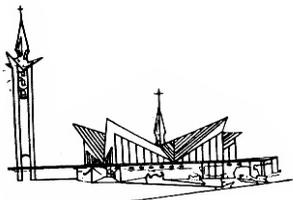


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

150 50th Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49548

Reverend John H. Diener, Pastor / gracelc.pjd@gmail.com

Rev. Diener's phone # 616-350-3199 Church Office Phone # 616-534-0805



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Office Hours: Monday - Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Welcome Guests!

We look forward to worshipping with you today!

(Need Assistance for your hearing? We offer comfortable ear-sets and loops that provide improved listening ability. Please ask a Sound System Attendant for assistance.)



*Do not let
your hearts
be troubled...*

JOHN 14:27, NRSV

† DON'T LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED - GOD IS AT WORK †

WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR WORSHIP BEGINS IN PRAYERFUL MEDITATION

GOD'S WORD PREPARES US FOR WORSHIP:

Jesus said "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me...Jesus said to him, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14: 1, 6

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP IN PRAYER:

Let not our hearts be troubled, O Lord. Not even in the midst of this pandemic. Fill our hearts with confidence in You alone. Like newborn infants long for pure spiritual milk, grant us the faith to place our complete trust in Jesus Christ and yearn for His grace and mercy to flow into our lives. Fill this time of worship with praise and thanksgiving for making us Your chosen people and giving us direction for our lives. Grant that we may gladly hear Your Word and that all our worship may be acceptable unto You in Jesus' name as our Risen Savior. Amen.

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, bids us to examine ourselves before taking Holy Communion. Therefore, to receive our Lord's true Body and Blood we:

- † **REPENT** of our sinful nature and our sinful acts;
- † **BELIEVE** that Jesus lived the perfect life to shed His Blood for us on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sin;
- † **BELIEVE** that, in the Supper, Jesus gives us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. Therefore, the bread and wine are not merely symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus, but are joined to the real presence of Christ's Body and Blood given and shed for us;
- † **INTEND** by the power of the Holy Spirit, to change our sinful lives and strive to walk according to God's holy and perfect will.

In joyful obedience to the teaching of Holy Scripture, we ask that only those who are one in Church confession and faith join us at the table of our Lord. Guests who are members in good standing in fellow congregations of the Missouri Synod are invited to join us in the Holy Supper. **Children and adults desiring to come forward for a blessing are encouraged to do so.** If you have questions or if you would like to have information about joining our fellowship, please visit with the Pastor prior to worship. Thank you for honoring the sacredness of God's altar and our Lord's Table.

WE ENTER TO WORSHIP...WE EXIT TO WITNESS

HYMN OF INVOCATION “JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY’S WON” (LSB, #490)

Jesus lives! The vict’ry’s won! Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death’s reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! To Him the throne High above all things is given.
I shall go where He is gone, Live and reign with Him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to Him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from Him shall sever.
Neither death nor pow’rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense; This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: Jesus is my Confidence!

Public domain

(Please **stand** and respond with the **bold** print.)

The sign of the ✠ cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed. Alleluia! Amen!!

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

[We take this moment of silence for reflection on God’s Word and self-examination.]

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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.

Amen.

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

Who executes justice for the oppressed,

Who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the sojourners;

He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the LORD!

GLORIA PATRI

PAGE 186

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS~ GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

PAGE 187

And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

PAGE 189

The Lord be with you.

(Sung) And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. O God, Your faithful people are of one mind, heart, and will, because You grant it. Give us grace to love what You command and desire what You promise, so that in the middle of the many changes of this world, our hearts may always be fixed alone on You, where true joys are found, in our Way, our Truth, and our Life. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(Sung) Amen.

(Please be **seated**.)

† THE WORD OF THE WAY GIVES ETERNAL LIFE †

The New Testament Lesson for this Fifth Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day Recognition is written in the 6th and 7th chapters of the Book of Acts, beginning at the 1st verse.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

ACTS 6: 1-9; 7:2, 51-60

1Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. 2And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the Word of God to serve tables. 3Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word." 5And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

7And the Word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

8And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 9Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

7:2And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.

51 "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, 53 you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

54 Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 55 But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." 57 But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 58 Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

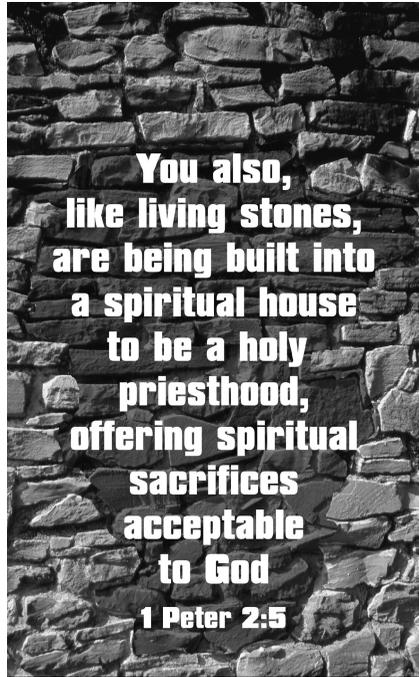
GRADUAL (Spoken Together)

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia. Amen.

The Epistle is written in the 2nd chapter of 1st Peter, beginning at the 2nd verse.

THE EPISTLE

1 PETER 2: 2-10



²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to Him, a Living Stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.” ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone,” ⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the Word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please **stand** as we sing the common alleluia.*

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

PAGE 156

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

(Sung) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 14: 1-14

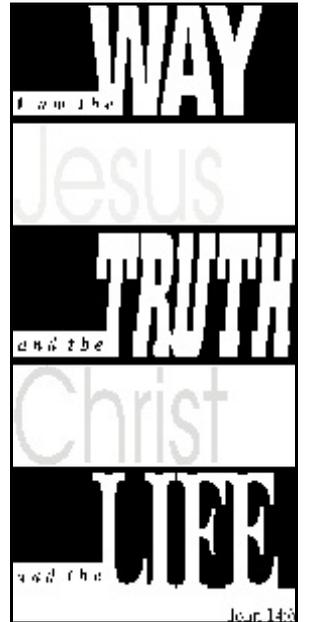
¹Jesus said: “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. ⁷If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him.” ⁸Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does His works. ¹¹Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(Sung) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



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.

(Please be seated.)

You are the Way; through You alone Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

You are the Truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

You are the Life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu’ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the Way, the Truth, the Life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

Public domain

MESSAGE “GOD IS ALWAYS AT WORK IN OUR LIVES” ACTS 6: 1-9, 7:2a, 51-60
Reverend Dr. David R. Schmitt, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

(Please stand.)

OFFERTORY

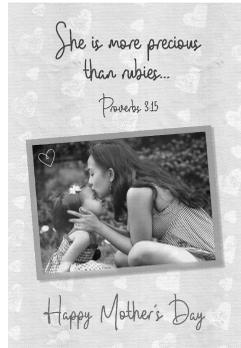
PAGE 192-193

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

OFFERING

MOTHER'S DAY RECOGNITION We thank God for the gift of mothers. Mothers are a precious gift from God. You are appreciated. You have a profound impact on the lives of your children and grandchildren. Keep up the good work in keeping the focus on the Lord. **The Mother's Day devotion and bookmark is from the Human Care Committee.**



Let us pray. Gracious God, who entrusted Your Son, the Way, the Truth and the Life to the love and care of a humble family, we thank You for the blessings You place upon our homes in the gifts of mothers. We pray for comfort and peace in the resurrection of Christ as we remember mothers who have passed away and whose life and faith is precious to us in remembrance on this day. Touch our sorrow with the gift of memories that fill our hearts with joy and remind us of the blessing that still live on in those memories. We pray for women who are not able to have children or who have been unable to have children or who have lost children, for whom this day brings a certain sadness, may they be comforted by Your peace and love and may they see Your plan for their lives. We lift up expectant mothers, unwed mothers, step mothers, and mothers who are facing difficulty - that they would turn to You for all their needs and would find You as the One who is their ever-present Help in time of need. And we praise You for the mothers whom we honor this morning that they, in modeling Jesus in His love and grace, have provided abundant life for children and grand children through their impactful thoughts, words and deeds. And during this pandemic, mothers have served as working parent, teachers, care givers and so much more. Give them strength and courage during this time of dire need. Continue to bless mothers with hearts, hands, feet and encouraging words to care for their loved ones as only they can as they look to You to guide and direct their path and fill their care with gracious abundance from Your hand which has no limits of forgiveness, mercy and love. Refresh the hearts of mothers with the truth that You are constantly at work in their lives. In Jesus' name we pray and praise You for the gift of mothers today. Amen.

(Please **kneel**, if you are able for a time of prayer.)

WE OFFER UP THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Holy Father, Your Son promised to give all things that we ask in His name. Grant us to pray continually to You, through Your Son, by Your Spirit, that the gifts of the Gospel may bear fruit and multiply among us, and that we would live a life of love for the blessing of our neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

O Lord, You have called us to be as newborn infants, longing for the milk of Your Word, that by it we may grow into a spiritual house and a royal priesthood. Bless our life of hearing, marking, reading and digesting Your divine Word, that we, who were once in darkness, may walk as children of light. Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Father of glory, Your Son declared Himself to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. Bless all who have requested our intercession - and the world in need in the midst of this pandemic. You alone know their needs and the best way to answer each one with the very best. May Christ Himself be their Way of salvation, their Truth in the midst of doubt and their Life in the midst of death. Grant them a sure and steadfast hope in the good news that He has prepared a place for them with You, where pain and sickness are no more and all things are made new. [Special Petitions] Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of Abraham, Your Son, our Paschal Lamb, offered the once-for-all sacrifice for our sins on the cross. By His death, He destroyed death, and by rising to life again, He proclaimed life and light to all people. Bless all who receive the New Testament Passover at this altar this day, that they may do so with sure and certain faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

(Please **stand.**)

‡ **WE CELEBRATE THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** ‡

PREFACE

LSB 194

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

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 is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, inviting us to eat and drink this foretaste of the feast to come with the promise that “in My Father’s house are many rooms . . . I go to prepare a place for you.” Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

PAGE 195

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

LORD’S PRAYER

PAGE 196

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAGE 197

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 ✠ 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 ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

PAGE 197

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI~ LAMB OF GOD

PAGE 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Please be **seated.**)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUPPER

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

“BUILT ON THE ROCK” (LSB, #645)

“MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS” (LSB, #575)

“LORD, TAKE MY HAND AND LEAD ME” (LSB, #722)

“I’M BUT A STRANGER HERE” (LSB, #748)

(Please **stand.**)

THANKSGIVING

PAGE 200

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

And His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

PAGE 201

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

DEPARTING PRAISE

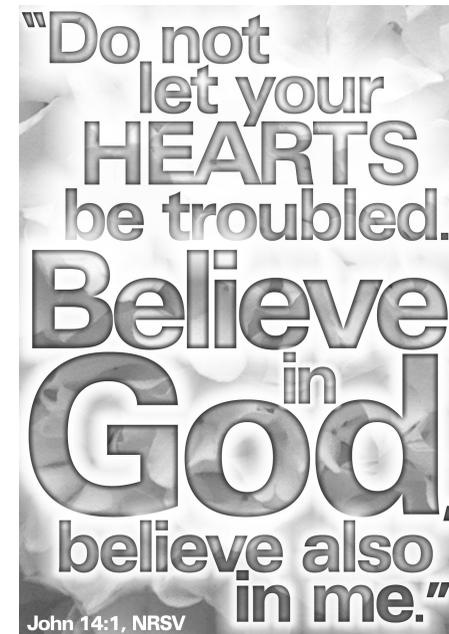
“CHRIST BE MY LEADER” (LSB, #861)

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the Way.

Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the Truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the Life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation; with Jesus I reign.



At this time, all services are cancelled until further notice.
The additional Easter devotions will serve as great encouragement at this time.

We will continue to provide Sunday bulletins, sermons and devotional materials every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 12 Noon until we are able to congregate as a church family once again.

We will also accept worship offerings and prayer requests at this time.
If you need anything, please don't hesitate to contact the church office.

Thank you!

The Church IS a Refuge in the midst of fear!

During this extraordinary time, please consider these great resources:

- A Lutheran worship service called “Worship Anew” is broadcast on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on the following channels: TV channel 24; Comcast channel 21; Direct TV - TCT, channel 377 or Dish Network channel 54.
- The Lutheran Hour radio broadcast can be heard on: WSRW Grand Rapids, MI 105.7 FM Sun 6:30 AM. You can listen to it anytime at: <https://www.lutheranhour.org/>.
- Concordia Publishing House (<https://www.cph.org/>) has several FREE resources available on their website for your personal use. There are Bible studies, devotional books for adults and children, and a variety of worship materials.
- Many churches in our District have the ability to live stream their services. Please take advantage of receiving God's Word through them. Check out www.englishdistrict.org
- One of the gems of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is the pastor and author, Bryan Wolfmueller. He has a great website for “The verse of the Day” and other interesting youtube articles. See www.wolfmueller.co

The following hymn was written by one of Grace's former pastors, Rev. Dr. John Stieve.
“THE TIMES ARE HARD” (Tune, LSB #595)

The times are hard, the days are long; We do not know what lies ahead.
But in Your shelter, Lord, we hide; And You supply our daily bread.

The world is troubled, tired, weak; We feel exposed to earthly ills,
But God brings cover by His Love; He keeps us safe, He keeps us still.

When terrors mount or sickness comes, Jesus, the Rock, rescues from harm.
The day will come when we go home; We'll rest securely in His arms.

Praise to the Father, Guardian, Friend; And to His Son, our Savior, Lord;
To the indwelling Holy Ghost: May God be worshiped and adored.

AN IMPORTANT TEN MINUTES – Grace family announcements are 10 minutes prior to our time of worship (8:50 a.m.). These are an important ten minutes because we will go through announcements and prepare for worship and the receiving of Christ's Body and Blood. Our preparation will be accompanied by an organ prelude that has been prepared for the day. Please make every effort to be in the pew and ready for these important 10 minutes.

COPIES OF THE SUNDAY SERMON ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE If you would like a copy of the Sunday sermon for yourself or to share with someone else, they are available each week on the table near the church office. Please help yourself. **You may also listen to the sermons on our website: www.gracelc.net** The printed sermons are available so you can literally “take home” the message of the day, further reflect on the message during the week or to share the message with others. **Please do not read the sermon while it is being preached.** This is your time with your pastor and the Holy Spirit working through the preached Word of God. Thank you!

PLEASE CONSIDER “JOYFUL RESPONSE” ELECTRONIC GIVING! “Joyful Response” is a convenient, consistent way to help our church family grow with first fruits, proportionate, regular giving to the Lord.

Despite this unprecedented time in the history of the world, our God still provides for each of us personally and for His Church. The Church is still carrying out a vital ministry to the world to provide peace, comfort and confidence in God’s saving grace. It’s through the donations of every individual and family in the church family that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year.

You want your Lord and His work to be a **priority in your life.** You may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. To set up a recurring giving schedule, please complete a paper authorization form on the table by the church office and return it to the church office. **It’s that easy!** Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Lord and His ministry here at Grace!

If this is not your wish, please mail your offerings to the church office or set up your own automatic gift with your bank.

OUR WEBSITE HAS MANY USEFUL FEATURES go to www.gracelc.net and you will find the latest news, a calendar of events, sermons, special music and much more! Like us on Facebook to get up-to-date news in your news feed! These are two ways you can keep connected with your church family.

VBS 2020, “RAINFOREST EXPLORERS - JESUS LEADS THE WAY” has been **cancelled** for this Summer. We will look forward with great anticipation in sharing the Good News of Jesus with our community - when it is safe to do so again. Until then, continue to pray for our community and the faithful sharing of the Gospel.

THE QUILTERS ARE STILL IN NEED OF DONATIONS OF SHEETS The Quilters are asking for your donations of sheets - size double or larger - **new or used** – for the backing of their quilts. Your donations help make their beautiful quilts possible. Thank you!

GRACE’S 75th ANNIVERSARY IS COMING IN 2024 Are you excited yet? We would like to start making plans beginning now - it will be a big deal for our church family. If you would like to serve on the Anniversary Committee that is now being formed, please speak with Rob Reneker or Pastor Diener. Thank you.

CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL CLOSINGS will be posted on Channel 8 and 13 when possible. Please also look to our Website at www.gracelc.net In an emergency, we will try to have the message on the church’s answer machine as well. We also put out an email. If you are not currently receiving e-mails, please let the office know your e-mail so you can be included in these special contacts. Thank you.

BE SURE TO READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE BULLETIN Be sure to read the information in the bulletin in its entirety - check your mail box, and look at the tables in the narthex to make sure that you are taking advantage of every opportunity to serve the Lord with your time, talents and treasures that the Lord has lavished upon you. We thank God for the blessings of our Grace Church family and the opportunities God gives to us to be instruments of His grace as well ☺.

The printed bulletin each week allows you to take it home and use it during the week for personal devotions going through the readings, the prayers, and even a copy of the sermon that can be picked up as well. The bulletin is also your source for all the activities going on during the week. Be sure to take yours home - and use it! **Large Print copies are available from the ushers!**

If you happen to miss worship on Sunday, please come in either prior to the Sunday you will miss or after, and pick up a bulletin and sermon so that you walk together as one church family - all with the same information and filled with the same message and mission to share.

All worshipers, **including our guests today**, please tell us you were here today by signing in on the WELCOME pad on the clipboard in your pew. Thank you. If you are a guest with us today, we have a gift for you. You should have received one during the announcements. If not, please stop by the sound table and ask for your visitors gift.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM GRANTS – We have begun a whole new year - and



thus, again, **Thrivent members have two action team grants** that can be used to support our mission and ministries here at Grace. If we fail to use these wonderful gifts from

Thrivent, we are being poor stewards of God's blessings.

With so many ministries active and in need of financial support, please consider applying for Thrivent action grants. If you are a Thrivent member, please consider submitting an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Grace. This online application takes 10-15 minutes to complete. Every Thrivent member over the age of 18 **is eligible to make 2 applications during each calendar year.** Take advantage of these funds for the good of our church family here at Grace.

YOUTH POP FRIDGE – Just a quick reminder that the Youth have pop available for purchase for \$0.75 per can. The fridge is in the pantry off of the kitchen. The money jar is in the fridge. There are various flavors of pop in the fridge but if you don't see something you like, suggestions are welcome. Thank you for supporting our Youth fund-raising opportunities.

THE TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS has been suspended until the Fall. We hope to gather then around the Word and with joyful fellowship in the Lord.

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL are currently suspended at this time. When regular Sunday worship returns, we will also have Sunday School and Adult Bible Study.

During this time of social distancing and extra hours spent at home, **be sure to expand your family altar time.** Take time to follow the prayer calendar, read the Bible and devotions and talk to one another about the difference that faith in God makes in times like this. By equipping one another with the Word and Spirit, you are more apt to share a powerful witness to neighbors and friends with e-mails, texts and other social media.

REACH OUT TO THE WORLD WITH GOD'S WORD When Jesus proclaimed Himself as "the Way, the Truth and the Life." He was telling his disciples and each of us that He came to "orient" us this upside-down, mixed up world of ours. The question of Thomas in our Gospel is a commonly asked question, "Lord we don't know where You are going; we don't know where we should go or what we should doing, so how can we possibly know the way? And it was then that Jesus gave us a reference point to orient us, to give us direction and to be our constant magnetic north, no matter where we are in life. The word "orient" literally means, "to position oneself with respect to one specific reference point." The specific reference point that our God gave to use was His Son, the living Word. The reason we need Jesus to orient us in this world is that sin, the world and our flesh, and the working of the devil are seeking with all their might to disorient us. God needs us to be able to share His orienting, Living Word in this disorienting world so that people will know the Way and so they will find their way home to Him. By this Word, you have been made a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God. By this Word, the stormy sea is calmed, the sick healed, the dead are raised, the hungry fed, the leprous made clean, the sinful forgiven. How can we not share this Word, Jesus, who is our HOME, our WAY - and do it today with someone who has just lost their way? There's NO WAY but YAHWEH!

GOD'S WORD TEACHES STEWARDSHIP "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The Apostle says that God has done this that we may share in His glory and joy, that we may "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy in our hearts as well.

GOD'S WORD ENCOURAGES THE MESSAGE OF LIFE "Like newborn infants,"—gestating embryos, even—says 1 Peter 2:2. Aren't we all? Helpless, dependent, rendered powerless by sin, but for the Savior's grace. Yet protected, provided for, and precious (1 Peter 2:4)! Every member of our race embraced and cradled by a Heavenly Father Who loves even more than Mama. If motherhood manifests His compassion, how much more the babies dwelling in their bellies!

WE HAVE A SPECIAL “EASTER GIFT FOR JESUS” OFFERING again this year in response to God’s victorious gift of salvation with victory over sin, death, the grave and the power of the devil through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This offering is an “Alleluia Offering” of the resources God has given to us. We are so blessed to respond with generosity to a generous, saving God. **Your “Alleluia Offering” envelope** is in your mailbox in anticipation of the joy of Easter in the midst of this year’s pandemic. **God’s victory over sin, death, the grave and the power of the devil is NOT cancelled.** His victory is your victory. Give Him all your thanks and praise. We have had **Twenty-Two (22)** Alleluia gifts donated thus far totalling **\$6,855.00**. Thank you to those who have responded to our Lord’s gift of salvation to us.

PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP FOR “JOYFUL RESPONSE” NOW This pandemic may eventually lead to a total lock down. Please consider signing up for “Joyful Response” so that your gifts may enable the church to continue serving.

If you don’t desire to join “Joyful Response,” please consider mailing your offering to the church office weekly or start a automatic check at your bank.

IF YOU RECEIVE A GOVERNMENT STIMULUS CHECK OR DEPOSIT, please consider good stewardship. If you are not in need, please consider donating this check to the church or to our benevolence fund so that we can help those in need. (We are seeing people at our door every day looking for help.)

DO YOU SHOP AT AMAZON.COM? During this time of shopping from home, please be sure to designate Grace Lutheran Church as your charity as you shop Amazon Smile. Grace Lutheran Church is an official charity through Amazon Smile. Select Grace as your charity and purchases made through the Amazon Smile site will earn contributions to Grace. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and log into your account (same as your normal Amazon account), then select your charity. It will appear as Grace Lutheran Church, Wyoming, MI. Or you can use Grace's direct charity link: www.smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6072608 . If you have any questions or need help signing up, please see Rob Reneker.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Christian Education Committee of Grace Lutheran Church offers financial assistance to members who attend a Missouri Synod Lutheran School. If you would like an application for the 2020-21 school year or want more information, please see Bryan or Carrie Merchant. **Please seek financial aid first through your school. You will have to sign the assistance form saying that you have sought out financial aid first from your school.**

The **deadline for completion** of this tuition assistance form was the **first Sunday in May**. If you need an extension because of the virus, please contact the Christian Education Committee immediately. Thank you for your prompt attention.

EASTER COLORING CONTEST RESULTS: Thank you to all those who participated in the Easter Coloring Contest. We had 11 Adult contest entries; 1 entry for ages 13-21; 8 entries for ages 7-12; 6 entries for ages 4-6; and 0 entries for ages 0-3. They were all wonderfully done. These are the winners in each category:

Adult:	Judy Rikkers
13-21:	Ryan Eastland
7-12:	Hailey Morse
4-6:	Emily Gottschall

The prizes are available in the church office or for Saturday pickup.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR PENTECOST - MAY 31. We know that seniors have had a difficult finish to the school year. But this has also been true for our Catechumens who are patiently waiting to be Confirmed, to join our church family as communicant members and to receive the divine gifts of the Lord’s Supper. Please keep James Gottschall, Stephanie Cronkright, Cadia and Carmen Wiseman in your daily prayers. Lord willing, we will be able to hold the Pentecost celebration and Rite of Confirmation service at the 9 a.m. service on May 31.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEND CARDS TO LYNN PRATT at the passing of her mother. Her address is: 1118 59th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508.

GRACE BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL'S SCHOOL YEAR HAS ENDED!



GRACE
BEGINNINGS
PRESCHOOL

This school year may have been cut short, but Mrs. Bertrand has been working hard to create some distance learning opportunities for our students, so that they may stay engaged and continue the learning process while at home.

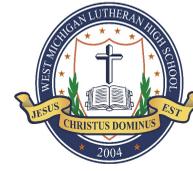
We will miss our students dearly, but know that this is for the best. We ask God's continued blessings on the parents, students and families that we have been privileged to serve.

The NEXT Scrip order will be due, June 1st by noon..... You can find order slips as well as a list of all of the Scrip retailers on the preschool table located just outside of the church office. Scrip order forms may be left in the church office mailbox, or with a preschool board member. If you don't see someone with the available gift cards out on a Sunday, please feel free to ask one of them.

✳Don't want to go out to pick up a physical Scrip giftcard? If you have an old Scrip giftcard still, Mrs. Bertrand can reload that card with the desired amount ANYTIME. Save your giftcards that you've gotten through Scrip and simply have me reload the balance anytime you choose, no more waiting for a monthly order.

PRESCHOOL DONATION ENVELOPES...Please consider making even a small donation to our preschool! The donations from this envelope will go toward scholarships for families in need and for improvements for our preschool ministry.

THANK YOU for continuing to support our preschool ministry here at Grace Lutheran Church.



WEST MICHIGAN LUTHERAN Serving Grades 7 - 12

Christ Centered - Student Focused

Academics.....Activities.....Achievement

- † Individual attention so **each student** can achieve their goals;
- † Integration of the **faith in every class** throughout the day!

CONGRATULATIONS to the West Michigan Lutheran Class of 2020: Margaret (Maggie) Eastland, Britton Godbold, Greta Bini, Joseph (J.D.) Fields, Noah Gondick, Kelsey McKendry, Jackson Miller, Nathan Spletzer, and Yucong (Jenny) Wang. Their class Scripture verse is: *“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39).*

NOW ENROLLING West Michigan Lutheran is now enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year. An affordable and exemplary Christ-centered education that is within your reach. Contact the WML office at (616)455-2200 or email office@wmlhs.org to get the simple and easy enrollment paperwork. It's YOUR child but it's OUR mission to nurture and prepare students for Christ-centered lives.

THANK YOU! Thank you for supporting West Michigan Lutheran in our first ever online auction. Donations can continue to be made via the Facebook link, at wmlhs.org, or by mailing a check. All Celebrate funds go to tuition assistance.

PLEASE SAVE THIS DATE Saturday, July 18 at Yankee Hill Golf Club, Mustang Golf Challenge [Look for more details to follow].

HOST HOMES DESPERATELY NEEDED You can make an eternal difference in one of these foreign student's lives. West Michigan Lutheran has several students that would like to come to our Lutheran High School. We are asking that you prayerfully consider opening your home. Exchange students provide us with the opportunity to witness our faith in Christ - a powerful and life-changing fulfillment. Students pay full tuition and arrive with the expectation that you will provide meals, a bedroom, transportation (the H.S. can help with this one), and moral/emotional support while they are here. If you are interested or know of any family please call the WMLHS office at 616.455.2200.



WE INCLUDE IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK



WE LIFT UP DAILY IN PRAYER AT 10:00 a.m. with other

Christians in the area in praying for the ministry to the Haitian people. We pray again today for all the Haitian children in the Orphanage that we support. Through our support and prayers, we pray that Pierre Kato Charles, Eveline Suprien and Tanicha Pierre will know the love of Jesus and that the Holy Spirit would create faith in their hearts to believe and trust in Him every single day. We also lift up the children - Chouna Goseph, Ricardo Charles, Widlin Blaise, Rose Daphy Luma, Richelna Joseph, Dipalis Lovenson, Daymy Ceriak, Beana Cadet, and Jean Fritznel Dulieppe Jr. – all who have been sponsored by individual members and groups within our congregation. We pray that God would bless them in His love and the gift of faith to believe in God’s saving grace. We also lift up Nora and Leon, all the mission projects in Haiti that are carried out by the Caribbean Children’s Foundation. Please remember Rev. Steven Mahlburg and family as well as they now serve in Sri Lanka! The English District asks you to pray every day at 10 a.m. for all things Evangelism and sharing the Gospel which is relational.

WE PRAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT to direct our Grace church families who have been absent from worship to return to Word and Sacrament and the fellowship of their church home where they will receive the nurture of God’s grace and love.

WE LIFT UP OUR YOUNG AT HEART: Carole Diehm, Evelyn Klein, Marge Morgan, Helyn Ritenburgh, Mary Jo Roberts, Joan StremLOW, Sylvia Tumath.

WE PRAY FOR GOD’S BLESSINGS UPON THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE this coming week including the WML School Board Meeting, WinGS meeting, Executive Council, Yarn Benders, and the Saturday pickup of bulletins and Mother’s Day gifts. We pray that all we say and do as a church family - both here at Grace or wherever the Lord takes us throughout the coming week will be to further His Kingdom and for His glory.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE HEALING CARE: Randy Franks, Nicholas Dykstra (broken wrist), Steven Blomeling (recovering from two surgeries, battling cancer and hospitalization again this past week), Jordan Wiseman (injury and possible surgery), Barb Hoffman (bulged disk and possible upcoming surgery), Cindy Carlisle (recovering from the Covid 19 virus), Sue Swanson (who was hospitalized after a fall), Diann Cisler (now home recovering with heart issues), Doreen Dekkinga (pneumonia), Mary TePastte (blood clots), Martha Robach (recovery), Louise Ohmann (recovery), Pastor Diener (falls and disability), Jack & Jeanette Sailem, Paul and Iris Kamradt, Rob Renecker (recovery), Dave & Kathy Helak, Bill Cisler, Deanna Bronson, Terry Larson (blood clots), Ruby Blair, Hugh Eisen, Mark & Star Schrader, Dakota Holtzlander (seizures), Doc Wendt, Becky Anderson, John Rikkers (Ed’s brother who suffered a stroke), Nicole Girth (daughter of Karen Gorman with Covid 19), Jesse Bolt and Kayleen (God’s will, grace and blessing upon their unborn child), Duane Kimle (Marcia Diener’s father), Bruce Harder, Vickie Drougel (friend of Barnes’ family), Cheryl Bolt (sister of Carol Larson, cancer), Marion McLane (step mother of Julia Reneker), Mike Taylor and Sandie Enders (family and friends of the Barbers), Bob Stroo, Paul Forte (brother-in-law of Pastor battling cancer), Brian Cate (friend of Larsons battling cancer), Carole Diehm, Al Miiller, Jeanne DeMeester, Sonya Koehler (car accident), MarJo Sebastian (friend of Hoffmans who is battling brain tumor), Ron Bowden (the brother-in-law of Janice Imanse), Richard Corkum (father of Carol Klein), Fred and Micky Strebendt, Abel Reimiller (glaucoma surgery), Teresa Mirandette (friend of the Larsons), Michelle Williams (friend of Schrader family who is battling cancer), Rueben Miiller, Jean Graf, Michael Mason (Scott Christensen’s mother’s husband - eye cancer), Janine Hayhurst (Cindy Carlisle’s sister-in-law with endometrial cancer), Norm Mackey (Virginia Miller’s brother with Pancreatitis), Dawn Klein, Mark Gosko (cancer), Becky Zokoe (Friend of Reneker family), Nicolette and Nadelynn Simpson-Alaniz, Debbie Shanstrom (Friend of Terry and Carol Larson battling cancer), Elfie Koehler, Bill Hammond (cancer - friend of Barb and Jack Edwards), Mae Cronkright, Marigold Whitley (chronic kidney disease), Norm Long (Parkinsons), Cheryl Rose (Kamradt’s niece with lung cancer), Casey Hoffman, Marcia Diener (CLL Leukemia), Christopher Kamradt, Mike Dykstra.

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: Trey Miller (Navy - submarine), Austin Vincent (Member), Mateo Villarreal (Nephew of Wisemans - Air Force), Christopher Ferguson & Alex Gaunt (Schrader's son & cousin), Sargent Eli Westbrook (Grandson of Doreen Dekkinga, who is currently stationed in Colorado and will be in Afghanistan next year), LT Adam Toepp (nephew of Dave & Kathy Helak), Nick Payne and Katie Collins (Navy - Gorman family), Chad Casey (Hattie Friar's son-in-law), Travis Knapp & Mr. Britten (Jeanne DeMeester's friends), Robert Barber (stationed in Georgia, USA) and Tyler Stover (Barber's nephew stationed in Washington, USA), Army Combat Paramedic, Ryan Ruffini (Neighbor to Jeff & Paula DeYoung who is stationed in Kandahar, Afghanistan).

ALL Military people and their families and for peace among ALL mankind.

MEMBER'S SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: Schumaker family, Toby Miller (Hoffman's nephew), Butch Taylor (L. Klooster's brother), John Staal (R. Blair's grandson), Connor Gingrich (Ada Denstone's great grandson), Paul Staley, O'Neill Family (Reneker's friends), Sherri Menenas.

WE PRAY FOR OUR WORLD AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS We lift up those who are ill, those who are serving the ill, for the burden of isolation and for God's healing grace and providence in this time of need. We also lift up all those who are on the front lines - Lord, grant them Your protection and care.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING birthdays and anniversaries this coming week that their celebrations would lead to rejoicing in God's goodness once again this year and to give Him thanksgiving for all His blessings.

Happy Birthday this week to:

Happy Anniversaries this week to:

Friday, May 15

Randy & Linda Franks - 44 years

Saturday, May 16 Tom Vodry

Bryan Merchant



TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, May 3, 2020 Worship Attendance: n/a Communion: n/a

Sunday, May 3, 2020 Offerings: \$5,645.00

Joyful Response Giving from 5/4/20 - 5/10/20: \$ 1,135.00

LWML Noisy Offering Collected on March 29, 2020: \$ 158.48

1.1.1. Mission Offerings from May 3, 2020 - \$ n/a

Sunday School Attendance: n/a

Adult Bible Study Attendance: n/a

Total Budget Giving in 2020 (\$278,500): \$105,623.13 (18 week average: \$5,867.95)

Multi-fund Giving in 2020: \$ 63,013.81 (This includes a \$39,000+ memorial gift from the remainder of the Jake & Harriet Diehm Trust.

Total Giving in 2020: \$168,636.94

(Please notice: After 18 weeks, we are \$ 5,403.13 **ahead** of our financial commitment for 2020.)

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

	Fifth Sunday of Easter/ Mother's Day Recognition 5/10/2020 Cancelled	Sixth Sunday of Easter/ Sunday School Recognition 5/17/2020 Cancelled
	Communion Assistants:	
Deaconess		
Reader:		
Altar Guild:		
Acolytes:		
Sound:		
Ushers:	Team 2	Team 3
Fellowship:	X	X

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Director: Diane Long Children's Choir: Jill Reyers

Organist: Bob Weaver Accompanist: Maya Boone

Substitute Organists: Charles Gottschall / Laura Bartleson / Julie Beuschel

Usher Team 2: Linda Franks, Craig Neitzel, Linda Neitzel, Hugh Eisen

Usher Team 3 Janet Dykstra, Nicholas Dykstra, Ed Gorman, Arick Cutler

Finance Team May: Doug & Carol Klein

Side Altar Flowers: None

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, May 10, 2020 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

Mother's Day Recognition

† Please see printed materials on our website.

Monday, May 11, 2020

† West Michigan Lutheran Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

† WinGS Meeting. 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

† Executive Council Meeting. 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

† Yarn Benders 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 14, 2020

Friday, May 15, 2020

Saturday, May 16, 2020

† Pick up bulletins, sermons and materials at church 10 a.m. - 12 Noon

Sunday, May 17, 2020 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Sunday School Recognition

† Please see printed materials on our website.

All church related activities and events have been cancelled until further notice. Please keep up with the sermons, services, prayers and your family altar devotions during this difficult time. Continue to lift up our church family, our community and the world in prayer. Even though we are isolated by the Governor's order to "Stay Safe, Stay Home, Save Lives!" we are not alone - God is always with us. He alone holds us together as the Body of Christ. We pray for quick healing grace and victory over this deadly virus.