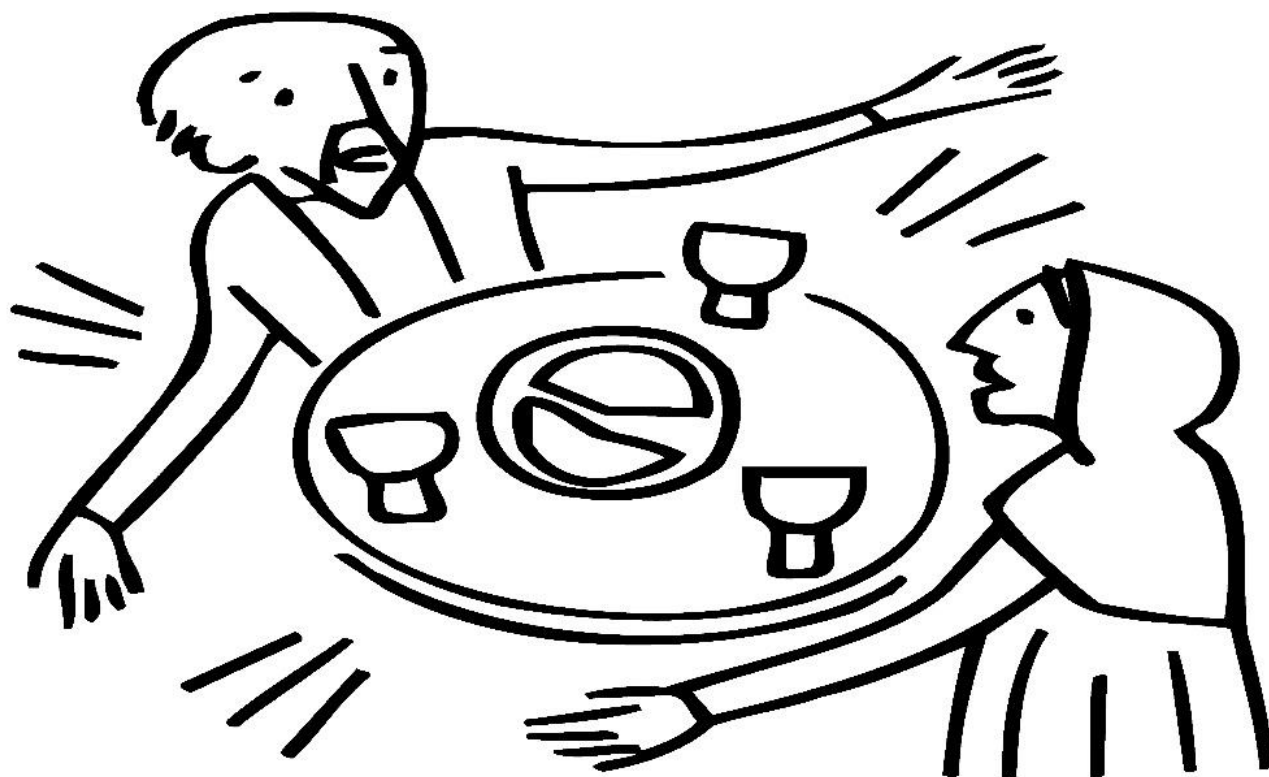


Hope Lutheran Church
2001 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725
Grace Lutheran Church
204 North Main Street Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Phone: 260-244-7118 Fax: 260-248-2138
E-Mail: office.gracelutheran@gmail.com
Web Page: www.gracecolumbiacity.org
Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director
Joyce Dubach, Organist
April 19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter



Introduction to the day

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup
Attendance for April 12.2026 - 28

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

(ELW 522)

As We Gather at Your Table

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en
Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav- en - ly king, al- nigh- y God and Fa- ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



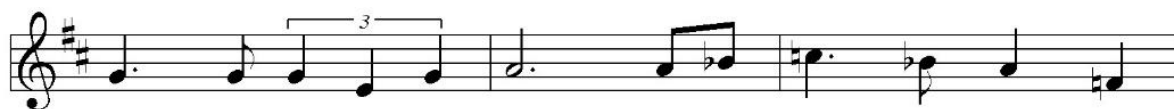
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir- it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The salutation may precede the prayer.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from Acts.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

³⁶ “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

² **The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.**

³ Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

¹⁰ **How shall I repay the LORD**

for all the good things he has done for me?

¹¹ I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹² **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**

¹³ Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his servants.

¹⁴ **O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your
handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.**

¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁶ **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,**

¹⁷ in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood

still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” ²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”

³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(ELW 393)

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

CREED

A Creed may be said: the Nicene Creed, on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter; The Apostles' Creed, at other times. When Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is celebrated, this creed may be omitted.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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 the 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,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

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

THE PRAYERS

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray:

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day

when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,

that goodness and mercy may follow us

and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Glory to you, God from before the beginning,
God bearing from above your Word of grace,
God sending on us the Dove of peace.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

You are the great I AM,
feeding your people with manna in the wilderness.
You are the Father of our beloved Jesus,
whom you gave to the world
to be the Lamb, the King of Israel, the Son of Man.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

You anointed Jesus to be our messiah and teacher.
He is the bread from heaven, the fruitful vine,
the good shepherd, the gate of protection, our very Lord and God,
our way, our truth, and our resurrection to life eternal.

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

On the night that he washed his disciples' feet,
he took bread, and 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 Lazarus we wait in our tomb,
we hear you call our name,
and we come out from our death into your life.
With Mary Magdalene we cry out,
We have seen the Lord.
We have seen the Lord.

Breathe your Spirit of power on us.
Nourish us with your living water,
and sustain us with the body and blood of your Son.
Claim us as your friends.
Birth us anew and enlighten our eyes.
Unbind us, that as your servants we may unbind one another.
Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
the Source of all, the Light of the world, the Advocate for your children.

Blessing: **Blessing**

and thanksgiving: **Thanksgiving**

and honor: **Honor**

and might: **Might**

be to you forever and ever.

Amen.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

COMMUNION

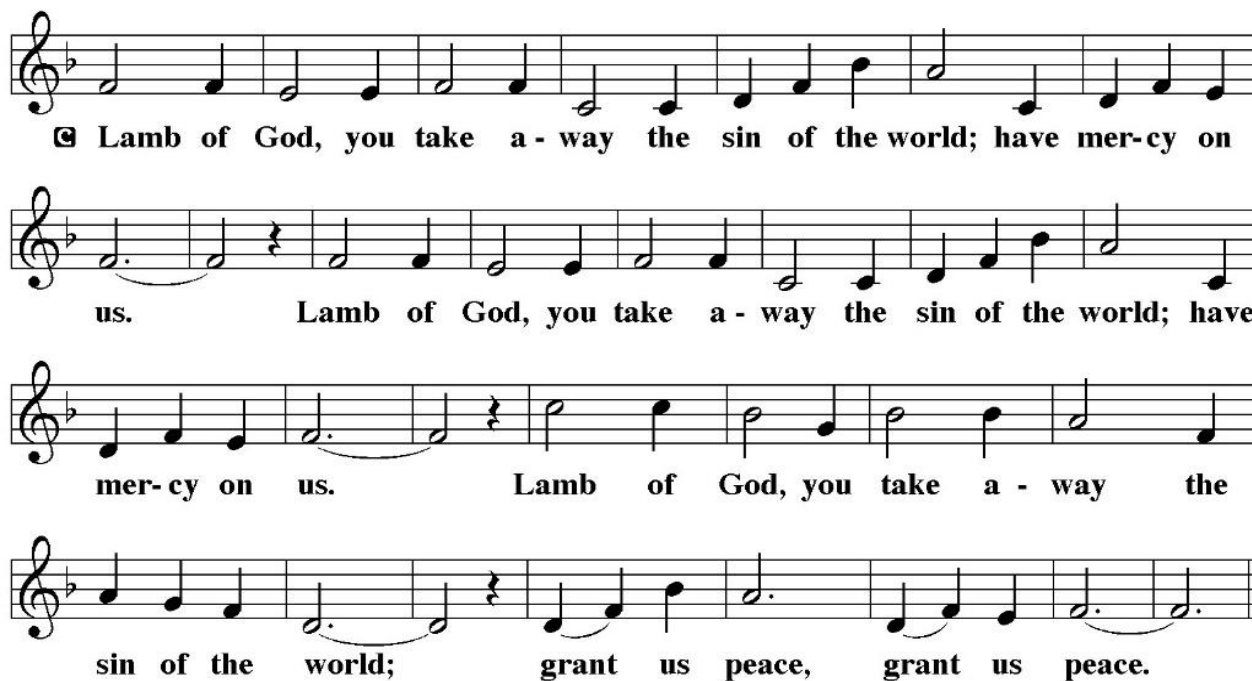
The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

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

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

COMMUNION SONG



☞ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

(ELW 495)

We Who Once Were Dead

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite

Music: Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

(ELW 548)

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2021 Music: Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - APRIL - Synod Disaster Relief Fund

- Office will be closed Thursday and Friday (April 23 and 24) If you have any questions, please email the church office. Or call the office and leave a voice mail.
- Food Pantry needs, with the colder weather the need for Soup increases. While we still need Cereal and Peanut Butter, we could also use Soup as well.

- Preschool Dairy Queen Fundraiser April 21st. 4-8 pm.
- Gloria Pelfrey has moved to 4725 N State Rd 9 Columbia City IN, 46725
- Grace ladies will host Adelphi Tuesday, April 21 at 11:30.
Following the business meeting ladies from New Hope Wesleyan Church will tell about their Clothing Closet which is a ministry of their church. There is a brochure on our bulletin board explaining their hours. Ladies may tour their Closet following the meeting. They are located at 418 E Chicago St.
- The Care Team will meet Tuesday, April 21 at 10:30z
- **Bread Loaf Offering for April- Synod Disaster Relief Fund**
- The Bread Loaf Offering for April will be the Synod disaster relief fund: The funds collected will go towards helping restore the town of Lake Village Indiana. They were hit with a tornado on March 10th that did significant damage to many structures. There is a write up by the bread loaf offering basket that explains in detail what the funds will be used for.. Please pray and donate to help the families of Lake Village.
- **Game Night April 21**
- April 21 we will have a game night in the Parish Hall from 7 to 9pm. The church will be providing decks of cards and 2 ice cream sheet cakes. You will need to bring your drinks and some snacks to share if you would like and a game if you desire. Come and join in some fellowship and have a great time.

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday April 20, 2025

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday April 21, 2025

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Care team 10:30 am

Adelphi group 11:30 am

Staff Meeting 3:40 pm

Pack 3082 6:30 pm

Game Night 7-9 pm

Wednesday April 22, 2025

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Voucher 4 pm

Thursday April 23, 2026

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday April 24, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday April 25, 2026

Private Party 12 pm

Sunday April 26, 2026

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

We have new sign-up sheets in the parish hall, for coffee hour. Coffee hour will be after church service, for anyone that would like to stay.