



Welcome to Worship

The Second Sunday of Easter

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quiet to Prepare for Worship – Ringing of our Bell

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Jesus said,

C: "Follow me."

P: Jesus said,

C: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

P: Jesus said,

C: "Forgive seventy times seven."

P: Jesus said,

C: "Feed my sheep."

P: In response, we say:

C: "Here's my heart. Take and seal it. Seal it for thy courts above."

P: Let us worship God with all our hearts.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: For the last seven weeks we have been following the life and faith of Peter. Despite being one of Jesus' most loyal disciples, Peter still made mistakes. He was faithful and messy, humble and afraid, loving and cautious. Friends, we're a lot like Peter. Despite our faith, we make mistakes. Despite our belief, we carry unbelief. Despite our love, we can cause hurt. So like Peter, let us return to God in prayer, confessing the truth of our lives. God's grace does not stop with that humble yet fearful disciple. God's grace reaches all the way to us. Let us pray:

C: Gracious God,

Like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink.

You tell us your truth and we push it away.

We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance.

We profess our faith and deny it three times.

We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence.

Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith.

Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination.

Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you.

With humble hearts we pray, amen.

P: Friends, the first time that Peter saw Jesus after the crucifixion, Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?" This repetition was not because Jesus doubted Peter's word. This repetition was Jesus offering Peter grace.

You see, the last time Jesus and Peter were together, Peter said three times, "I do not know that man." So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?" And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love.

Friends, the grace of our God knows no end. When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or cause harm, Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance. So rest in this good news. Does God love you? Yes, yes, yes. God loves you.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love that never ends.

GATHERING HYMN: #618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Read in unison)

C: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

READINGS

Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

1 John 1:1--2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 21:1-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and

jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: #635 We Walk By Faith

STATEMENT OF FAITH

C: We believe in a God who shows up in our lives— surprising and catching us off-guard in the best of ways.

We believe in a God who cares for God's people— a shepherd who longs for her sheep to be fed and tended.

We believe in a God who took on flesh— a God whose love changed the world as we know it.

We believe that this here-and-now God invites us out of the boat, calling ordinary people like Peter, like us, into a life of service and community.

And so we give our hearts. We give our whole hearts and nothing less. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

PEACE

Please share a sign of peace with those around in whatever way you are most comfortable.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

We will collect the offering at this time. The children will also be collecting coins at this time for the Childrens' ministries or ELCA water project. You may send your giving to the church office or give through the link to our Vanco site that is easy to find on our website: gracelutheranelroy.com.

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

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion at Grace Lutheran is open to all who believe in Jesus our Lord.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn by speaking:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*In the night in which he was betrayed . . .*)

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMN: #382 Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: #376 Thine Is the Glory

Quiet pause for the ringing of our bell

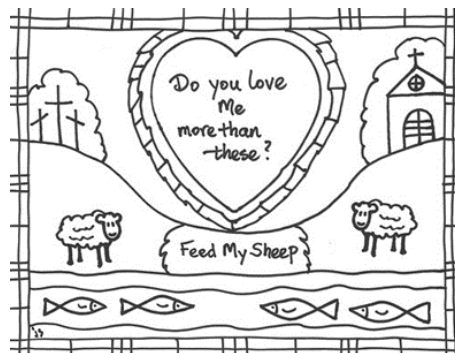
BENEDICTION

P: Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith.

And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."

You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news.

C: Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEALING SERVICE Rev. Dione Stepanek, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission, will worship for us for the healing service on Sunday, April 28th. She will provide an update on the work of our Synod and the ELCA as a church body.

WE PRAY FOR: Karl Hagen, Kandy Hagen, Suzanne Soltvedt, John Thompson, Dorothy Klipstein, Ethel Mae Baldwin, Holly Hinzpeter, Hunter Clark, Hank Benthouser, Bob Brod, Megan Braund, Ed Miller, David Denter, Henry Schmid, Helen Milne, Joy Bever, Anna Preuss, Allison Rotering, Amy VandeMark, and Johnathan Thomas Spencer

Church office: 226 Erickson Street, Elroy, WI 53929

email: grace013@centurytel.net; Phone: 608-462-5398

Organist: Heather Vlasak

Synod Authorized Minister: Kris Stauffacher

Custodian: Dave Clark and crew



**Come Grow
in Grace**