



Fifth Sunday of Easter
Granite Falls Lutheran Church

April 28, 2024

9:00 am

“Love through Christ, Live to Serve, Learn to Give”

Welcome visitors and friends. Prayer request cards and visitor cards can be found in the pews. If you have a prayer request or if you are a visitor you are welcome to fill out a card and place in the offering plate for the pastors.

Large Print Bulletins and Earphones (which amplify the sound system) are available from the ushers. Please pick these up in the narthex.

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

pg 211

AM: Blessed be the holy Trinity † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. C: **Amen.**

AM: God of all Mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen.**

AM: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most Merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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 we 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.

C: **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

#377

***Greeting**

AM: 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.**

***Kyrie and Hymn of Praise**

pg 213-215

***Prayer of the Day**

AM: Let us pray,

C: God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 22:25-31

L: ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

C: ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

L: ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

C: ²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

L: ²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him
C: ³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Second Lesson 1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L: Here ends the lessons

C: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation (sung) pg 216

P: The holy gospel according to John. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Gospel John 15:1-8

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Now the Green Blade Rises" #379

*Apostles' Creed pg. 217

*Prayers of the Church

AM:(after each petition.).... God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

AM: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Offering "We Are an Offering" (2x) #692

Offering Prayer

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. **Amen.**

*Canticle of Thanksgiving (sung) pg. 219

*Thanksgiving for the Word pg. 220

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer pg. 221

*Benediction

*Closing Hymn "Let All Things Now Living" #881

*Sending

AM: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated for the semi-annual congregational meeting.

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Worship Participants

Ministers	<i>All of us gathered to worship</i>
Interim Pastor	<i>Deborah Nissen</i>
Assisting Minister	<i>Evelyn Martin</i>
Organ/Piano	<i>Lynn Ullrich</i>
Acolytes	<i>Ryan Martin, Mason Enstad</i>
Reader	<i>Amy Hoernemann</i>

Worship Leaders next Sunday, May 5th.

Assisting Minister	<i>Taylor Bakkelund</i>
Greeters	<i>Doug & Nicole Jans, Al & Barb Lund</i>
Reader	<i>Darlene Santjer</i>
Acolytes	<i>Hanna Bjorndal, Chase Bjorndal</i>
Communion Assistants	<i>*Jon Tjosvold, *Dana Baldry, Dave Haroldson, Val Santjer</i>
Ushers	<i>Scott Jans, Tyler Nordaune, Bill Flaten, Caleb Jans, Dave Nordaune, Jeff Baker, Sam Jans, Justin Smith, Steve Anderson</i>

News & Announcements

A piano recital for Lynn Ullrich's Students will be held on Sunday, April 28, at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary followed by light refreshments. All are welcome.

The GFLC Spring Semi-Annual meeting will be held today after worship.

Next Sunday, May 5th, is the last day of Sunday School. Fun events are planned for the kids!

The Spring Salad Luncheon will be Tuesday, May 7, 10:30a – 12:30p

Community Meal will be held on Sunday, May 19th, at 5:00 pm
4:15 pm Pre-Dinner music will be provided by Building Bridges Choir.
It's time to come together, have a meal and share in laughter & fellowship. Everyone welcome.

SW MN WELCA Synod Convention: May 4, at Gloria Dei Lutheran, Redwood Falls.

May 19th is graduating senior recognition during worship.

April's Thankful Thought:

But just as you excel in everything in faith, in speech, and knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving. *2 Corinthians 8:7*
Blessings, Stewardship Committee

Calendar this week

Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon	YMLC Office Hours
	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Gr. 7-9
	7:00 pm	Pre-Confirmation Gr. 6
Thursday	All Day	National Day of Prayer
Friday		
Saturday	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship with FB Live



GRANITE FALLS LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Spring Salad Luncheon

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Menu

Variety of Salads
Ham & Turkey Sandwiches
Bars & Beverage

Free Will Offering for the Meal

Available for Sale

Baked Goods,
Quilts, Greeting Cards



Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

#377

Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
 Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in
 sight! Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our
 eyes; Breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our
 constant surprise. Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory!
 Alleluia!

Jesus the vine, we are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the
 tree; Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, Gift of the future now
 flowing to me. Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory!
 Alleluia!

Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is
 bright. Cherubim sing: O grave, be open! Clothe us in wonder, adorn
 us in light. Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory!
 Alleluia!

City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
 River of life, saints and arch-angels, Sing with creation to God the I
 AM! Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

#379

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark
 earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been;
 love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would
 never wake again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is
 come again like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain, he that for three days in the
 grave had lain; raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is
 come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us
 back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
 love is come again like wheat arising green.

We Are an Offering

#692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are
 an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, us our
 lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we
 are, all that we hope to be, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift
 our hands, we lift our lives to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

Let All Things Now Living

#881

Let all things now living a song of thanks-giving to God the creator
 triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed
 us, who still guides us on to the end of our days. God’s banners are o’er
 us, God’s light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
 till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we
 travel from light into light.

God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit
 obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
 the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine. We too should be voicing
 our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise till all
 things now living unite in thanks-giving: “To God in the highest,
 hosanna and praise!”