GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"PRAYER THING RELIGION."

- JOHN CALVIN



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 2024

Grace is a church where people seeking more grace, more depth, and more community can start finding their way and sharing their gifts with the world.

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PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love having young children in worship. We want them to feel at home in the presence of God, and to learn how to worship by emulating you. Sit where you can easily hear and see, and if children have questions, you can quietly explain what is happening. Above all, relax. If your children wiggle or make noise, don't feel self-conscious. We understand, and we are delighted to have your whole family here to worship with us.

Check the inside back cover of this Order of Worship for Scripture memory schedule, financial reports, Mission of the Month, and podcast info.

Minister

Rev. J. Mark Bertrand

Elder

Dave Boer

Deacon

Josh Sinkgraven

Music

Bethany Van Raalte, Emma Minderhoud, Tim Murray

Reader

Hannah Larsen

Sound Technicians

Jeff Smith, Tyler Vermeer

Hospitality

Cheryl Boer

Welcomers

Paul & Danae Marselus, Rob Schleifer

Nursery - During Worship

Andre Zechariahs, Robyn Wimmer, Josiah Jones

Nursery - During Sunday School Barb Schaap, Sheena Sinkgraven

Teach Me To Worship

Lesley Jones, Aimee Murray

Prayer After Service

Jeff & Ann Smith

Transformers

Les & Jennipher Van Den Top, Benton Smith



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

A season of grace following the joy of resurrection.

The season of Easter continues until Pentecost on May 19. During this time, we celebrate the grace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Let our worship be joyous as we contemplate the forgiveness of sin and the restoration of the relationship between ourselves and the God who made us.

+ We long for more grace.

INTROIT: PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

As the musicians play, use this time for prayer and contemplation, preparing your heart to worship the Triune God, your creator and redeemer.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Worship is a back-and-forth dialogue between God and us, beginning when God calls us into his presence.

Minister: O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,

All: For you have done wonderful things,

plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

Isaiah 25.1-2

SALUTATION

We are welcomed into God's presence for the sake of Christ.

Minister: Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

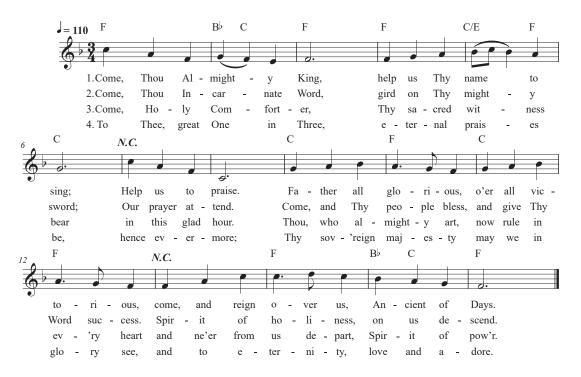
All: Amen!

SING PRAISE TO GOD

We enter the presence of God singing songs of praise. He deserves our praise both because he made us and because, after we were broken by sin, he did not abandon us but re-made us by grace.

§ "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Charles Wesley, Felice de Giardini





SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

"It Is Well With My Soul"

CONFESSION OF SIN

In God's presence, we have to be honest about who we are. No more excuses. We confess our sins together aloud, and then confess in silence individually.

All: Merciful Father, you have given your Son Jesus as a Savior, and your Holy Spirit as a Comforter. Yet we continue to seek other saviors and look for comfort from other sources. We neglect what you have given us and pursue what we can never have. Forgive our unfaithfulness, and strengthen us with your ever-faithful love. We ask in Jesus' blessed name, *Amen*.

SELF-EXAMINATION & SILENT CONFESSION

§ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

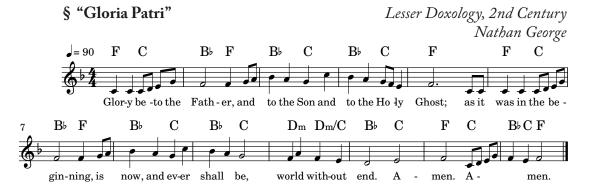
We don't have to hide our faults because we take comfort in God's all-forgiving grace. As you hear the words from Scripture, be assured of God's pardon to all who believe.

For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

2 Corinthians 1.5

GLORIA PATRI

We glorify the Triune God for the great salvation he has ordained, accomplished for us, and applied to our hearts.

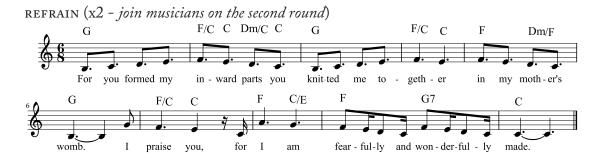


SING THANKS TO GOD

Now that God has assured us of pardon, we sing a song of gratitude to glorify him.

§ "Song Refrain: Psalm 139"

Music by Natalie Campbell



Reader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me!
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

REFRAIN

Reader: How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

I awake, and I am still with you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart!

Try me and know my thoughts!

And see if there be any grievous way in me,

and lead me in the way everlasting!

REFRAIN (x2)

+ We long for more depth.

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

All that we have has been provided by God, and he asks that we give a portion back as a form of worship. We do not pass a plate at Grace, but we pray to dedicate offerings. You can give in the black box at the rear of the sanctuary near the sound booth, via mail, or online at graceforsiouxfalls.org.

SCRIPTURE READING

If we long for more depth, that depth is found in the Bible, where God has revealed himself to us. Through the reading of the Bible, God speaks to us.

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another."

John 15.9-17

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Part of our worship is to make our needs known to God through prayer. An officer of the church offers prayer on behalf of the congregation, followed by the Lord's Prayer. If you would like to request prayer, please speak to one of the officers.

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH CLASS DISMISSED: TEACH ME TO WORSHIP (AGES 4-6)

§ "Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me"

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson

Michael Farren





MINISTRY OF THE WORD

As the word of God is proclaimed, receive the message of grace and be transformed.

OLIVET: PREPARING FOR THE END MATTHEW 24-25, PART 6

"READY AND WAITING"

Rev. J. Mark Bertrand

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.

But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'

And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'

But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Matthew 25.1-13

NOTES

† We long for more community.

§ CONFESSION OF FAITH

Together we confess "the faith once delivered to the saints," joining our voices to represent the unity of our hearts and minds, speaking the same words as countless believers who have gone before us.

Minister: Christians, what do you confess?

All: We confess and acknowledge one God alone,

to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust.

Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;

one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

By whom we confess and believe all things

in heaven and earth,
visible and invisible
to have been created,
to be retained in their being,
and to be ruled and guided
by his inscrutable providence
for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness,
and justice have appointed,
and to the manifestation of his own glory.

Scots Confession, Chapter 1 (1560)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion is an occasion for all baptized Christians to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by him, and celebrate him. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the Gospel, are at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully, are welcome to come forward.

IF YOU ARE NOT YET A BELIEVER, have not yet made a public profession of faith, or if you choose not to share in this meal, we invite you to spend this time in prayer.

Minister: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God.

§ Please stand.

Come Forward to Partake of the Lord's Supper

Communion is a time of joy in which we feast with Christ. We eat and drink at Christ's table, symbolized by the serving table at the front of the sanctuary.

TO RECEIVE COMMUNION, come forward by rows. We move forward up the center aisles and return to our seats down the outer aisles. You will receive and eat the bread, then advance to receive the cup. After you drink, you may return to your seat. Children who have not yet made professions of faith and been admitted to the Table may accompany their parents forward. All the bread is gluten-free. The red cups contain wine, while the clear cups contain juice.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COME FORWARD, we invite you to join us by using the prepackaged communion elements available in the reception area.

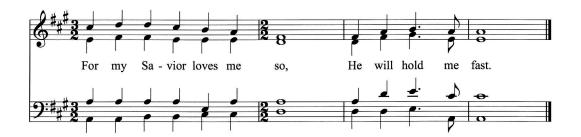
COMMUNION SONG

As we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper together, we sing a song of joy in the salvation we have in Jesus Christ.

§ "He Will Hold Me Fast"

Ada Habershon, Matt Merker

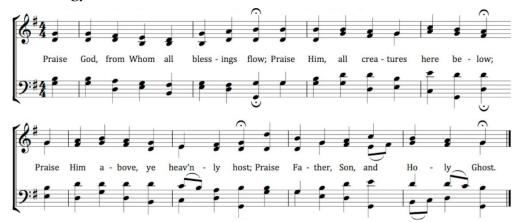




CLOSING WORDS

Encouragement to take the hope of the Gospel into the world to which Christ has called us as salt and light.

§ Doxology



BENEDICTION

As we depart, God's blessing rests upon us with this benediction.

Minister: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5.23



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PRAY WITH SOMEONE AFTER THE SERVICE, PLEASE MEET AT THE FRONT, RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.

Let's Memorize Scripture Together

This semester our churchwide Sunday School memorization passage is Ephesians 2.1-10. Here is the schedule for recitation:

January 21

vv. 8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

January 28

v. 10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

February 4

Review vv. 8-10

February 11

vv. 1-2a

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked,

February 18 (Presidents' Day)

No Sunday School

February 25

v. 2b

following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

March 3

v. 3

among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and

were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

March 10 (Daylight Savings)

No Sunday School

March 17

Review vv. 1-3, 8-10

March 24

v. 4

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,

March 31 (Easter)

No Sunday School

April 7

71. 5

even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

April 14

v. 6

and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

April 21

v. 7

so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

April 28

Review vv. 4-10

TODAY: May 5

Review vv. 1-10

Financial Reports

GIVING REPORT		Vision Fund	
Last Week General Fund Vision Fund Benevolence Fund Foreign Mission	\$4,512 \$500 \$0 \$0	In Account Investment Returns Bank Balance Giving (Apr)	\$233,381 \$11,626 \$0 \$1,050
YEAR TO DATE General Fund Vision Fund Benevolence Fund Foreign Mission Total	\$95,487 \$7,790 \$1,135 \$245 \$104,716	TOTAL GOAL Final Goal Remaining to Fund Percentage Funded	\$246,056 \$1,000,000 \$753,944 24.6%
2024 BUDGETED Year to Date	\$120,961 (-25,475)		

Mission of the Month: Medical Mission

Grace supports an oversea medical mission that, because of its location, must observe careful security measures. As a result, we cannot put details in print. This month we pray for the family serving in this mission. If you would like to know more, please speak with one of our officers.

Listen ... and Share







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For more information about Grace, subscribe for weekly e-mail updates at

graceforsiouxfalls.org

TODAY: 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 am Sunday School

9:50 am Preparation for Worship

10:00 am Worship Service

11:30 am Potluck & Realm Training

MONDAY, MAY 6

6:15 pm Women's Bible Study (Ann Hutchinson's)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

6:40 pm Youth Group (at Living Hope)

Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY, MAY 9

6:30 am Men's Coffee (Coffea on Louise)

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

11:30 am Officer Elections

Join the Grace online community by signing up for RealmConnect:



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Meets at SFC's THE GATHERING 6101 S. Charger Circle

Mailing Address
P. O. Box 2050
Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Online at

www.graceforsiouxfalls.org



Grace is a church where people seeking more grace, more depth, and more community can start finding their way and sharing their gifts with the world.

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