

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Setting VIII

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soprano

Steve Rose, Assistant Minister

Anita Mork, Lector

Natalie Russell & Sue Rose, Sunday School

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"* (I Need Thee Every Hour) arr. William B. Bradbury

EASTER LITANY

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son \dagger , and of the Holy Spirit: **Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Lord Jesus, our risen Savior,

We confess to you our sinfulness. We believe anyone and anything but your holy Word. We prefer easy lies to hard truth. We are quick to judge, condemn, and exclude, but slow to forgive. We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven. In your mercy, forgive us. In your goodness, resurrect us. Amen.

Our Savior Christ comes with healing, forgiveness, and life in his wounded hands. He breathes his Holy Spirit upon us, kindling renewed faith, hope, and love. Receive all he gives with humble joy, and share them with warm generosity, in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

OPENING HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore - bears in dis - tress.
 3 Ten - der - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
 4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be - hold him face to face.

Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
 Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
 Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

GREETING

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

(Lord Have Mercy)

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTICLE
 OF PRAISE**



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -

le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O 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 READING: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

²⁵From you comes my praise in the ^l great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who ^l fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat ^l and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts ^l live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ^l to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow ^l before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs ^l to the LORD, who rules o- ^l ver the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ^l down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ^l fore the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall ^l serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- ^l tions to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ^l yet unborn,
saying to them, "The ^l LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] ¹"I 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."

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

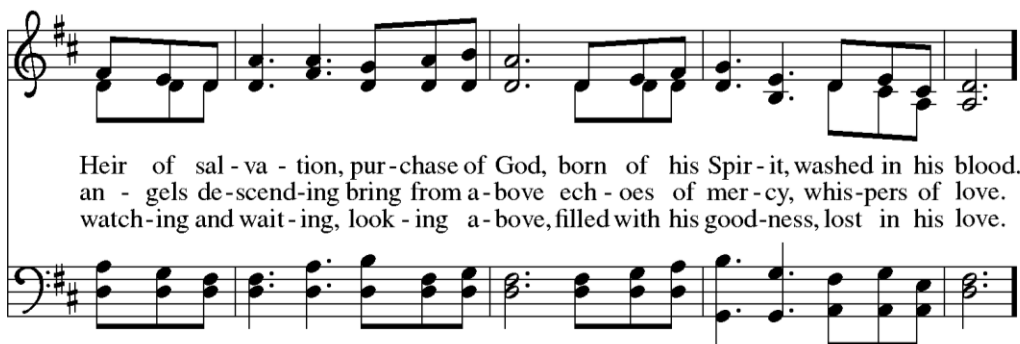
Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

Blessed Assurance

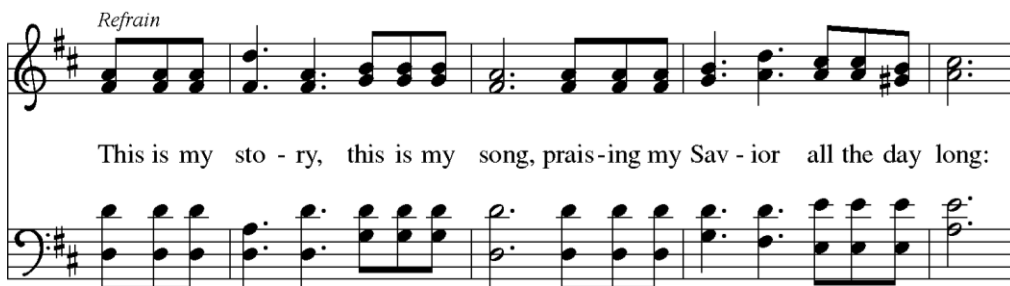
ELW 638

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING**OFFERTORY***"Be Still and Know"***OFFERING PRAYER** - *All speak the prayer together.*

Lord Jesus, thank you for being our strength and our song. We gladly lay before you everything we have received from you: our lives, our time, our treasures, and our talents. Use all we have and all we are to glorify you and show your love to those who need it most. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVINGThe 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.**

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**HOLY, HOLY,
HOLY**


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

HOLY COMMUNION**WORDS OF INSTITUTION****LORD'S PRAYER**

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,

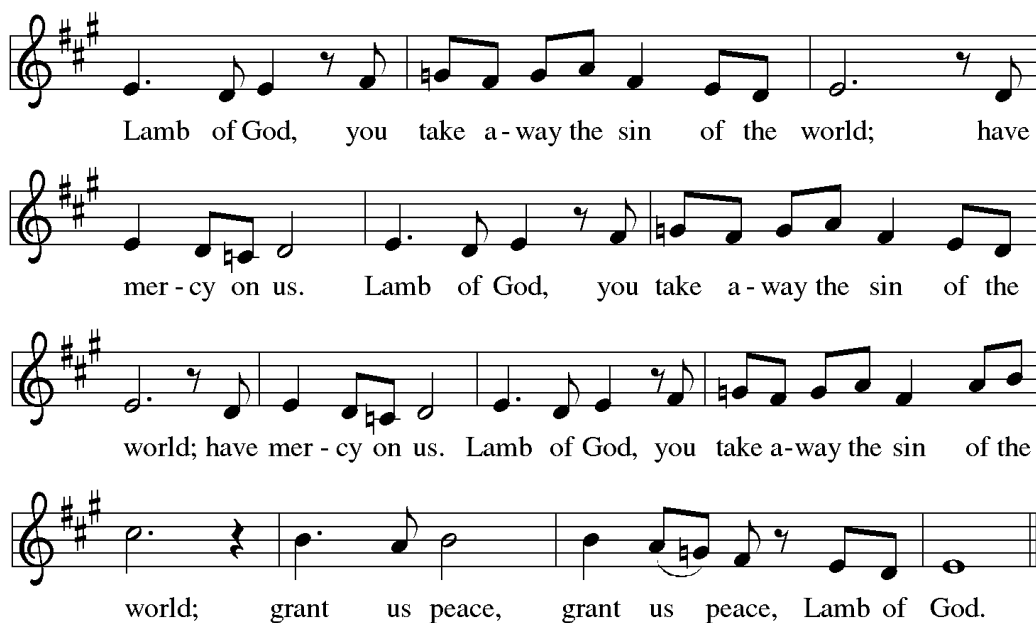
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptations but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: “**The body of Christ given for you.**” Wine/grape juice: “**The blood of Christ shed for you.**”*

COMMUNION HYMN

“Let All Things Now Living”

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

We thank you for your great gift of love, your Son Jesus Christ. May we who have received his body and blood bear the light of his love into the world, to your glory and for the healing of our world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

DISMISSALAlleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!****Postlude***“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”*

arr. John Innes

Altar flowers are given by Lija Kalejs in thanksgiving for my many blessings, including family and friends who have been with me for the various milestones in my life.

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Wed 4/24/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Thurs 4/25/24	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 4/27/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

With sadness we share that our member, **Karen Smallfoot**, passed away unexpectedly on March 19, 2024, in her home. She is now with her Lord. Please pray for God's blessings and Grace for Karen. There will be a **memorial service** for Karen Smallfoot on **Saturday May 25th at 11:00 am** at HAGL. **Please contact the office** if you can organize or help with a reception that will follow her memorial service.

Karen's passing reminds us to have **updated contact and emergency contact info on file** with the office. Be sure we know who to contact on your behalf if the need arises. Send your info to the office or contact Leslie in the office to find out what information we already have.

Our longtime member, **Donald Aldridge**, passed away on **April 3rd**. He had been having problems and getting weaker over the past months. He was able to live for few weeks in a Board and Care in Covina with his wife, Sylvia, where she has lived for the past year with Alzheimer's, before being taken to the hospital.

They have two daughters, Jennifer and Liz, plus grandchildren. The family had a small service at Mountain View Cemetery Chapel in Altadena. They appreciate our prayers and are thankful for HAGL where Sylvia was raised, married and faithfully attended services with Don.

The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please contact Tobe Poehlmann at foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org.

Did you know you can use the **"Donate" button** on our church website, hillavenuegrace.org, for an easy way to make your donations? Here you can specify a fund, how often you want the donation made, specify a debit or credit card or bank transfer, and even choose to cover the processing fee so HAGL receives your full donation amount! Contact the office with questions.

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

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Dial by your location

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+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!