

Grace Lutheran Church Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



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Secretary, Sue Wiener

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Procession/Bell

Welcome and Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism:**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

L: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn:** "Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! ELW #382 (vs. 1,3,4)

1 Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

Gratefully our hearts adore him as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him, rising up from griefs and tears.

Refrain:

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow in the rising of today.

See the grave its first fruits giving, springing up from holy ground;

Christ was dead, but now is living; he was lost, but he is found. ***Refrain:***

4 Christ is risen! Henceforth never death or hell shall us enthrall.

We are Christ's, in him forever we have triumphed over all.

All the doubting and dejection of our trembling hearts have ceased;

hail the day of resurrection! Let us rise and keep the feast. ***Refrain:***

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927 CCLI #2275507 Public Domain

***Apostolic 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.**

***Hymn of Praise:** "This is the Feast" ELW, Setting 4, Page 140

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

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

3 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 **Refrain:**

4 For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. **Refrain:**

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***Prayer of the Day:**

Holy and righteous God, **you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading:

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 4

L: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

C: “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”

L: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

C: Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

L: Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

C: Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

L: You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

C: In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

Scripture Reading:

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Sermon

***Gospel Acclamation:** “Alleluia” ELW, Setting 4, pg. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

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*Holy Gospel:

Luke 24:36b-48

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his

hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

***Hymn:** "As We Gather at Your Table"

ELW #522

1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 One License #A-736797
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

***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 People:**

L: God of grace, **C:** hear our prayer.

***Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** And also with you.

Offering

***Offertory Hymn:** "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" ELW #182

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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Offertory Prayer:

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

***Great Thanksgiving:**

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.

***Holy, Holy, Holy:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of Pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

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***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns:

"Lamb of God"

ELW, Setting 4, Page 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.

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"Taste and See"

ELW #493

Refrain:

Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
Oh, taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times.
Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord;
for God has been so good to me. **Refrain:**

2 Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord, who answered me;
from all my troubles I was set free. **Refrain:**

3 Worship the Lord, all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
in God we need put all our trust. **Refrain:**

Text and Music: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34
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“Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW #471

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. **Refrain:**

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. **Refrain:**

Text and Music: African American spiritual CCLI #2275507 Public Domain

“Eat This Bread”

ELW #472

"Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."

Text: Taizé Community One Licence #A-736797
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***Communion Blessing**

***Communion Prayer:**

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant
mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

***Benediction:**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter
hope † bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” ELW #384

1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.

3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.

4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Music: European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621 One License #A-736797

***Dismissal:**

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!