

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 29, 2020

#### A WORD FROM PT

The Resurrection means forgiveness. And forgiveness means life and salvation.

The first word out of His mouth, as the Risen Christ appeared to the disciples on Easter Eve, was a word of forgiveness. We might easily miss it. The greeting "Peace be with you," might seem simply that, a mere greeting (John 20:19). But this is no mere greeting! It means that there is now reconciliation, where before there was enmity. Truly, sins had been atoned for, forgiven, and removed.

Then we recount that after Jesus had shown His disciples His hands and His side, He said again to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so

I am sending you." Christ's mission to redeem and save a lost world would continue. It would continue through His followers!

This is followed by an extraordinary action and authorization. The action was that He breathed on them. And the authorization was spoken, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." This is really quite something! Appointed ministers would be able to proclaim the absolution, that is, forgiveness as from God Himself!

Of course we do not take one passage in isolation from the rest. The Church would not arbitrarily decide

who would be forgiven, and who would not. In keeping with the rest of the Lord's counsel, she would know that she would forgive the sins of those who repent. The Church's ministers would also know to say to those who do not repent, that there is no forgiveness.

When the Church talks about salvation, what she means is a "rescue" or a "victory", and specifically, a delivering from, or vanquishing over, sin, death, and the power of the devil. And the order is important. With sin, death follows. And through sin the devil rules. Christ's Resurrection proves that His death conquered sin. Forgiveness results in life and freedom from evil!

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### What is the meaning of the "KYRIE" (kir-E-A)?

KYRIE is a Latin term which in turn is a transliteration of a Greek word meaning "Lord." In the Latin Mass the term KYRIE was combined with the term ELESION meaning "have mercy." In addition, the Mass included a three-fold response: KYRIE

ELEISON, CHRISTE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON, which translated is "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy." In our Lutheran Worship Service we utilize a prayer from the Latin Mass known as a Peace Litany. A Litany is a responsive prayer. This Litany is usually led by our

Assisting Minister, and the congregation response is the KYRIE ELEISON. And so the Assisting Minister begins, "In peace let us pray to the Lord," and the congregation responds to this and each succeeding petition with, "Lord, have mercy." (with help from the *Manual on the Liturgy a companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*, publ. by Augsburg).

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### Tuesday, 4/28

4:00pm Prayer Gathering

##### Wednesday, 4/29

6:30pm Confirmation/Adult Class

##### Friday, 5/1

6:30am Men's Breakfast

##### Sunday, 5/3 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8:00am Choir Practice

9:00am Divine Service

10:45am Adult Class

##### Tuesday, 5/5

4:00pm Prayer Gathering

#### KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- Christ-Centered
- Mission-Driven
- Traditionally-Grounded
- Congregationally-Focused

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) ([www.thenalc.org](http://www.thenalc.org))

## THIS AND THAT...

Thank you for your continued financial generosity during these difficult times! If you have yet to mail in a contribution, remember to **mail it to: Gift of Grace Lutheran Church, PO Box 422, Onalaska, WI 54650.**

Please communicate with Pastor Tim any special needs you are facing during this pandemic. He will be glad to post any **prayer requests** to the rest of the congregation, and to coordinate helping with any special physical **or material needs** you might

be facing.

In keeping with the concern over the **COVID-19** virus, and in compliance with the Governor's orders, we are only allowing small groups (maximum of six) to come in for Holy Communion. Call Pastor Tim to make arrangements. Also, if you would like to be a part of those who gather on Saturday to record the service, please call.

Our **Designated Benevo-**

**lence** for the month of April will be directed to Camper-

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for the **Holmen Food Pantry.**

Tom and Jane Kruse are listed to clean the church for the week of May 17. The Roll family is signed up for the week of June 21.

Having compassion and showing mercy to our neighbors is always the finest witness that we can do.

# GIFT of GRACE

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8*

## HUMOR DEPARTMENT

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

Apr 23 ..... Craig Bartos  
 Apr 23 ..... Tim Duesenberg  
 Apr 23 ..... Heidi Traver  
 Apr 25 ..... David Bjornstad  
 Apr 29 ..... Calvin Swaney  
 May 2 ..... Vicky Gunderson  
 May 2 ..... Connie Meunier  
 May 7 ..... Lisa Cash  
 May 12 ..... Karissa Bjornstad

#### Anniversaries

May 3 ..... J & J Schoonover  
 May 6 ..... T & L Duesenberg  
 May 7 ..... T & N Rislow

### Why We Love our Kids

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then said, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about six years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?" "Yes," I answered and continued writing the report. "My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?" "Yes, that's right," I told her. "Well then," she said as she extended her foot toward me. "Would you please tie my shoe?"

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. "Is that a dog you got back there?" he asked. "It sure is," I replied. Puzzled the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, "What'd he do?"

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### 5/3 Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Asst Minister:** Naomi-Rislow  
**Reader:** Hannah-Scholze  
**Crucifer:** Alex-Uy  
**Acolyte:** Stella-Roll  
**Ushers:** Jon-Uy  
**Counters:** Tom-Rislow/Jarrod-Roll  
**Comm Asst:** Heather-Roll  
**Accompanist:** Leslie-Duesenberg  
**Fellowship:** tba

### Acolyte:

Calvin-Swaney  
**Ushers:** Jeremy-Schoonover  
**Counters:** Cheryl-R/Mary-B  
**Comm Asst:** Jessica-Schoonover  
**Accompanist:** Tom-Rislow  
**Fellowship:** tba

### Accompanist:

Leslie-Duesenberg  
**Fellowship:** tba

### 5/10 Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Asst Minister:** Leslie-Duesenberg  
**Reader:** Cole-Warner  
**Crucifer:** Kylee-Kernan

### 5/17 Third Sunday of Easter

**Asst Minister:** Jeremy-Schoonover  
**Reader:** Jessica-Schoonover  
**Crucifer:** Drew-Staff  
**Acolyte:** Dawson-Staff  
**Ushers:** Merlin-Wangen  
**Counters:** David-B/Jeremy-S  
**Comm Asst:** Karri-Bjornstad

### 5/24 Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Asst Minister:** Karri-Bjornstad  
**Reader:** Jarrod-Roll  
**Crucifer:** Asher-Roll  
**Acolyte:** Jed-Roll  
**Ushers:** David-Bjornstad  
**Counters:** Naomi-R/Hannah-S  
**Comm Asst:** Connie-Meunier  
**Accompanist:** Tom-Rislow  
**Fellowship:** tba

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Services held at 9am at:  
 642 Western Avenue  
 A block north and then  
 a block west of King Furniture