. Beck

*Stand***NUNC DIMITTIS**

LSB 182

**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-  
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -  
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have made us Your own people, a new creation in Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His body and blood You have strengthened our faith, thus enabling us to tell forth Your praises. Enlighten our paths and guide our steps that we may live according to Your gracious will in faithfulness to You



and love for one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LSB 427



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred  
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -  
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.  
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872, Tune: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–67, Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

arr. H. DeCou

## **Stewardship Corner**

*Through faith, God wants us to acknowledge that He is the giver of all good gifts and to receive them with thanksgiving. Billy Graham said, "God has given us two hands, one to receive with and one to give with." As faithful stewards, we are blessed to be a blessing. Our attitude toward our blessings changes when we acknowledge that everything has come from God. What we receive from Him is to not only provide for our needs but to help others who are in need, support His Church, and to advance His kingdom. The Apostle Paul tells us that we "will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11).*

## **Acknowledgements**

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.*

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*"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"- arr. H. Livingston; tune: Holy Manna, from Columbia Harmony © 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "I Love to Tell the Story"- arr. A.*

*Whitworth; tune: Hankey, W. Fisher © 1979 Broadman Press; " More Love to thee, O Christ"- arr. D. Wagner; tune: More Love to Thee, W. Doane © 2014 Lorenz Publishing Co.;*

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