

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 17, 2020



Welcome to Grace Online

You can join the service on Sunday at 10:30 am by going to <https://www.facebook.com/GraceSanAntonio/>.

We keep in our prayers...

Hospitalized, Recovering from Illness, or Death in the Family: John and Betina Goodale, Enedina Vasquez, Aaron Rettig, and Jess McDonald

Homebound Members: Doris Lerich, Connie Gentile, Fred Hilgers, Maurine Wallace, Bonnie Rios, Ralph Palafos, Joan Keller, and Shirley Fetter

Birthdays this Week: Joel Fox, Madilyn Stuart

Our prayers are with the Lantz family on the passing of Pastor Ernie Lantz last weekend. A memorial service will be planned at a later date. If you would like to share a story or memory about Pastor Ernie you may do so in a special VoiceThread at <https://voicethread.com/share/14482739/>,

Our prayers are also with the Stricker family on the passing of Kurt's mother Jane Stricker

Grace's Stewardship:

Last Week's Attendance: 99 live / 137 views

Last week's contributions: \$2,244.

We will be moving to a new online giving system in the next few months. The new system will allow for more options to give and charge lower fees. Be on the lookout for emails with the details.

Grace Community

While we will still be worshipping virtually for the next few weeks, the church will start to gradually re-open. Mo is back in the office as of this past week. If you need anything, please let her know.

Welcome to our new custodian Derek. He started this past Monday.

A big thank you to Ronda Lantz, Jeannette Wohlfarth, and Jan Sommerville for work they have been doing at the church. They have been painting and making some needed repairs.

Join us for Grace Voice Threads, our new video discussion forum. Go to VoiceThread.com, or download the app to register for a free account. Each Wednesday you will receive an email with a new discussion starter from Pastor Kay. To join this week's discussion go to <https://voicethread.com/share/14474731/>.

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Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you 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.

Amen.

Entrance Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

**What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

**When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.**

**And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

Greeting

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the . . .

Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the . . .

For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word let us pray to the . . .

Help, save and defend us, O God.

Amen

Hymn of Praise

Now the Feast

Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom;
Praise and glory for evermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
Whose blood has freed and united us
To be one great people of God. *Refrain***

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
All honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***

**For God has come to dwell with us,
To make us people of God;
To make all things new. *Refrain***

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Song

Lord Let My Heart be Good Soil

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
Open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
Where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Psalm

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸Bless our | God, you peoples;
let the sound of | praise be heard.
⁹**Our God has kept us a- | mong the living
and has not allowed our | feet to slip. R**
¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us;
you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.
¹¹**You brought us in- | to the net;
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**
¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.
¹³**I will enter your house | with burnt offerings
and will pay | you my vows—**
¹⁴those that I promised | with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.
¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;
I will give you ox- | en and goats. R**
¹⁶Come and listen, all you | who believe,

and I will tell you what God has | done for me.
**17I called out to God | with my mouth,
and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**
18If I had cherished evil | in my heart,
the Lord would | not have heard me;
**19but in truth | God has heard me
and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**
20Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,
nor withheld unailing | love from me. **R**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

13Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; 16yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel

John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15^x"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain

**Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

**Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain***

**Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away. *Refrain***

**These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain***

**Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain***

Confession of Faith

Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was
buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living
and the dead.**

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

Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures (local bodies of water may be named). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way (especially). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us (especially). Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

You are encouraged to offer up something for which you are thankful. You may also make a financial offering online at www.gracesa.org/giving.

Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving Meditation

Thanksgiving Song

Resucito

Refrain

Resucito! Resucito! Resucito!
Alleluya!
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!
Resucito!

La muerte,
dónde está la muerte,
dónde está mi muerte,
dónde su victoria. *Refrain*

Gracias, sean
dadas al Padre,
que nos pasó a Su Reino,
donde se vive de Amor. *Refrain*

Alegría,
alegría, hermanos,
que si hoy nos queremos,
es que Resucitó. *Refrain*

Si con Él morimos,
con Él vivimos,
con Él cantamos:
¡Alleluya! *Refrain*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Sending

Closing Hymn

This is Amazing Grace

**Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of glory the King above all kings**

**Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of glory the King above all kings**

Chorus

**(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace this is unfailing love
(Yeah) (Oh) That you would take my place, that you would bear my cross
You laid down Your life that I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me**

**Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of glory the King of glory**

**Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of glory the King above all kings *Chorus***

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy *Chorus***

Announcements

Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.