

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 A.D.

10:30 A.M.



# GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



*Christ-Centered*

*Mission-Driven*

*Traditionally-Grounded*

*Congregationally-Focused*

4536 Hickory Lincolnton Highway  
Newton, North Carolina 28658  
Church Office: 704-462-1035  
email: [gracenalcnewton@aol.com](mailto:gracenalcnewton@aol.com)  
[www.gracelutheran-newton.org](http://www.gracelutheran-newton.org)

# Sixth Sunday of Easter



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence For Meditation

- \* Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness ..... page 56

## PRAISE

- \* Opening Hymn ..... **Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer** ..... **LBW 343**
- \* 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 10:34-48

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

The Psalm 98 ..... Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson ..... 1 John 5:1-8

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

- \* The Holy Gospel.....John 15:9-17
- Children's Sermon .....Pastor Coble
- The Message....."The Key is Love" .....Pastor Coble
- Hymn of the Day.....**What A Friend We Have in Jesus** .....**LBW 439**
- \* 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 .....**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling** .....**LBW 315**
- \* 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:** Do you have a key box? I do, and in it are keys that I have no idea what they go to. I keep telling myself I'll throw them away, but I know if I do, the next day I'll need one of them. I might not know what those keys are for, but I think I know the key to living a Christian life. It is in the Gospel for today, and it is that we love, even as God has loved us.

### **FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:34-48**

<sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." <sup>44</sup> While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup> And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup> For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup> "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup> And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

## PSALM 98

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song;

for he has done marvelous things.

<sup>2</sup>**With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has made known his victory;

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

<sup>4</sup>**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

<sup>5</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

<sup>6</sup>**Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.**

<sup>7</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn

shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

<sup>9</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity.**

## SECOND LESSON: 1 John 5:1-8

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:9-17**

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup> These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

---

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-15; John 17:11b-19. 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:** 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, 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, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Becky Cartee, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Dennis Di'Allesio, Julie Foster, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, J.C., Michele Kirkland, Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Alexis McCrary, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Larry Milsaps, Katie Patton, Angela Sanford, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, 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 GARY COBLE** who is leading worship this morning.

**THE GRACE CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO JOIN MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY** for an afternoon of faith, fun, food and fellowship **today from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** Included in the event will be a free concert, children’s activities, food vendors and giveaways. Following performances by local soloists and musical groups, award winning inspirational/country artist, Shellem Cline, will perform. Along with his musical performance, Shellem includes humor, encouragement, inspiration and the message of the Gospel. Bring a yard chair or blanket to enjoy the music.

**THE GRACE PRAYER BREAKFAST** will be held on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Four Peas in a Pod Restaurant in Conover. Come join us and bring a friend!

**NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>, IS MOTHER’S DAY!** Let’s remember to lift up our beloved Mothers on that day (and every day) in honor and remembrance.

**THE CALL COMMITTEE** has completed the profile for a new pastor and is currently attempting to update the church website. We need recent pictures of Grace showing the church, the fellowship hall, etc. Other suggestions are pictures at a reunion, birthday party, VBS, or a play in the sanctuary. We will let you know if there is anything else that is needed to update the site.

**ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM)** food ask for the month of May is pet food (National Pet Month). 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!

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

**THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**, (Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>) occurred 40 days after Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Easter. It is the final act of our redemption that Christ began on Good Friday. On this day, the risen Christ, in the sight of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven. Before His ascension, Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit to His apostles. Their prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit, which began on Ascension Thursday, ended with the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, ten days later.

*“Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.”*

Psalm 98:5

**HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY TO:**

- 5 – Jaxson Moss
- 11 – Tim Eckard  
Chuck Whitmire
- 12 – Joe Whisnant

**THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

**Today:**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 9:30A – Sunday School
- 10:30A - Worship Celebration
- 2:00P – Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
Faith, Fun, Food, Fellowship

**Thursday:**

Ascension of Our Lord

**Saturday:**

9:00A – Grace Prayer Breakfast at 4 Peas

**Next Sunday:**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Mother’s Day**

- 9:30A – Sunday School
- 10:30A – Worship Celebration

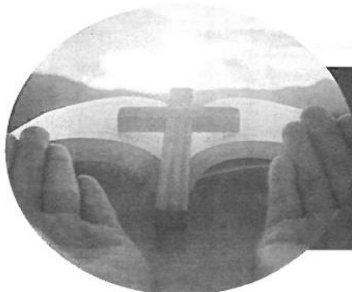
The Ministers.....	The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor .....	.....
Organist.....	Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant .....	Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President .....	Tim Eckard
Youth Leader .....	Stormy Shull
Lector .....	Alan Shull
Communion Assistants.....	Alan and Stormy Shull
Ushers .....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



# Table Talk II

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

The Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 5, 2024



## JOHN 16:23-30 (31-33)

*“Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.” Vs. 23*

The name of Jesus. We sing it... we praise it... and now Jesus tells us, “Ask!” Ask in the name of Jesus and the Father provides. The Father provides with a purpose and that purpose is for our joy to be full. What a blessing! The New Testament gives plentiful witness to the name of Jesus. The name of Jesus delivers blessing, healing, forgiveness, and salvation.

The Apostle Paul is not stingy when it comes to extolling the blessings delivered in the name of Jesus. The Father “has blessed us in Christ with every blessing in the heavenly places” (cf. Eph. 1:3-14). This blessing which the Father bestows upon us makes us (who are still sinners) holy and blameless in his sight.

The name of Jesus provides authority to speak healing to the sick and infirm. The Apostle Peter issues a command to a lame man expecting alms but who receives this word instead, “In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” This formerly lame man’s celebration gathered people in and gave Peter the opportunity to preach Jesus Christ whom sinners killed but God raised him from the dead (cf. Acts 3:1-16).

When the absolution is spoken to you, it is delivered in the name of Jesus Christ. Your sins

are forgiven in his name, at his command, and by his authority (cf. Acts 2:38). Your absolver speaks as if she is Christ himself delivering forgiveness to you (cf. Lk. 10:16).

Ultimately, there “is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Cf. Acts. 4:12). We can confidently claim that salvation exists only in Jesus Christ and that outside of him salvation does not exist. Thus, the fullness of our joy comes only in Jesus Christ and his name. In Christ, we have blessing, healing, forgiveness, and salvation. With them, we are satisfied and content.

**Table Talk:** Discuss what things might be asked of the Father by those who are satisfied, content, and full of joy.

**Pray:** Heavenly Father, so fill my joy that I am satisfied, content, and need ask for nothing. Amen



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