

# Spirit of Grace

ELCA UMC



May 15th , 2022  
*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

---

Prelude

Welcome

A Call to Peace in Times of Violence

*Please stand as you are able as we join together in our call to peace during times of war and violence in our world.*

Oh Divine,  
most mighty, most merciful,  
**our sacred stories tell us  
that you help and save your people.**  
**You are the fortress: may there be no more war.**  
**You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger.**  
**You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair.**  
**Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
The resurrected Christ is making all things new.  
**In Jesus, we are given new life.**  
The Spirit of God calls us to embrace one another,  
**That we might live this life in love together.**  
Let us praise God, who gives the gift of abundant life!  
**We thank God with our every breath.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism (*led in front of the baptismal font*)

In the waters of baptism,  
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,  
and we are a new creation.  
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water is poured from the pitcher into the font*

We thank you, God, for your river of life,  
flowing freely from your throne:  
through the earth,  
through the city,  
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;  
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.  
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,  
and our sin is drowned forever.  
You open the gate of righteousness  
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.  
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.  
You call us forth and send us out.  
In lush and barren places, you are with us.  
You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water  
and awaken your church once more.  
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.  
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,  
our Shepherd and Lamb,  
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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.**

Let us pray.

O God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

First Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea existed no longer. I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride and groom on their wedding day.

And I heard a loud voice calling from the throne, "Look! God's Tabernacle is among humankind! God will live with them; they will be God's people, and God will be fully present among them. The Most High will wipe away every tear from their eyes. And death, mourning, crying, and pain will be no more, for the old order has fallen."

The One who sat on the throne said, "Look! I'm making everything new! and added, "Write this, for what I am saying is trustworthy and true."

And that One continued, "It is finished. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To those who are thirsty I will give drink freely from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God, Word of Life

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

Alleluia!

Praise YHWH from the heavens;

praise God in the heights!

**Praise God, all you angels;**

**praise God, all you hosts!**

Praise God, sun and moon;

Praise God, all you shining stars!

**Praise God, you highest heavens;**

**and you waters above the heavens!**

Let them praise the Name of YHWH,

by whose command they were created.

**God established them forever and ever**

**and gave a decree which won't pass away.**

Praise YHWH from the earth,

you sea creatures and ocean depths,

**lightning and hail, snow and mist,**

**and storm winds that fulfill God's word,**

mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars,

**wild animals and all cattle,**

**small animals and flying birds,**

rulers of the earth, leaders of all nations,

all the judges in the world,

**young men and young women,**

**old people and children -**

let them all praise the Name of YHWH

whose Name alone is exalted,

**whose majesty transcends heaven and earth,**

**and who has raised up a Horn for God's people**

**to the praise of the faithful,**

**the children of Israel,**

**the people dear to God!**

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 13:31-35

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the gospel.*

The Holy Gospel according to John the 13th chapter.

Once Judas left, Jesus said,  
“Now is the Chosen One glorified  
and God is glorified as well.  
If God has been glorified,  
God will in turn glorify the Chosen One  
and will do so very soon.  
My little children,  
I won’t be with you much longer.  
You’ll look for me,  
but what I said to the Temple authorities, I say to you:  
where I am going,  
you cannot come.  
I give you a new commandment:  
Love one another.  
And you’re to love one another  
the way I have loved you.  
This is how all will know that you’re my disciples:  
that you truly love one another.”

Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*You may be seated.*

Sermon (*recorded*)

Bishop Laurie Larson-Caesar  
*Oregon Synod, ELCA*

Hymn of the Day

Help Us Accept Each Other – UMH 560  
*verses 1, 3, 4*

Affirmation of Faith – Apostles Creed

*Please stand as you are able as we confess our faith in God together using the words of the 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.**

*You may be seated.*

Joys & Concerns

*Now is the time in our service for us to share our joys and concerns with one another. If you have something to share with the community, please raise your hand and an usher will bring the microphone to you. Please stand if you are able when sharing so all can see who is speaking. You are invited to end your time sharing by saying either "This is my joy" or "This is my concern" and the community will respond likewise.*

## Prayers of the People

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect.

God in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us: from Mt. Adams to Mt. Hood, in the rushing waters of the Columbia River, throughout the rolling hills and mountains of the Gorge – all of creation reflects your goodness. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made

God in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power.

God in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Be with all those who gathered together for the Oregon Synod assembly: pastors and deacons, lay leaders and voting members, speakers and participants. Guide them in faithful decision making, and grant them safe travels as they return to their homes and faith communities this afternoon.

God in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of peace, we pray for victims of war and violence across the world. Guide and protect those who stand with the vulnerable and advocate for the oppressed. Send your Spirit to show us how to turn swords into plowshares, that nations might work together to create a culture of peace.

God in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

### Offering

*You are invited to use this time to either bring your offering to the back of the sanctuary, make an online donation through our website or the QR code in your bulletin, or meditate on how God is calling you to give of yourself to your church and your community.*

[Give Online to Support the Ministry of Spirit of Grace](#)

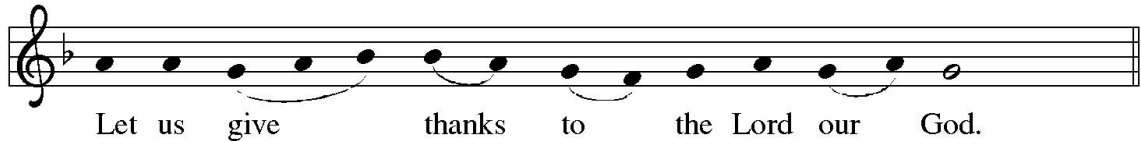
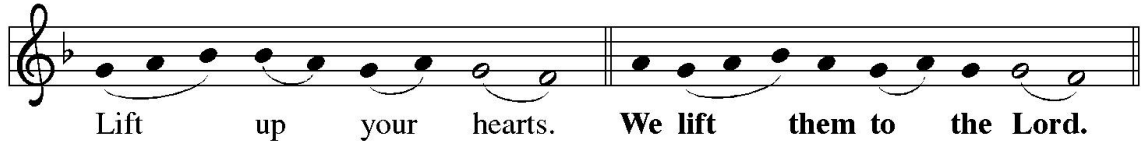
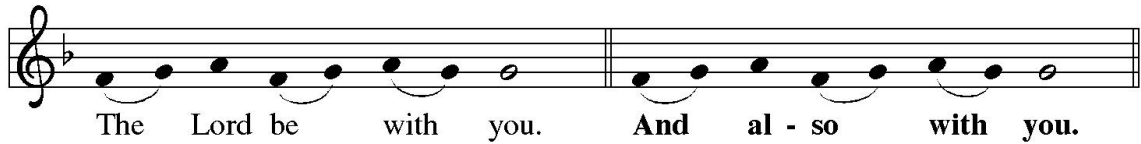
### Offering Prayer

Living God,  
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together  
in your peaceable reign,  
and you welcome us all at your table.  
Reach out to us through this meal,  
and show us your wounded and risen body,  
that we may be nourished and believe  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Please stand as you are able as we continue with The Great Thanksgiving:*





*(Sung version on page 275 of ELW Leader's Edition, on altar)*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forevermore.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language you are most familiar with - the language of your heart.

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

*Instructions for Communion are read - located on altar*

This table of bread and wine has now been made ready.  
So come to this table,  
You who have much faith  
and you who would like to have more;  
you who have been here often  
and you who have not been here long  
you who have tried to follow Jesus,  
and you who have failed;  
Come and eat. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

*Communion Distribution*

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, generous God,  
for in this bread and cup  
we have tasted the new heaven and earth  
where hunger and thirst are no more.  
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,  
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

*Announcements (seperate sheet, located in worship binder)*

Sending Song:

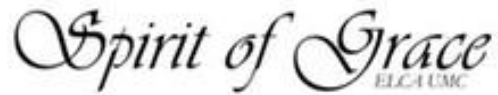
Let All Things Now Living – TFWS 2008  
verses 1 & 2

Blessing

God, the Author of life,  
Christ, the living Cornerstone,  
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Proclaim what God has done.  
**Thanks be to God!**



1140 Tucker Rd. Hood River, OR 97031  
541-386-3993  
[www.hoodriverchurch.org](http://www.hoodriverchurch.org)

**Church Office Hours**  
**Closed on Fridays**

**Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller**  
M-W 9-12, or by appointment  
[spiritofgracepastor@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofgracepastor@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Fowler, Office Assistant**  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00-2  
[office@hoodriverchurch.com](mailto:office@hoodriverchurch.com)

**Linda Boris, Pastoral Assistant**  
Tuesday 10-1

**Attributions**

Thanksgiving for Baptism, Prayer of the Day, Prayers of the People, Blessing and Dismissal - copyright  
Augsburg Fortress, 2021