

Love One Another

May 18,
2025



Fifth Sunday
of Easter

Welcome, guests! We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be more than happy to assist you. This folder includes all the details about our services, with the congregational responses indicated by indented, bold letters. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; this will be used solely by the pastor and elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

THE THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: The risen Lord prepares his followers for his visible departure by giving a new command: Love one another.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THANK YOU: We extend our gratitude to our guest preacher, Pastor Thad Bitter, for sharing God's message with us.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION – CW, Pg.15



OPENING HYMN:

O LIGHT OF GENTILE NATIONS

****Please Stand for The Last Verse****



1 O Light of Gen - tile na - tions, O
 2 Dear Lord, your ser - vants meet you In
 3 Lord, when life's trou - bles touch us, You
 4 Let us, O Lord, be faith - ful Like



Sav - ior from a - bove, Drawn by your Spir - it's
 ev - 'ry ho - ly place Where your true Word has
 seem to hide your face, And through our tears we
 Sim - eon to the end So that his prayer ex -



lead - ing, We come with joy and love In -
 prom - ised That we should see your face. To -
 of - ten Can scarce - ly sense your grace. Then
 ul - tant May from our hearts as - cend: "O



to your ho - ly tem - ple And wait with
 day you still al - low us Who gath - er
 be our joy and bright - ness, Our cheer in
 Lord, now let your ser - vant De - part in



rev - 'rent mind As Sim - eon once had
 round you here In arms of faith to
 pain and loss, Our sun in dark - est
 peace, I pray, Since I have seen my



wait - ed His God and Lord to find.
 hold you As did that a - ged seer.
 ter - ror, The glo - ry round our cross.
 Sav - ior And here be - held his day."

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: MUNICH (76 76 D) *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.



C: A - men.

In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



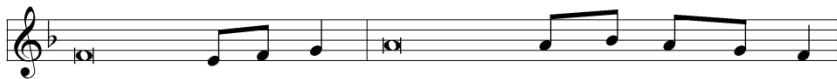
C: A - men.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
 sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

ACTS 13: 44 – 52

Even amidst persecution, love led the apostles to boldly proclaim the message of the risen Christ. Filled with joy and the Spirit, Christ's love compels us to declare the same Word of Life.

On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with envy and began to contradict what Paul

was saying by slandering him. Then Paul and Barnabas responded fearlessly, "It was necessary that God's word be spoken to you first. But since you reject it and consider yourselves unworthy of eternal life, look: We are now turning to the Gentiles! For this is what the Lord has instructed us: I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the end of the earth."

When the Gentiles heard this, they were rejoicing and praising the word of the Lord. All who had been appointed for eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was being carried through the whole region. But the Jews incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas and expelled them from their district. So they shook the dust off their feet against them and went to Iconium. The disciples continued to be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 145

Refrain

Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone

Refrain

Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;*
 his greatness no one can fathom.
 One generation will commend your works to another;*
 they will tell of your mighty acts.
 The LORD upholds all those who fall*
 and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Refrain

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.*
 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.
 The LORD is near to all who call on him,*
 to all who call on him in truth.
 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;*
 he hears their cry and saves them.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

REVELATION 21: 1 – 6

Jesus had told them he was leaving. Here, John provides a vivid picture of what it will be like when we join Jesus there. St. John shares a vision of the new heaven and the new earth, a home beautifully crafted and lovingly prepared for the Bride of Christ. Here, there is no trace of old sin, death, or pain. All is new, for all is completed.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, because the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And the sea no longer existed. And I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And from the throne I heard a loud voice that said, “Look! God’s dwelling is with people. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain, because the former things have passed away.”

The one who was seated on the throne said to me, “Look, I am making everything new!” He also said, “Write, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And he said to me: It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To anyone who is thirsty, I will give freely from the spring of the water of life.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. Alleluia. (John 14:6 cf. NIV)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

****Please Stand****

GOSPEL

JOHN 13: 31 – 35

Having come from God and now preparing to return to God, Jesus commands his disciples to love one another. Disciples of Jesus are marked by their love for each other, which reflects the same love our glorified Savior has for us.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

After Judas left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify the Son in himself and will glorify him at once.”

“Dear children, I am going to be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

“A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#141

AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
 2 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky,
 3 Now no more can death ap - pall,
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy!
 5 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give,



Praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs be - neath you lie.
 Now no more the grave en - thrall;
 This a - lone can sin de - stroy;
 Sav - ior, by whose death we live,



Who has washed us in the tide Flow - ing
 You have con - quered in the fight; You have
 You have o - pened par - a - dise, And your
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, New - born
 Spir - it, guide through all our days, Three in



from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!
 saints in you shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!
 One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th century, abr.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.
 Tune: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (77 77 4) *Kirchengeseng*, Ivanceice, 1566.

SERMON TEXT:

PSALM 23: 4 – 6

SERMON THEME:

JESUS CARES FOR US ALL THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES

Please Stand

CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

OFFERING – In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul tells us: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

****Please Stand****

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.

Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.

Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#214

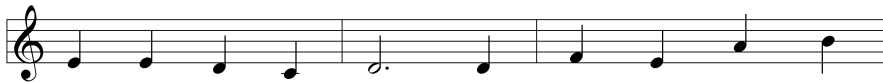
JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With milk and
2 They stand, those halls of Zi - on, All ju - bi -
3 There is the throne of Da - vid, And there, from
4 Oh, sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The home of



hon - ey blest— The sight of it re - fresh - es The
lant with song And bright with man - y an an - gel And
care re - leased, The shout of them that tri - umph, The
God's e - lect! Oh, sweet and bless - ed coun - try That



wea - ry and op - pressed. I know not, oh, I
all the mar - tyr throng. The Prince is ev - er
song of them that feast; And they who with their
ea - ger hearts ex - pect! Je - sus, in mer - cy



know not What joys a - wait us there, What ra - dian -
in them; The day - light is se - rene; The pas - tures
lead - er Have con - quered in the fight For - ev - er
bring us To that dear land of rest; You are with

cy of glo - ry, What bliss be - yond com - pare.
 of the bless - ed Are ev - er rich and green.
 and for - ev - er Are clad in robes of white.
 God the Fa - ther And Spir - it ev - er blest.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: EWING (76 76 D) Alexander C. Ewing, 1830–95, alt.

THE SACRAMENT

****Please Stand****

The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

C: A - - men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

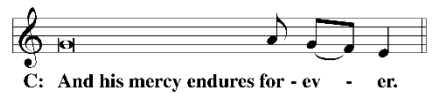
****Please Stand****

SONG OF SIMEON

NUNC DIMITTIS



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra-el.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

CLOSING HYMN:

#479

JESUS, YOUR BOUNDLESS LOVE TO ME

1 Je - sus, your bound - less love to me No thought
 2 Oh, grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell
 3 This love un - wea - ried I pur - sue And daunt -
 4 In suf - f'ring be your love my peace; In weak -



can reach, no tongue de - clare. Dwell in my heart e -
 but your pure love a - lone; Oh, may your love pos -
 less - ly to you as - pire. Oh, may your love my
 ness be your love my pow'r; And when the storms of



ter - nal - ly, And reign with - out a ri - val there.
 sess me whole, My joy, my trea - sure, and my crown!
 hope re - new, Burn in my soul like heav'n - ly fire!
 life shall cease, O Je - sus, in that fi - nal hour



To you a - lone, dear Lord, I live;
 All cold - ness from my heart re - move;
 And day and night be all my care
 Be then my rod and staff and guide



My - self to you, dear Lord, I give.
 My ev - 'ry act, word, thought be love.
 To guard this sa - cred trea - sure there.
 And draw me safe - ly to your side.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.
 Tune: VATER UNSER IM HIMMELREICH, DER DU (88 88 88) attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment, and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Morning Bible Study: We have resumed our study of Luke's Gospel. Our Sunday morning Bible study begins at 9:00 a.m. Feel free to come and go as you need; reading is always a volunteer effort, and questions are always encouraged.

Midweek Bible Study: Due to Pastor Emmons being called out of town, our Tuesday Evening Bible Study will resume on May 20 at 6 pm at Pastor Emmons' home, located at 4927 SW Yew Pl. You can also join us via Zoom. We will focus on reaching out to our neighbors using the One by One Bible study by Pastor David Rosenau. To join us on Zoom, the link is provided, or you can email Pastor Emmons, and he will send you the link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

Area Pastor Conference: Grace is hosting the southern congregations of Oregon; they will meet on May 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Redmond at Pastor Emmons' home. Our congregation will need to provide breakfast and lunch for five pastors.

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