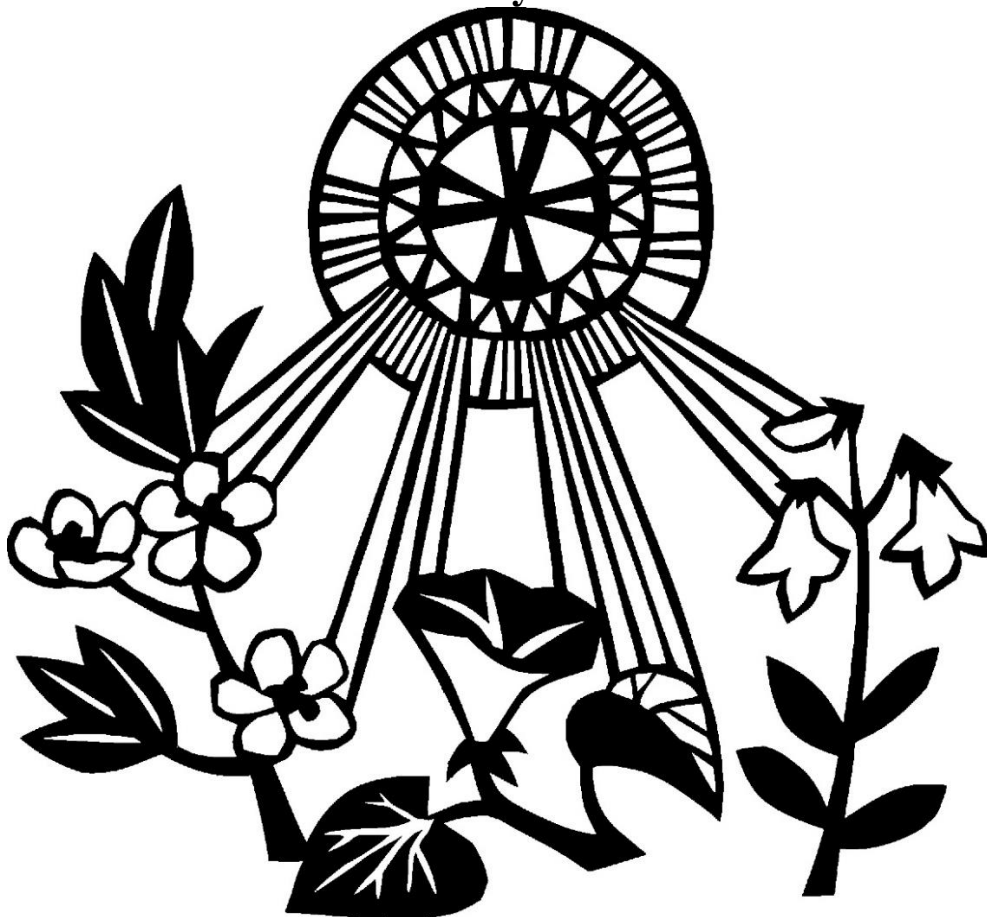


Hope Lutheran Church
2001 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725
Grace Lutheran Church
204 North Main Street Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Phone: 260-244-7118 Fax: 260-248-2138
E-Mail: office.gracelutheran@gmail.com
Web Page: www.gracecolumbiacity.org
Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director
Joyce Dubach, Organist
May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter



Introduction to the day

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup

Attendance for May 3, 2026 – 22

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, St Joesph, Maumee, Eel and Tippecanoe
rivers.

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 408)

Come, Thou Almighty King

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.

Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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- migh- t- 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;



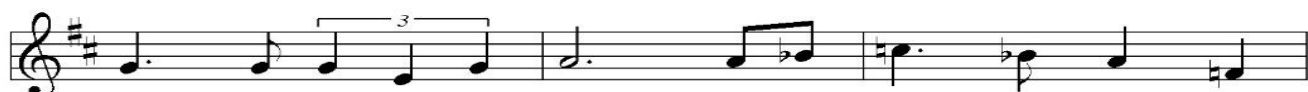
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ 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.
 I
 II 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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good things come: Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by your goodness help us to do them; 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 17:22-31

A reading from Acts.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:7-18

⁷ Bless our ^l God, you peoples;
make the voice of his praise ^l to be heard,

⁸ **who holds our ^l souls in life,
and will not allow our ^l feet to slip.**

⁹ For you, O ^l God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰ **You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹¹ You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through ^l fire and water, but you brought us out into a place ^l of refreshment.

¹² **I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay ^l you my vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I ^l was in trouble.**

¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the ^l smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

- ¹⁴ Come and listen, all you [|] who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has [|] done for me.**
- ¹⁵ I called out to him [|] with my mouth,
and his praise was [|] on my tongue.
- ¹⁶ If I had found evil [|] in my heart,
the Lord would [|] not have heard me;**
- ¹⁷ but in truth [|] God has heard me;
he has attended to the voice [|] of my prayer.
- ¹⁸ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his [|] love from me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

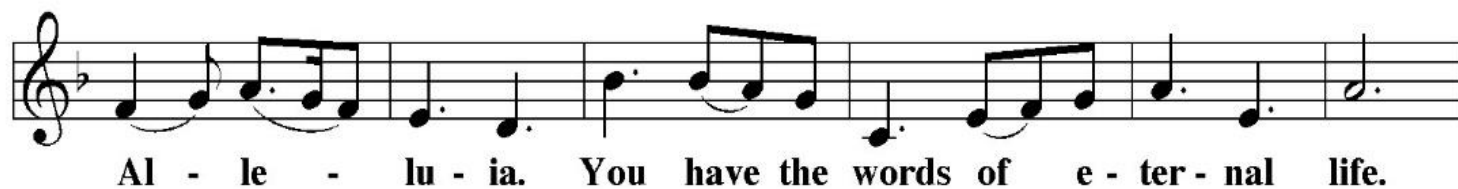
A reading from 1 Peter.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow

HYMN OF THE DAY Loving Spirit (ELW 397)

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version

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,
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.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. 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.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

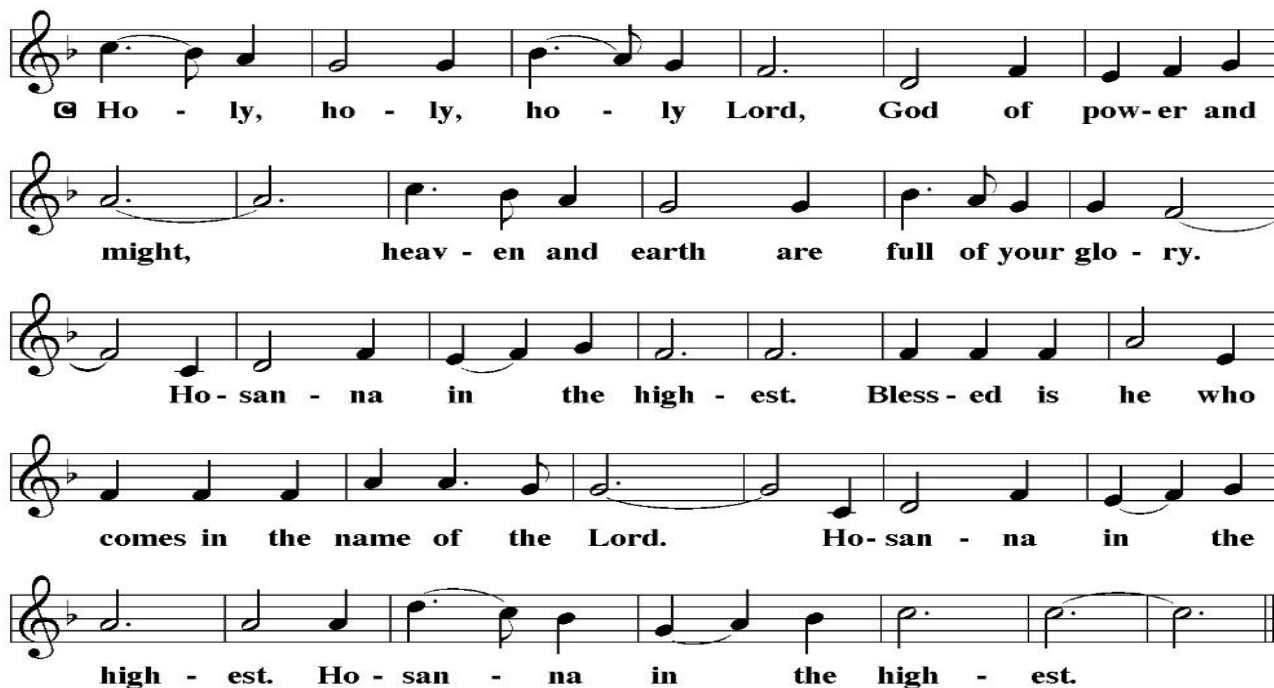
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

(Everyone is welcome to come to the communion table. If you have not received instruction in the Sacraments, come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like to receive communion where you are seated in the pews, please tell the usher and at the close of communion you will be served.)

*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 Waterlife (ELW 457)

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950 Music: Handt Hanson

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 WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED (ELW 449)

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - MAY- The Center

- Church office will be closed Friday May 15th. If you need something please call the church office and leave a voicemail, or email the church office. Preschool staff will be in Indy for professional development training.
- Adelphi Group will be hosting a Garage sale this year at Grace. August 6,7,8, 2026. They will start to collect things the first week end in July.

- **Church Council Synod Meeting**

The ELCA Synod meeting will be June 6th. This will be an online meeting so you can do it from home in your PJ's if you wish. We need one female and one male to attend from our congregation. There is a fee which will be paid by the church. Please see Pastor Matt if you can help fill this obligation.

- **INDIANA-KENTUCKY SYNOD YOUTH MISSION TRIP**

- **June 14–20, 2026 | Indianapolis, Indiana**

- Get ready for a week of service, growth, and unforgettable experiences in Indianapolis! Youth and adult mentors will spend the week serving alongside inspiring local ministries and nonprofit organizations, putting faith into action through meaningful, hands-on opportunities to love and serve our neighbors.
- This mission trip will be a chance to make a real difference, build new friendships, deepen faith, and discover more about what it means to follow Jesus in everyday life. Along the way, participants will also enjoy evening activities that highlight the culture, energy, and diversity of Indiana's largest city.
- Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Carmel will serve as host site for the week. This trip is open to students in grades 7–12 and adult mentors. Cost: \$250 per person. The cost is all-inclusive except for travel to Indianapolis. Scholarships are available.
- Come be part of a week that will challenge you, inspire you, and remind you that God can use every one of us to make a difference.
- Garage sale August 6-8. @ Grace. Donations can be dropped off starting the first week in July.

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mothers Day

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday May 12, 2026

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Staff Meeting 3:40 pm

3082 6:30 pm

Wednesday May 13, 2026

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Voucher 4 pm

Thursday May 14, 2026

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday May 15, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

No school

Pre-k Development Day

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday May 16, 2026

Sunday May 17, 2026

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

Girl scouts 2 pm

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.