

Welcome to Worship

Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith in Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbor, here and around the world.

Sunday, April 6, 2025 - 10:45 AM



Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb: Senior Pastor
Rev. Cole McCormick: Associate Pastor
Nicole Kolbe: Office Administrator
Brad Anderson: Maintenance

Jane Reiman: Finance Director
Amber Hansen: Open Door Meal Coordinator
Pianist: Molly Bleeess
Praise Band: Jen Kahler and Musicians

~ 300 S. Grant Street, Fairmont, MN 56031 ~ www.gracelutheranchurch.org ~ 507-238-4418 ~

Please Note: Worship services are broadcast on local TV and online. Being in the Sanctuary implies consent to be on camera. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the back rows or balcony. Communion may be brought to you in your pew.

Prelude and Bell Ringing

Welcome and Offering of Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Welcome to Worship!

Announcements

Call to Worship *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* **Celebration Choir**

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

All: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

All: **Amen.**

Gathering Song***Here I Am to Worship***

Verse 1 Light of the world
 You stepped down into darkness
 Opened my eyes let me see
 Beauty that made
 This heart adore You
 Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus So here I am to worship
 Here I am to bow down
 Here I am to say that You're my God
 And You're altogether lovely
 Altogether worthy
 Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2 King of all days
 Oh so highly exalted
 Glorious in heaven above
 Humbly You came
 To the earth You created
 All for love's sake became poor

Bridge And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross
 And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
 communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

Song of Praise

Bless-ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -

va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

- ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
 they lie down; they cannot rise;
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;

now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
 I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches,
 for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
 to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
 so that they might declare my praise.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Come and See

What are you look - ing for? Come,

see, come and see. What are you

look - ing for? Come and see. Come and see.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of John. **All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-8

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was

about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Cole McCormick

Song of the Day

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Baptism of Oaklynn Marie Lemon

p. 227 ELW

Profession of Faith

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Thanksgiving At The Font

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Welcome

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Prayers of the Church

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Loaves and Fishes Offering

Youth are invited to walk forward and place their offering into the basket. Just like the little boy who gave his 2 fish and 5 loaves to Jesus, who multiplied them to feed thousands, the youth offering will go to The Grace Food Pantry. Adults are welcome to give a child an offering to bring up too.

Offering

His Mercy Is More

Verse 1 What love could remember no wrongs we have done
 Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
 Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
 Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Verse 2 What patience would wait as we constantly roam
 What Father so tender is calling us home
 He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
 Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Verse 3 What riches of kindness He lavished on us
 His blood was the payment His life was the cost
 We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
 Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Chorus Praise the Lord His mercy is more
 Stronger than darkness new every morn
 Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Holy Communion

Children of all ages may receive communion or a blessing. They are also invited to take an instrument to praise God during the sending song. All are welcome at Christ's table.

Lords Prayer (Spoken)

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.

Communion Song *As the Deer Runs to the River* Celebration Choir

Prayer after Communion

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Blessing

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song***Great Is Thy Faithfulness***

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Sending

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

