



# Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence For Meditation

\* Order for Individual Confession and Forgiveness ..... page 155

## PRAISE

\* Opening Hymn ..... **Blessed Assurance**..... **TCH 572**

\* The Kyrie ..... page 57

\* The Hymn of Praise.....*This is the Feast*..... Page 60

\* The Salutation and Prayer of the Day.....page 62

## EQUIP

The First Lesson..... Acts 3:11-21

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

The Psalm 4 ..... Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson ..... 1 John 3:1-7

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

\* The Holy Gospel..... Luke 24:36-49

Children's Sermon ..... Pastor East

The Message..... "Easter Continues – Even Today" ..... Pastor East

Hymn of the Day..... **Jesus Loves Me** ..... **TCH 185**

\* The Apostles Creed.....page 65

\* The Prayers and the Peace..... page 65

## GIVE

The Offering ..... The People of God

\* The Offertory and Prayer ..... pages 66, 67

## RECEIVE

\* The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68

\* The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ..... pages 69, 71

\* **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**

\* Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*..... page 72

\* Post-Communion Prayer

\* The Benediction

## SEND

\* The Sending Hymn ..... **Crown Him With Many Crowns** ..... **TCH 45**

\* The Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Be the Church! **All: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

\* = Stand Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy

**WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP** at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact the Church Office this week.

**THIS WEEK'S THEME:** Jesus, Son of God the Father, has always been a part of God's plan. With His coming to earth in human form He brought God's presence in a new way: people saw His power and miracles. His disciples saw and heard from Him in person after his death and resurrection, and shortly afterwards, received the Holy Spirit's power in them. And thanks go to those witnesses who passed this all unto us today, and to His Spirit who guides us in God's ways.

**FIRST LESSON: Acts 3:11-21**

<sup>11</sup> While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. <sup>12</sup> And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup> But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, <sup>15</sup> and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup> And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. <sup>17</sup> "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, <sup>20</sup> that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, <sup>21</sup> whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

## PSALM 4

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!”  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

<sup>8</sup>**I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;  
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

### **SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7**

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:36-49**

<sup>36</sup>As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup>But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" <sup>39</sup>See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate before them. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

---

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18. Readings are based on the recommended use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the North American Lutheran Church and Lectionary of Sola Publishing. Used by Permission.

---

### **GRACE PRAYER LIST**

**In the Grace Church Family:** Kevin & Christy Adams, Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Sheila Drum, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Gary Leatherman, Phil Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Richard & Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Carolyn & Scott Whisnant.

**Nursing Home:** Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village),

**Friends and Relatives in our Prayers:** Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, John & Terry Barnett, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Julie Foster, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, J.C., Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Katie Patton, Kathy Rihani, Angela Sanford, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Cassie Taylor, Monica Thomas, United States of America; Faye White, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces.

(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)

**PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR BRACK EAST** who is leading worship this morning.

**40 DAYS OF PRAYERS** – The Congregation is being asked by the Call Committee for 40 days of prayers that began on Easter Sunday in our search for a new pastor. The prayers need to be from the heart, but if you are struggling, prayers are in the hymnals. This is part of the Call Process. The input from the Congregation thus far has been instrumental. May God Bless You...Your Grace Call Committee

**ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM)** food ask for the month of April is **canned and dried beans**. Since the service area has been expanded to include all of Catawba County, there is a great need for food donations and volunteers. It's a way to make a real difference right here in Catawba County! Thank you for helping to keep the food pantry stocked.

**THE LEADERSHIP MINISTRY BOARD** will hold its regular monthly meeting **tomorrow evening, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** All Board Members are urged to be present for this important meeting.

**THE GRACE PRAYER LUNCHEON** will be held on **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Fellowship Hall**. This is a time for any adults from Grace and the community to come together and enjoy fellowship and good food! Please give Betty Wilfong a call at (828) 461-6604 and let her know if you plan to attend.

**THE 2024 FLOWER CHART** is posted in the Narthex. If you wish to give the flowers for a given Sunday, please list your name on the chart in the narthex. *You are responsible for ordering the flowers from a florist of your choice; we do not have a standing order with any florist.* The liturgical color of the day is listed to assist you in selecting flowers appropriate for that Sunday. Please notify the Church Office the Tuesday prior to your selected Sunday so that the correct information is placed in the bulletin. You can call the Church Office between 8:00 am and Noon on Monday through Thursday, leave a note in the Church Office mailbox downstairs, or send an email to let us know the occasion or memorial for this wonderful gift of beatification of the worship.

**APPLICATIONS FOR PART-TIME SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION** are now being accepted by Grace. For details, see a Board Member.

*“Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
When I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.”*

Psalm 4:3

**HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY TO:**

16 – Shelly Scronce

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

**Today:**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A - Worship Celebration

**Monday:**

6:00P – Leadership Ministry Board Meeting

**Wednesday:**

Noon – Grace Prayer Luncheon (FH)

**Next Sunday:**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A – Worship Celebration

The Ministers.....	The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor .....	.....
Organist.....	Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant .....	Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President .....	Tim Eckard
Youth Leader .....	Stormy Shull
Lector .....	Stormy Shull
Communion Assistants.....	To Be Determined Week by Week
Ushers .....	Jack Wilfong and James Hall
Altar Preparation.....	Herb and Libby Travis
Offering Tabulators .....	Todd Childers and Libby Travis
Custodian .....	Chris Abernethy



# Table Talk II

By Rev. Timothy J. Swenson • ILT Dean of Chapel

The Third Sunday of Easter | April 14, 2024



## JOHN 10:11-16

*"I know my own and my own know me..." Vs. 14*

These verses reassure us. They comfort us by describing the sort of shepherd we have in Jesus Christ. He is a shepherd who holds nothing back, laying down his life for the sheep (vs.11). He is a shepherd complete with the most intimate of knowledge—that is, he knows who belongs to him (vs. 14). In his knowing his sheep, they also know him. You, his sheep, know your shepherd as one who lays down his life for you. The depth of this knowing, sheep to shepherd and vice-versa, is as deep and intimate as the relationship between Jesus and his Father... between the Father and the Son (vs. 15).

Yet, despite the deep reassurance provided by these verses, they unsettle us as well. In contrast to the good shepherd, Jesus posits the hired hand (vs. 12). The hired hand cares nothing for the sheep (vs. 13). He flees in the face of the wolf, leaving the sheep to fend for themselves. This distinction unsettles us. "Do we have the good shepherd leading our flock?" Do we have the hired hand leading our flock?"

These unsettling questions open a gate through which Satan, the arch-deceiver, drives wagon loads of trouble. Satan and his lies come to convince you that your good shepherd is really a hired hand or to convince you that a

hired hand is really your good shepherd. One way to expose these lies is found in Jesus' commitment. Jesus holds nothing back. Twice in these five verses, he announces, "I lay down my life for the sheep" (vs. 11 & 15). Jesus gives himself away for the sheep... "for you." Jesus is always "for you..." "for you" in the forgiveness of your sins... "for you" in revealing the merciful heart of the Father... "for you" in his knowing you and you knowing him. Jesus cannot be known apart from this "for you." The hired hand does not have the depth of this "for you." Confidence in the "for you" of the good shepherd returns the reassurance and comfort to these verses.

**Table Talk:** Discuss the discernment necessary to distinguish the "for you" of the good shepherd.

**Pray:** Heavenly Father, keep me in the confidence of knowing you and your Son tell no lies.



ilt.edu • PO Box 833 • Brookings, SD • (605) 692-9337