

Victorious over restraint

EASTER 2
April 24, 2022



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. David R. Clark, x303
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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmyra Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

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WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
 - *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
 - *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS for parents with SMALL CHILDREN.***
 - *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you are in need of hearing assistance.*
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OPENING HYMN: #455 – Alleluia! Jesus Lives

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the Son **†** and of the Holy Spirit
Amen.

CONFESSION:

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY:..... p.190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST: CW #938

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. (*Refrain*)
2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (*Refrain*)
3. Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation: (*Refrain*)
4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (*Refrain*)
5. For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia!

Final Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010; John W. Arthur, 1922–1980
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The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, you call and appoint us to proclaim the good news of your Son despite our sins and weaknesses. Purify us by your grace, remove our uncertainties, and work through us to fill the nets of your kingdom with those lost in the darkness of death; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING: The Holy Spirit assures us the gospel message will not be restrained by human beings. Acts 5:12, 17-32

¹²The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade....¹⁷Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. ²⁰"Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life." ²¹At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. ²²But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, ²³"We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." ²⁴On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to. ²⁵Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." ²⁶At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. ²⁷The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸"We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." ²⁹Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you

killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³²We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

MEN’S CHORUS:..... Prince of Peace

SECOND READING: Jesus assures us our victory endures the restraint of suffering. Revelation 1:4-18 ⁴John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. ⁷“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen. ⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” ⁹I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.” ¹²I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. ¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:p.194



Refrain



Praise God for a living hope:
Christ is risen from the dead!

Refrain

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GOSPEL: Through patient instruction the Lord overcomes the restraints of self-inflicted fear and doubt. John 20:19-31 ¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." ²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷Then he said

to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: #456 – O Sons and Daughters of the King (*stanzas 1, 6-9*)

SERMON:..... Revelation 1:4-18

WHAT A LITTLE BIT OF GOD'S LOVE CAN DO...

1. _____ us.
2. Make us _____.

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life.

Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.

Intercessory prayers

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the "Welcome to Grace" register in your pew at this time!

SERMON HYMN: #922 – This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

Please stand.

PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

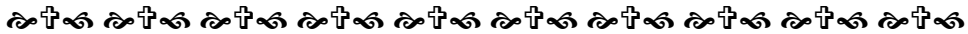
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING:

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #446 – Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

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ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Wally Wahlberg in memory of his wife’s birthday.



Worship attendance: 8:00 AM – 223; 10:30 AM – 145
Communion attendance: 8:00 AM – 178; 10:30 AM – 111
Sunday School attendance: Adults – 87; Teens – 14; Children – 34
Tue. *Law & Gospel* Class: no class; Wed. *Isaiah* Class: no class; Fri. *John* Class: 14
Senior ushers – 8:00 AMatt Wightman 10:30 AAlan Borchardt
Organist: Michael Wilde

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Alexandra Janosek – 3411 W Hayduk Road, Laveen, AZ 85339-2503 (Home)
Adrienne Siffring – 7319 W Sweetwater Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85381 (Home)
Maggie Stevenson – 24399 N 87th Lane, Peoria, AZ 85383-1817 (Home)
Irene Binggeli – 7825 W Carole Lane, Glendale, AZ 85303-1513 (Boswell)

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

SUN - Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 AM; New Hymnal Presentation & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

- MON - Choir Practice, 7:00 PM
 TUE - Newsletter Assembly, 9:00 AM; *Timeless Truths* Bible class, 2:00 PM
 WED - LES Grandparents Day; Public School Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM; *Sermon on the Mount* Bible Class, 7:00 PM
 FRI - *Death & Beyond* Bible Class, 10:00 AM
 SUN - **Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM**; Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Voters Meeting, noon

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and February Bible-reading & activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.
2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for February 5th will be captained by Randy Emmerling with Julie Emmerling; Karen Coakley; Mike & Jan Rondeau; and Jaime Duarte.



2022 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS...You may sign up to donate altar bouquets for 2022 in the Altar Flower binder in the narthex. Altar bouquets cost \$35 each. Enclose payment in a pink envelope (make checks payable to Grace Ladies Aid) and drop in the collection plate or give it to the Ladies Aid Treasurer, Rebekah Frear.



2022 SCRIPTURAL CALENDARS are available for purchase in the fellowship hall after the first service this morning. Greeting cards can be purchased singly and by the box. The calendars are \$8.00 each.



CHURCH PICNIC ON FEBRUARY 20, 2022...Our annual church picnic will be held at Sahuaro Ranch Park from Noon until 3:00PM. Join us at Ramadas 4, 5, and 6 for food, fellowship, and fun!



WORK DAY AT GRACE ON MARCH 12, 2022...Help us maintain the beauty of our campus. We'll be doing general clean-up around campus in preparation for Easter! Join us!



DONATE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE! Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or need help with setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the "Click Here to Donate Online" button. A phone app is also available for donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. *Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.*



FINANCIAL UPDATE: Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$873,142.00** by **6/30/2022**.

Week ending 4/17/2022:

YTD 7/1/2021 through 4/17/2022:

Weekly Need:	24,000.00		YTD Need:	714,000.00
Weekly Actual:	21,997.65		YTD Actual:	729,625.94
Weekly +/-:	-2,002.35		YTD +/-:	+15,625.94

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