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*Annual Spring Choir
Service*

*Second Sunday of Easter
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
April 27, 2025
8:00 am*

Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025 ~ 8:00 A.M.

Welcome To Our Guests

Jesus says he is the vine and we are the branches. Sometimes branches grow neatly together; other times they get tangled up! However you feel about the “branches” next to you, greet one another in peace as we prepare to worship our True Vine. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

The Common Thread in Today’s Reading

More people were being added to the Lord after his earthly life than before. The Holy Spirit was working through the testimony of Scripture and the witness of Christians. Christ, the power of God, is mighty in person, in the Spirit, and in the heart. First the death and then the ascension of Christ were troubling to the disciples on a personal level, and then on the level of a larger question, “Who will believe us?” But this was always Jesus’ intention. “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

Welcome and Announcements

Rick Russell

Prelude

Nancy McName and Cheryl Burch

Lighting of the Candles

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Opening Hymn

“Low in the Grave He Lay”

Insert

*Confession and Forgiveness

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of the Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

C: Amen.

(silence for personal confession)

L: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

L: Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life.

C: Amen.

*Prayer of the Day

All: Almighty God, grant that our joyful celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection may be reflected in our daily work and conversation. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

His Holy Word

First Lesson: Acts 5:12-20

Patty Mann

Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4-18

Gospel Acclamation (sung)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31

Cortney Copeland

*The Nicene Creed

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge \times one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Message of Word and Song

Fritz Serr and the Choir

Songs: "Stone by Stone"
"Love Always Echoes True"
"Do Lord, Remember Me"

Giving, Praying, and Sending

Offering

Offering Hymn **"He Keeps Me Singing" (Verses 1, 2 & 3)** Pg. 6

*Doxology Page 565

*Closing Prayer Rick Russell

*Lord's Prayer (sung by all)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Benediction Final Blessing (from Holden Evening Prayer) Grace Choir

*Closing Hymn **"He Lives"** Pg. 5

Postlude Silent Prayer and Meditation

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve

Your offering to the Lord's work through Grace. There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord's work.

WOC April Collections. Elizabeth's New Life Center is located at 2201 N. Main Street Sidney, Ohio. They educate & help support pregnant women in our area. They are currently in need of Baby Diapers size 3,4,5,& 6, baby wipes, summer clothes preemie -4T. Watch the April bulletin for a list of current items in need of in April. Any questions contact Joyce Regula, Chairperson.

Mission Trip for High School Youth and Congregation Members -- Disaster Relief Rebuilding The Luther League high school youth are inviting congregation members to join them for a mission trip to North Carolina to assist in rebuilding homes in Burnsville, NC. This summer June 19-25, 2025. Join the high school youth as you are able, it is not necessary to be there the full time. All skill levels are needed for cleanup, building, meal preparation, devotional and prayer leadership. Please let Lori Wiswell 937-538-7182 or the Pastors know of your interest and to receive more information.

Congratulations to Isaac & Jenna Klopfenstein on the birth of their daughter Isabella Taylor Klopfenstein. Isabella was born April 21, 2025 @ 11:27 pm she weighted 8lbs. 13 oz. and measured 20.5" long. She is welcomed home by brothers Jacob & Jonah. Proud grandparents are Scott & Kathy Klopfenstein.

Last Gospel Gang meeting for the 2024-2025 year will be Wednesday, May 7th 6:15 pm-7:30 pm. We would like to invite everyone back for the 2025-2026 year with our kickoff on Wednesday, September 3rd.

National Day of Prayer

Prayer Walk & Live Worship Thursday, May 1, 2025 4:30 pm live worship begins, 5:30 pm Prayer Walk begins. Location is the Sidney First Presbyterian Church 202 N. Miami Ave. Sidney, Ohio.

Jackson Center **American Legion** Scherer Post #493 will be having an **open house** on Sunday April 27th between the hours of 1:00pm and 3:00pm. Legion Post #493 is located at 627 East College Street, Jackson Center. Please come and take a look at all the new improvements – new floor covering; new wall paneling; new interior doors; new roof, gutter and downspouts; new windows; and new window blinds. Refreshments provided.

Thank you to Kent, Toni, & Aaron Leininger for the serving trays for the church kitchen.

Low in the Grave He Lay

160

Because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him — Acts 2:24 NIV

1. Low in the grave He lay, Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Wait - ing the com - ing day,
 2. Vain - ly they watch His bed, Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Vain - ly they seal the dead,
 3. Death can - not keep his prey, Je - sus, my Sav - ior! He tore the bars a - way,

Je - sus, my Lord! Up from the grave He a - rose, He a - rose, With a

might - y tri - umph o'er His foes; He a - rose! He a - rose a vic - tor from the

dark do - main, And He lives for - ev - er with His saints to reign. He a -

rose! He a - rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!
 He a - rose! He a - rose!

WORDS: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899
 MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

CHRIST AROSE
 Irregular

He Keeps Me Singing

425

He put a new song in my mouth — Psalm 40:3 NIV

1. There's with - in my heart a mel - o - dy; Je - sus whis - pers
 2. All my life was wrecked by sin and strife, Dis - cord filled my
 3. Feast - ing on the rich - es of His grace, Rest - ing 'neath His
 4. Tho' some - times He leads thro' wa - ters deep, Tri - als fall a -
 5. Soon He's com - ing back to wel - come me Far be - yond the

sweet and low, "Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still,"
 heart with pain, Je - sus swept a - cross the bro - ken strings,
 shel - t'ring wing, Al - ways look - ing on His smil - ing face,
 cross the way; Tho' some - times the path seems rough and steep,
 star - ry sky; I shall wing my flight to worlds un - known,

In all of life's ebb and flow.
 Stirred the slum - b'ring chords a - gain.
 That is why I shout and sing. Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus, Sweet - est
 See His foot - prints all the way.
 I shall reign with Him on high.

name I know, Fills my ev - 'ry long - ing, Keeps me sing - ing as I go.

WORDS: Luther B. Bridgers, 1884-1948
 MUSIC: Luther B. Bridgers, 1884-1948

SWEETEST NAME
 Irregular

A. H. A.

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A. H. Ackley

1. I serve a ris-en Sav-iour, He's in the world to-day; I know that He is
2. In all the world a-round me I see His lov-ing care, And tho' my heart grows
3. Re-joice, re-joice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing E-ter-nal hal-le-

liv-ing, what-ev-er men may say; I see His hand of mer-cy, I
wea-ry I nev-er will de-spair; I know that He is lead-ing, thru
lu-jahs to Je-sus Christ the King! The Hope of all who seek Him, the

hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him He's al-ways near.
all the storm-y blast, The day of His ap-pear-ing will come at last.
Help of all who find, None oth-er is so lov-ing, so good and kind.

REFRAIN *Spirited*

He lives, He lives, Christ Je-sus lives to-day! He walks with me and
He lives, He lives,

talks with me a-long life's nar-row way. He lives, He lives, sal-
He lives, He lives, He lives,

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va-tion to im-part! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.