

The Third Sunday of Easter  
May 4, 2025  
9:30 AM

# Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

7160 South Robert Trail, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

651-455-0093    [www.aglcigh.org](http://www.aglcigh.org)

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**Welcome friends in Christ!** We're grateful for your presence here in worship today.

If you are visiting, please sign the guest book in the entryway.

- Children are welcome to utilize the open space in the back for quiet play during worship.
- Feel free to remain seated at any time during the service.

## GATHER:

We gather as people of God, a family of faith.

*Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the Gospel of John and the Acts of the Apostles. We'll see the early church continue the mission of Christ: proclaiming good news to the poor, release to the captive, recovery of sight to the blind, and setting the oppressed free.*

**Centering Music:**        *Use this opportunity to center yourself before worship.*

**He Is Exalted! Easter Morning Medley**

**arr. Lloyd Larson, Melody Bober**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 63)**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you!

**My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you as in a dry and weary land.**

Your steadfast love is better than life.

**My lips shall give you praise!**

For you have been my helper.

**I will rejoice under the shadow of your wings!**

My whole being clings to you.

**Your right hand holds me fast!**

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

In the name of ✠ the One  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life,  
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font.*

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.  
**Amen.**

## Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Greeting**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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:

## Setting 3

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# Canticle: Now the Feast

## Setting 3

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, 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.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.



*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



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



*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Prayer of the Day

Eternal and all-merciful God,

**with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **GROW:**

We grow as we are fed by the Word and nourished at the Lord's table.

### **First Reading: Acts 9:1-20**

*Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.*

<sup>1</sup> Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**



## **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Our hearts burn within us

**While you open to us the scriptures.**

## **Gospel Reading: John 21:1-19**

<sup>1</sup> After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> (He said this

to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him,  
“Follow me.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Message**

**Pastor Tim Maybee**

## **Hymn of the Day: We Sing the Glorious Conquest**

**We sing the glorious conquest,  
Before Damascus' gate  
When Saul, the Church's spoiler,  
Came breathing threats and hate;  
The rav'ning wolf rushed forward  
Full early to the prey;  
But lo! the Shepherd met him,  
And bound him fast today.**

**O Wisdom ord'ring all things  
In order strong and sweet,  
What nobler spoil was ever  
Cast at the Victor's feet?  
What wiser master builder  
E'er wrought at Thine employ  
Than he, till now so furious  
Thy building to destroy?**

**O glory most excelling  
That smote across his path!  
O light that pierced and blinded  
The zealot in his wrath!  
O voice that spake within him  
The calm, reproving word!  
O love that sought and held him  
The bondman of his Lord!**

**Lord, teach thy Church the lesson,  
Still in her darkest hour  
Of weakness and of danger,  
To trust Thy hidden power;  
Thy grace by ways mysterious  
The wrath of man can bind,  
And in Thy boldest foeman  
Thy chosen saint can find.**

*John Ellerton*

*[www.smallchurchmusic.com](http://www.smallchurchmusic.com)*

## **Confession of Faith**

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**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**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places especially Monica, mother of Augustine. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

### **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**

*AGLC gives in the style of our Tanzanian partners. You may place any gift in the basket as you come forward for communion. If you don't have a physical gift to share, you are encouraged to dip your hand in the basket as a reminder that God uses you to do God's work in the world.*

**Offering Song: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! (Verses 1 and 5)**

**ELW 393**

## **A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!**



- 1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
- 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
- 3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
- 4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
- 5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers  
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav-ior!" thus they  
sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.  
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.  
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."  
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Offering Prayer

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.  
Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may  
live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

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.**

This is the day that in joy and delight

We join with all the angels of heaven and all creatures on earth

To sing our praise and thanksgiving to you,

All holy and mighty and glorious God.

For Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

This is the day that you gave light to the earth.

This is the day that you saved the Israelites through the sea

And with your pillar of fire led them to freedom.

Now every night is as bright as day,


And that light is Christ.

## Thanks be to God!

This is the day that you broke the chains of death.  
This is the day that, marrying heaven to earth,  
You washed away sin, rescued us from evil, and brought us your peace.  
The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign,  
For Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Sung Words of Institution

*Verses 1 & 2: Pastor, Verse 3: All*



3. So, we thank You for the wine and for the bread; For we  
see the life You gave and the blood You shed. And we re -  
-mem - ber Your won - drous love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your -  
blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous -  
love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

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## Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**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.**

## Invitation

*Amazing Grace Lutheran Church practices open communion. Whether you are a member of AGLC or not, you are invited to the table that is set by Christ for you.*

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

## Distribution

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The wine used in worship is alcohol-free. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

## Communion Songs: Lamb of God

## Setting 3

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.

# Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

## Open Our Eyes Lord

ACS 977

### Open Our Eyes

Words and Music by  
Bob Cull

$\text{♩} = 76$

D D<sup>sus</sup>/E D/F# G<sup>2</sup>(#4) G G/A A Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D

O - pen our eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je -

7 D A/C# Bm D/A Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup>

-sus, \_\_\_\_\_ to reach out and touch Him, \_\_\_\_\_ and

13 Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D D Dmaj<sup>7</sup> D D<sup>sus</sup>/E D/F# G<sup>2</sup>(#4) G

say that we love Him. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our ears, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_

20 Em<sup>7</sup> A Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D D A/C# Bm D/A

\_\_\_\_\_ and help us to lis - ten. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our

26 Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> G<sup>2</sup>/B A<sup>7</sup>/C# Em/D D

eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je - sus. \_\_\_\_\_

CCLI Song # 1572  
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## I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

### Prayer after Communion

Living One,

**in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders,  
sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.**

**Amen.**

### Announcements



## GO:

We go into the world, sent by God, to serve all people in the name of Jesus.

### Benediction

The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.  
**Amen.**

### Sending Hymn: Go to the World!

ACS 991

## Go to the World!

1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry crv. A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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**Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude: Go to the World**

**Mark Hayes**