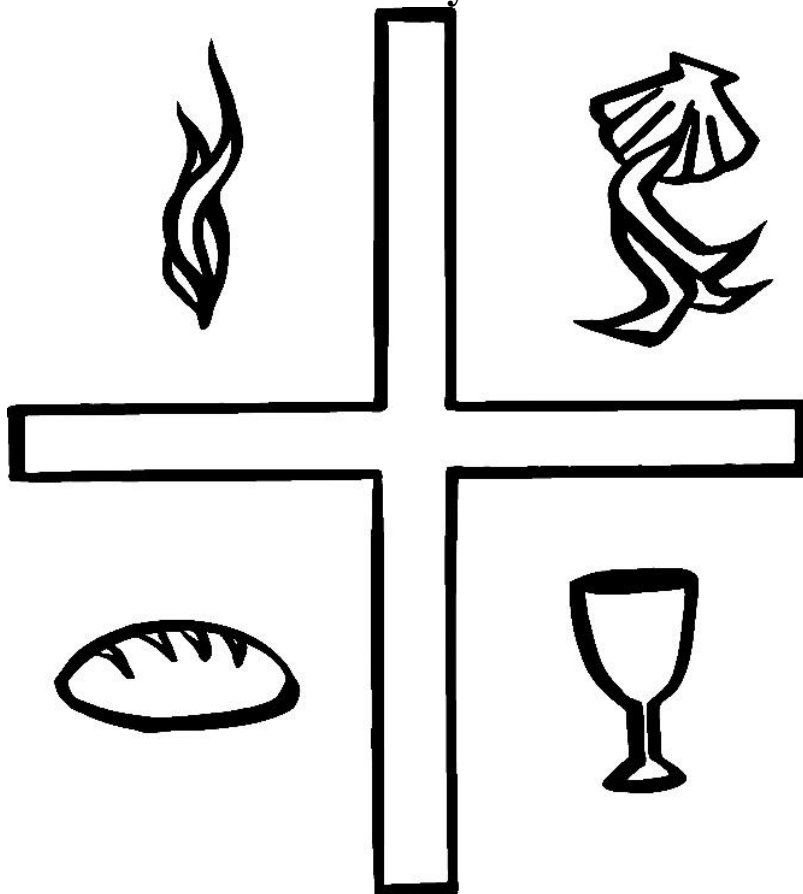


Hope Lutheran Church
2001 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725
Grace Lutheran Church
204 North Main Street Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Phone: 260-244-7118 Fax: 260-248-2138
E-Mail: office.gracelutheran@gmail.com
Web Page: www.gracecolumbiacity.org
Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor
Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director
Joyce Dubach, Organist
May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter



Introduction to the day

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup

Attendance for May 10, 2026 –

PRELUDE

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

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

God Is Here!

(ELW 526)

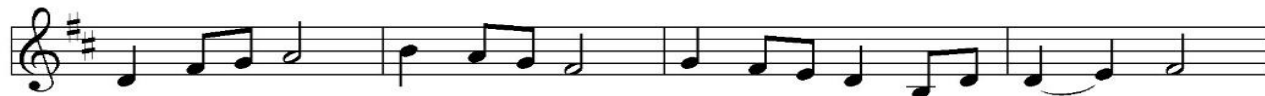
Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

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- ty 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;



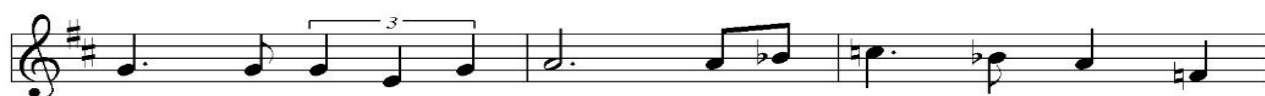
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ 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.

Almighty and eternal God, your Son our Savior is with you in eternal glory. Give us faith to see that, true to his promise, he is among us still, and will be with us to the end of time; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

A reading from Acts.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

¹ Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him | flee before him.

² **Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives | it away;
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides up- | on the
heavens; YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!**

⁵ Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy | habitation!

⁶ **God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners | into freedom; but
the rebels shall live | in dry places.**

⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the ¹ God of Sinai,**

at the presence of God, the ¹ God of Israel.

⁹ You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon ¹ your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when ¹ it was weary.

¹⁰ **Your people found their ¹ home in it;**
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision ¹ for the poor.

³³ Sing to God, O kingdoms ¹ of the earth;
sing praises ¹ to the Lord.

³⁴ **He rides in the heavens, the ¹ ancient heavens;**
he sends forth his voice, his ¹ mighty voice.

³⁵ Ascribe power to God;
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is ¹ in the skies.

³⁶ **How wonderful is God in his ¹ holy places, the God of Israel giving strength
and power to his people! ¹ Blessed be God!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

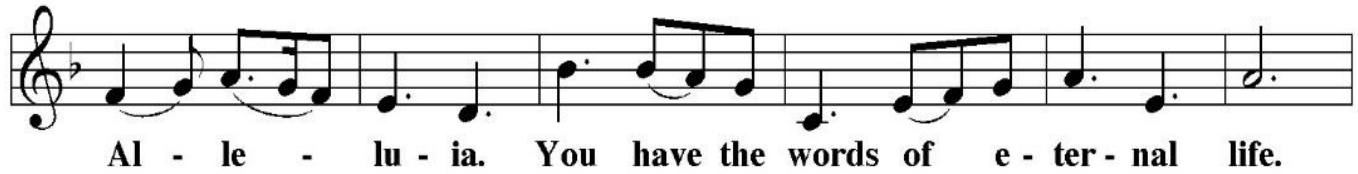
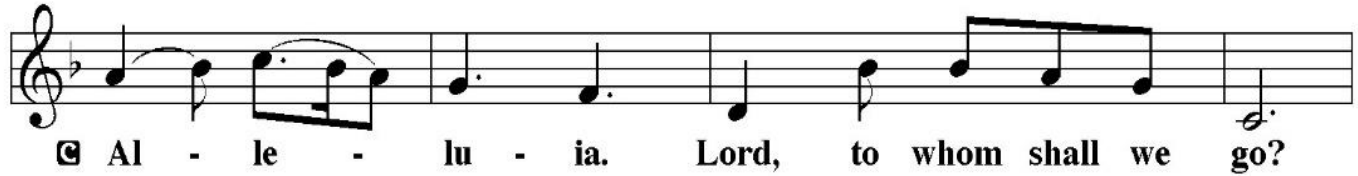
⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

HYMN OF THE DAY

(ELW 394)

Ascension Verse Hail Thee, Festival Day!

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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.

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. 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



bles - sing. 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, through Christ our Lord; who, after his resurrection, appeared openly to his disciples and, in their sight, was taken up into heaven, that he might make us partakers of his divine nature. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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

(ELW 463)

Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed

Text: William H. Turton, 1856–1938, alt. Music: Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

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 657)

RISE, O SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958

Music: Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - MAY- The Center

- May 20th and 21st from 11 until 1:30 pm, The church office will be closed, as the preschool teachers will be having a picnic with their students. If you need something please call the church office, and leave a message, or email the church office.
- **As we approach the graduation of our daughter, Ellie Driver, we want to personally invite you to celebrate her high school success and achievement. Please join us on June 6th, 2p-6p. 5674 North 350 East Columbia City.**
- 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.

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, May 18, 2026

Pre-k field Day/ Last day of 3day
Helping hands 12:30 pm
Scouting America Troop 84 6:30 pm
AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday May 19, 2026

Pre-k field Day/ Last day of 2day
T.O.P.S 9:30 am
Care team 10:30 am
Adelphi group 11:30 am
Staff Meeting 3:40 pm
Pre-k graduation tu/th 6 pm
3082 6:30 pm

Wednesday May 20, 2026

Men's Breakfast 8 am
Food Pantry 12 pm
Voucher 4 pm
Pre-k graduation M/W/F half day 6 pm

Thursday May 21, 2026

Pre-k graduation M/W/F All day 6 pm
AA 7:30 pm
Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday May 22, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday May 23, 2026

Sunday May 24, 2026

Pentecost

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.