



Grace Lutheran Church

9th & Logan Street Wayne, Nebraska 68787

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www.gracewayne.com.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Welcome: We are glad that you are here or are watching our worship service online. May you be blessed through this time of worship. We pray you find today's service a source of encouragement and strength. For those worshipping in person please take time to register your attendance using the slips in the pew rack. These can be placed in the offering plates by the door as you exit.

Online Worship: Livestream of our Sunday morning services is being offered each week. Check the church's website www.gracewayne.com or Facebook page for the link.

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our prayers during worship, please call the pastor or church office or write down the request and give it to the pastor.

Lectionary Summary: *"God is love,"* and He has manifested Himself to us by sending *"his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him"* (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, *"he has given us of his Spirit,"* so that we also believe and confess *"that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh."* In this way, we *"abide in him and he in us,"* and we *"love one another"* (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip's preaching of *"the good news about Jesus"* to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when *"they came to some water,"* the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into *"the true vine,"* Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He *"bears much fruit"* in us (John 15:3–5).

Order of Worship
Service of Prayer and Preaching *LSB 260*

Prelude

Welcome and Greeting Time

Ringing of the Bell

♪ **Opening Hymn: “O Blessed Spring”**

LSB 595

- 1 O blessed spring, where Word and sign Embrace us into Christ the Vine:
Here Christ enjoins each one to be A branch of this life-giving Tree.**
- 2 Through summer heat of youthful years, Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ’s infusing rain, The boughs will shout for joy again.**
- 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.**
- 4 As winter comes, as winters must, We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing And trust the promise of the spring.**
- 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive And join us to Your Tree of Life.**

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Stand

Opening Versicles

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- P** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.

- P** Sanctify us in You truth.
C **Your Word is truth.**
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

♪“All Glory Be to God Alone”

LSB 948 sts. 1, 4

- 1 All glory be to God alone, Forevermore the highest one,
Who did our sinful race befriend And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.**
- 4 You take the whole world’s sin away; Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world’s sin away; O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God’s right hand Your mercy send, To all the world Your grace extend.**

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Sit

First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 4:1–11

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

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

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

♪ Sermon Hymn: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

LSB 474

- 1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!
Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!
- 2 Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!
- 3 Jesus the vine, We are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, Gift of the future now flowing to me.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!
- 4 Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!
- 5 City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels, Sing with creation to God the I AM!
Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

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Sermon "A Fruitful Life"

Pastor Buchhorn

Stand

♪ Creedal Hymn: "We All Believe in One True God"

LSB 953

- 1 We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present help in need, Praised by all the heav'nly host;
All He made His love enfolds, All creation He upholds.

2 **We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son,
Who descended from His throne And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.**

3 **We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessèd, holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!**

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Prayer

LSB 265

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Collect of the Day

P O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives on reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

High School Graduation Recognition (10:30)

Ethan Cross - Attending Wayne State College with a Major in Computer Science

Layne Evans - Enlisting in the United States Marine Corps

Karlee Janke - Attending Northeast Community College with a Major in Business

Freya Young - Attending Northeast Community College pursuing a degree in Nursing.

Blessing

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

♪Closing Hymn: “Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing”

LSB 691

- 1 Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s sowing, May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing, Rich in love and joy and peace.
- 2 Laden branches freely bearing Gifts the Giver loves to bless;
Here is fruit that grows by sharing, Patience, kindness, gentleness.
- 3 Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self-control.
- 4 Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s tending, May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven’s love and joy and peace.

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NEWS AND NOTES

WE REJOICE with the following members of Grace who are celebrating this week.

BIRTHDAYS: Matthew Frevert, Lane Pickinpaugh, Lana Chapman, Taryn Kurpgeweit, Elaine Rump, Brooklyn Trautman, Pat Wheeler, Anna Kruger, Pam Janke, Theresa Jensen, Ruth Kanitz, Cleone Fredrickson, Jerry Jensen & Jason Mrsny.

ANNIVERSARIES: Dick & Pam Nolte, Larry & Cathy Echtenkamp, Jon & Sherry Haase and Larry & Betty Mitchell

LAST WEEK our offerings were \$5,227.

CONNECT TO DISCIPLE: Join us for our Disciple Training workshop entitled "Connect to Disciple." This material was developed by our synod to help meet the need for greater outreach. This class will meet in the basement during adult Bible class hour beginning at 9:15 a.m.

LUTHERAN HOUR: "Seriously?" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A preacher who gets upset when people take his message seriously--that's the story of Jonah. Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on KTCH AM next Sunday at 7:30 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The account of Isaiah serves as today's lesson, "Promising Prophet." In an amazing vision of the Lord in glory upon His throne in heaven, God asks Isaiah, "Whom shall I send?" Isaiah responds, "Here I am! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8). Isaiah's prophecies extend beyond the destruction and captivity of Judah to the extensive details concerning the coming of the Messiah and His sacrifice for the salvation of His people. For those who cannot attend in person, visit <http://bit.ly/onlinesundayschool> to access an online video overview for Lesson 6 and additional family materials.

THANK YOU to the congregation for your prayers and words of encouragement. That has meant a lot to us. Dennis & Pam Ekberg

L.I.F.T.: Mark your calendars to take some time for yourself in the fellowship of Christ-minded ladies on Saturday, May 8th at 9am down at Cup of Grace. All ladies of any age are welcome to join us in a breakfast, devotion, and fellowship.

Looking ahead- In June we will be taking a break and in July we will have a fun day at the lake; more details to come.

COLLEGE MINISTRY: We are getting down to our last few weeks of school. With Finals quickly approaching we want to remind you of our opportunities for Free Dinners! Tonight, May 2nd, at 7:30PM we will be hosting our last Sunday Night Suppers for the year. Thank you to everyone who has made these so special! We have loved all of the food that you have prepared for us, and for students who are looking for a delicious meal we hope you can join us! Also Monday May 3rd we will have a Finals week Dinner at 7:30PM as well! Come get some Raising Cane's and don't raise cain about your finals! Invite your friends and we will see you soon!

GRACE LADIES AID would like to thank all who donated items for our ingathering at the spring workshop. We assembled 29 health kits and 9 school kits which were delivered to the Orphan Grain Train. Thank you for your generosity.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Looking back to Easter weekend, the Sunday School would like to offer our thanks to anyone who supported the Easter Egg Hunt that took place on April 3rd by offering a donation and/or by aiding through their volunteer efforts. We would also like to thank all the parents, guardians, and children who came out to spend a portion of their Easter weekend with our church family at Grace Lutheran. As always, we appreciate all the support and encouragement that is shown in regard to our various Sunday School activities. Thank you!

RECOGNITION BRUNCH: On Sunday May 16 between services at 9:15 a.m. we will be having a recognition brunch in honor of several people who have done much to enrich our congregation's life. First of all, this will be an opportunity to recognize **Derek Jareske** who has been serving as our Sunday School Director and in many other roles. Derek is completing his

training as a Director of Christian Education through Concordia College of Irvine, California's online program. The final portion of DCE training involves a one-year internship. At the conclusion of that internship, he will be able to receive a call into the full-time ministry of the LCMS as a Director of Christian Education. Derek will soon be leaving us to begin his DCE internship. His internship will be in Hagerstown, Maryland and he will get started there in July. **Micah Schut** who has served as our vocal and handbell choir director. Micah has also been our Cup of Grace resident caretaker. Micah is graduating from Wayne State and has taken a music education position in Ogallala, Nebraska. He will be relocating there soon. **Pastor Erik** will also be recognized on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of his ordination into the office of the Holy Ministry. Plan to join us on May 16 at 9:15 as we enjoy some brunch together and thank God for the service of each of these servants of the church. And pray God's blessing upon their continued service here or elsewhere.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN SERVICE PROJECT: For the month of May, regarding to our service project, the Sunday School will be requesting age appropriate and non-offensive stickers. As always, if you are interested in helping with this activity, the Sunday School will be collecting any donations for this project in the marked bin by the Sunday School office, in the basement. Thank you for your continued generosity!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISER: The Jr. High and High School Youth Group want to thank you for taking the time to support, pray for, and encourage us throughout this past year as you always have. All of you have meant so much to us, during a time of great uncertainty in a lot of ways. Two things have been certain though and that is first God's love and second your commitment. The Youth Group is also working on a fundraiser to help make it to the National Youth Gathering that takes place July 2022. On the wall leading into the Fellowship Hall, you will find a lot of envelopes. If you feel led to support this effort, please take an envelope and you the dollar amount on each one is merely a suggestion. You can donate more, or less depending upon your interest. All proceeds will go towards our trip to the Gathering, and if you write a check, please make it out to LYF Grace Lutheran. Thank you again for all your support! We could not do anything without your help!

VISIONARY PARENTING BIBLE CLASS WITH PASTOR ERIK: Parents are you looking at getting into God's word with your children. Are you not sure how to even begin doing something like that? Wanting to strengthen habits that you are already doing. Well then, we hope you will join Pastor Erik during the Sunday School Hour from 9:15 to 10:15AM! We will cover great topics like God's grand vision for the home, a God-filled normal life, Biblical fatherhood and motherhood, family worship, multi-generational faithfulness, a safe home, and disciplines that disciple. What you will hear and learn is that God has brought your family together for a grand purpose! Our study called *Visionary Parenting* will help you discover and lean into this awesome opportunity. Through studying God's Word in this Visionary Parenting series, you will

be inspired to catch a fresh vision of God's purpose for your family. While also being inspired to build faith and character in the hearts of your kids.

YOU'RE INVITED! The congregation is invited to join Micah Schut in celebration of his graduation from Wayne State College on May 8th from 2:30-6:00pm at Cup of Grace. Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments with Micah and give him the chance to thank you individually for welcoming him into the Grace Lutheran Church family! All congregation members are invited to attend!

SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC: The Sunday School is pleased to announce the return of Lower and Upper Division music. With that, parents will now be asked to first drop off their Lower Division students to their individual classrooms and then to pick up these students from the basement area that is traditionally reserved for Lower Division music time. Music time will begin at 10:00AM for Lower Division students, with class before. Upper Division students will also begin in the individual classrooms, and at 9:20AM, these students will begin the Sunday School hour by either engaging in a time of music practice, in the Sanctuary, or by beginning to learn in their individual classroom, with all Upper Division students joining the class at 9:35AM. Despite these updates, Sunday School will still continue to run between 9:15AM and 10:15AM. If parents have any questions about the format for this type of activity, please feel free to contact Derek Jareske by email at dejare01@gmail.com.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 13TH THRU 17TH 5:15PM TO 8PM

Is there just one God? . . . Who is God? . . . What is God like? . . . Does God love me? . . . Can I know God? Our kids grapple with questions like these every day. At Mystery Island VBS, we'll uncover the truth about our Creator God and how His love applies to their lives. Grab your sunscreen and get ready for a taste of paradise as you track down the one true God at Mystery Island! Our Daily Schedule will include: Dinner starting at 5:15PM followed by a large group opening 5:50PM, small group rotations through lessons, games, and crafts, and large group closing at 8:00PM. Thursday June 17th will be a special evening with a family friendly island themed movie being shown immediately after our large group closing at 8pm. Concessions will be sold including popcorn, candy, and drinks. All proceeds from the movie go towards helping the Youth Group make it to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas during the summer of 2022! Be sure to encourage your friends to register, and we will see you soon for a swash buckling, rip roaring, high sea sailing tale of an Island Adventure!!!

GRACE LADIES AID would like to thank all who supported the Eden the comfort dog from Peace Lutheran Church Columbus, Nebraska, that visited our church on April 11th. The Sunday School children were saving their mites and collected \$70 to give to Eden. That was amazing. Also, money collected after the services was around \$200. Thank you so much for your generous giving. Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry was launched in

August of 2008 and is a national human-care ministry embracing the unique, calming nature and skills of purebred Golden Retrievers. The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs are a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ. The funds are used for veterinarian check-ups, grooming, dog food, travel expenses for deployments, and annual review training. To learn more about Eden go to her Facebook page at [EdenComfortDog](#) or web page at Eden@K9Comfort.org.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

PASTORS: Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor's phone: 402.833.1071 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Erik Christensen, Associate Pastor

Pastor's phone: 979.204.0752 Email: pastorerik@gracewayne.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

ELDER ON DUTY: Josh Ruwe (8:00) Craig Evans (10:30)

ACOLYTES: Cole Zach (8:00) Brodrick Tiedtke (10:30)

FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL: Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Sara Ruwe – 402.369.2661

LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR: In memory of Leona Lessmann from her family

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY	8:00 am.	Worship
	9:15 am.	Bible Classes & Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship
	7:30 pm.	Sunday Night Dinner
MONDAY	6:15 pm.	Choir
	7:30 pm.	Elders
	7:30 pm.	College Dinner
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am.	Bible Study
	5:30 pm.	Bell Choir
THURSDAY	6:30 pm.	Sunday School Meeting
FRIDAY	7:00 pm.	Fisher of Kids Preschool Graduation
SATURDAY	4:00 pm.	Family Communion
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am.	Worship/Communion
	9:15 am.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 am.	Worship/Communion