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May 24, 2020 ~ Easter 7

As we recall the Ascension of our Lord, we rejoice that Christ is present for all people at all times. Share this good news with all!

On this Memorial Day weekend, we joyfully remember our loved ones, as well as those who have served our great country. May our eternal God bless you all abundantly with his love. Welcome!

Virtual Service Gathering

Prelude

Chris Lehne & Brandon Hurley, Organists

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 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.

C: Amen.

Apostolic Greeting

P: 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.

Gathering Song

“Open Up the Heavens”

Agape Singers

Word**First Reading***Isaiah 49:8-16 Hunter Martinson*

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; ⁹saying to the prisoners, “Come out,” to those who are in darkness, “Show yourselves.” They shall feed along the ways, on all the bare heights shall be their pasture; ¹⁰they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. ¹¹And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. ¹²Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene. ¹³Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. ¹⁴But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me.” ¹⁵Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. ¹⁶See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

Response

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.**Second Reading***1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11**Matt Martinson*

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Response

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.**Gospel***John 17:1-11*P: The holy gospel according to John. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people,^[a] to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are

in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Response

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“It’s About Names”

Pastor Kendall L. Stelter

“See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands” Isaiah 49:16

Song of the Day

“He Knows My Name”

Agape Singers

Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

Thanksgiving

Offering

It is a blessing to have you listening or watching with us this morning. Offerings are given as an act of worship for those who consider Grace Lutheran or Providence Valley Lutheran their home congregation. Visitors should not feel obligated to give an offering for our ministry. During this time of uncertainty, our congregations still rely on the gracious giving of our members. Grace Lutheran has options to give online via our website, gracedawson.org under the Online Giving tab or you can download our offering app on your phone! Simply search for “Give +” in your App Store and set up your account! As a reminder to Thrivent Financial members, please direct your Choice Dollars to Grace or Providence by March 31, 2020. Donations for Grace or Providence can be brought to the

Grace Church Office at anytime. Offerings can also be mailed to:

Grace Lutheran Church PO Box 549 Dawson, MN 56232

Providence Valley Lutheran Church 2495 120th Street Dawson, MN 56232

Contact the office for help with any of these options.

*Offertory Hymn

“Good Good Father”

Agape Singers

*Thanksgiving for the Word

P: 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.

C: Amen.

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

C: 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

*Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Sending Song

“Old Church Choir”

Agape Singers

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Brandon Hurley, Organist

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Sunday, May 24–

8:30

Worship Radio Broadcast

Prayer Concerns:

Monday, May 25–

Tuesday, May 26–

1:00

Dawson Area Food Shelf Open

Wednesday, May 27–

2:00

Channel 8 Worship TV Broadcast

Thursday, May 28–

Friday, May 29–

Saturday, May 30–

Sunday, May 31–

8:30

Worship Radio Broadcast

Butch Anderson, Jim Anderson,
Sarah Anderson, Olivia Baldwin, Tom Beals,
Todd & Arlys Buer, Ken Club, Jack Flayton,
Wilton & Madeline Gustafson,
MaryAnn Heinrich, Blanche Jordahl,
Monica Kennedy, Sharla Kruger, Stan
Krugerud, John Lund, Evelyn Lundgren, Brad
Madsen, Julie Miron, Kristi Peterson-Tomas,
Mike Stangeland, Lauren Thoen, Joanne
Trader, Donna Weidenback, & Bonnie
Westfield
*The families Marcella Nielsen, Robert Rojas &
Ann West*

This Week at Grace

Thank You!

Radio Broadcast Sponsors:

In honor of
Dennis & Gen Hullstrom's
50th wedding anniversary (May 22).

Bulletin Sponsors:

In honor of

Nathan Martinson's 40th Birthday
from Mike & Kim Thompson.

*All events scheduled at Grace Lutheran and Providence Valley Churches have
been postponed and/or cancelled until further notice. Please stay safe and
healthy. Love your neighbor!*

Worship Opportunities

Worship will continue to be broadcast over the radio at 8:30am on Sunday mornings. Video of each worship will be available on both the Grace and Providence websites, Grace's YouTube Channel and Wednesday afternoons on Channel 8. Bulletins will be available for download on the websites and for pick up in the main entry of the church. Please contact the office if you would like a bulletin delivered to you.

Also, visit the new “Grace & Providence Faith Connection” Facebook page throughout the week for devotions, prayers and other ideas to keep the faith in this time of uncertainty.

Flowers

A special thanks to Brad and Maggie Madsen for planting flower pots and the front sign garden. We appreciate your help keeping our church looking beautiful!

Roofing Fund

Grace Lutheran Church approved the replacement of repair of the narthex, office and educational wing roof at their January meeting. This past week, contractors completed the roofing project and soon a bill will more than likely be sent in the mail. If you would like to make a special contribution to this fund, the Grace Lutheran Trust Fund will be matching dollar for dollar your gift (up to \$10,000). So, your gift special gift of \$20 becomes \$40; your \$50 gift becomes \$100; your \$150 gift becomes \$300!! With only one fundraiser completed, we are in need of your special financial support so don't miss out on this opportunity to double your impact! Gifts can be made via online on the capital improvement tab or by mail. Simply mark your gift 2020 Roof Fund!



Covid-19 worship ministry. We have had added expenses to digitally record, edit and post our worship services on line. If you wish to make a special donation help defray these added expenses, we are offering the additional opportunity to sponsor our online worship services. Please contact the church office for more information if you wish to support this new ministry endeavor during COVID-19.

Giving Made Easy! Grace and Providence Valley Lutheran Churches have options to give online! On our websites, gracedawson.org or pvlchruch.org, simply click on the “Give Online” tab at the top of the homepage. Or even easier, download our offering app on your phone! Simply search for “Give +” in your App Store and set up your account! And now we have TEXT OFFERING! Simply text your offering amount to 800-675-7430!

Dawson Area Food Shelf will continue to be open on Tuesdays from 1-4:00pm. We have extra safety measures in place. Please read signs as you come in.

Effortless Giving There are also options for you to give without having to open your pocketbook! When shopping online at amazon, simply go to “Amazon Smiles” and add Grace Lutheran Church-Dawson MN or Providence Valley Lutheran Church Dawson MN as your charity! Thrivent Financial members, direct your Choice Dollars to Grace by March 31 of the following year! Thrivent Choice Dollars are your share of Thrivent’s charitable funding. A portion of all your premiums and contract values grow your amount of Choice Dollars, and you can direct them to Grace Lutheran Church of Dawson, MN or Providence Valley Lutheran Church of Dawson, MN by logging on to your online account and choosing the “Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars” link under the “My Thrivent” tab. Also under this tab you will find the link for “Thrivent Action Teams” where you can apply for up to two (2) free \$250 grants from Thrivent per calendar year for your favorite charity events! Contact the office for projects needing grants or for help with any of these options.

Help During These Unique and Difficult Times There are volunteers available to run errands/bring meals to those who do not feel safe leaving their homes right now. Please contact the church office if you need assistance. We open our hearts to those who will be financially impacted during this time. There are resources available. We have volunteers ready to make meals and bring donations. Please contact the church office. We are praying for you and your families’ continued safety and well-being. With that being said, we, as a church, will also continue to rely on the gracious giving of our members. We can't thank you all enough for your kindness and understanding through all of this. We have witnessed many of you opening your hearts and truly loving your neighbors. It is a blessing to see so many of you living the Gospel in your daily lives. We will continue to keep you updated as we know more.

Our Leadership Teams at Grace and Providence and staff continue to meet to discuss and determine when it will be possible for us to open our doors safely for in person worship while being mindful of the recommendations of the local public health professionals and the leadership of government officials. We will keep you informed when final decisions are made. Thank you.