

Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN – May 3, 2026
5th Sunday of Easter



And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. John 14: 13

Service Notes: Prayer cards are available in your pews for the sharing of Joys and Concerns. You can give them to Sandy Garcia. We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in **BOLD**. *Indicates when to stand in body or spirit.

Worship Volunteers: Worship Leader: Pastor Sandy Garcia – Lay Leader: Bob Bausser – Children’s Message: Cindy Bowers – Ushers: Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling – Tech: Tom & Stacey Monnier – Counters: Cathy German & Stacey Monnier – Pianist: Sue Creager – Choir Director: Tom Callahan.

Prelude — *Communion* by Jordan

Welcome

***Call to Worship —**

Do not let your hearts be troubled.

We come trusting in God's promises.

Christ prepares a place for us and walks with us even now.

We hold onto Christ, our way, our truth, and our life.

Come, let us worship God.

Let us worship with hope and trust.

***Opening Hymn — #157 “I Danced in the Morning”**

***Call to Confession —**

Jesus says, “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” Yet we confess that we often live in fear, struggling to trust the path before us. Let us bring our hearts honestly before God.

***Prayer of Confession —**

Gracious God, we confess that we do not always trust you. When the future feels uncertain, we cling to fear instead of your promises. When the path is unclear, we rely on ourselves instead of following Christ. We hold tightly to control rather than holding onto you. Forgive us, O God. Calm our troubled hearts, and teach us to trust in your presence and your way. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession

***Assurance of Pardon –**

Hear the good news: Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. In him, we are forgiven, restored, and held in love.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Song of Assurance #581 “Gloria Patri”

***Passing the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Children’s Message

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, that as your Word is read and proclaimed, we may hear your voice and learn to trust your promises. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

p.1704

55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 14:1-14

p.1675

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[a]; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus the Way to the Father

5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

8 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

9 Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. 12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Message

Hold Onto Me

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy

Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn of Response — #839 “Blessed Assurance”

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Loving God, you tell us, “Do not let your hearts be troubled,” yet we come to you carrying much. We pray for your Church—that we may trust your promises and reflect your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the world—for places of fear and conflict. Bring your peace and guide all leaders. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those in need—the sick, the grieving, the weary. Hold them close and remind them they are not alone.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves—for the fears we carry. Help us to trust you and hold onto your promises.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Faithful God, you are the way, the truth, and the life. Hold us in your care, now and always.

Transition to the Table

And now, as a people held in God’s love, we come to the table—not because we have it all together, but because Christ holds onto us.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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 thanks and praise.

It is truly right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O God, who holds us even when we are afraid. You are the One who walks with your people through uncertainty, who speaks peace to troubled hearts, and who leads us in the way of life. When we lose our way, you do not abandon us. When fear takes hold, you remain near. And so, with all the saints—with Stephen and all who have trusted you in life and in death—We join our voices in praise:

#566 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things. By your power and love, you continue to deliver your people from bondage, thwart the designs of evil, show the way through the wilderness, turn hardship into righteousness, and reveal your hand upholding the just.

Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe. You came among us to feed and heal and teach, to confound the haughty, to confuse the deceivers, to challenge the wrong-hearted, and, in all these things, to give hope to those who long for peace.

Remembering our Lord’s self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of

faith:

#557 “Christ Has Died, Christ is Risen”

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life. You give us words when we have none; you fill us with vision when we have the most need; you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour. Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace, Spirit of Love, Breath of Life. Bring to this hurting world the joy that Mary knew, and teach us to proclaim with her, “I have seen the Lord.”

#558 “Amen”

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took the bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of

sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, You have met us at this table and reminded us that we are not alone. Strengthen us to trust you more deeply, to hold onto your promises, and to follow Christ in all that we do. Send us out in peace and courage. Amen.

Call to Offering

God meets us with grace and calls us into new life. In gratitude for all that God has given, let us offer our gifts—so that others, too, may know hope, healing, and love.

Offertory — *Blessed Assurance* by Knapp

***Doxology** #609 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

***Prayer of Dedication** —

Let us pray: Generous God, we offer these gifts with thankful hearts. Use them to bring life where there is loss, hope where there is grief, and love where it is most needed. May all that we give be a reflection of your grace at work in the world. In Christ’s name, Amen.

Announcements

*Closing Hymn – #840 “When Peace Like a River”

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude – *Episode in G Minor* by Ritter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Care Network Training: The training for our volunteers in the IU CCN program will be following the service this Sunday.

Pace of Grace Running & Walking Club: We are starting something new, a running and walking club. This club will meet weekly on Sundays at 1:00 PM here at Grace. This opportunity is open to the public.

SCRIP: We are selling SCRIP this Sunday. Find John Current for more information.

Joint Service: We will be hosting the annual Presbyterian Joint Service on May 24. There will even be a pupusa food truck following the service.

Annual Congregational Life Tin Caps Outing: Everyone is invited to Grace’s Annual Tin Caps Outing. The game is May 10th. The cost for a ticket is \$30. We will be in a concourse suite which will include access to a taco bar. Deadline to reserve your spot is April 26th. There a sign up in the narthex or reach out to Tammy Menkes.

Spanish Club: Everyone is invited to join the club. Thursdays at Grace, 5:30 PM. Learn some Spanish while hanging out with Sandy Garcia, or practice what you already know.

Prayer Requests

- Prayers of peace for the family of Kale. May comfort surround them.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for Butch, Sue's nephew, as he deals with his cancer.
- Prayers for Hidi with her upcoming ordination exams.
- Prayers for You to be with us, our country, and the world during these troubling times.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Worship Volunteers for May 10, 2026

Lay Leader – Pam Callahan

Children's Message – Katie Lochre

Ushers – Nancy Current, Rachel Lilly, & Bill Werling

Technology – Stacey Monnier & Tom Monnier

Counters – Cathy German & Stacey Monnier

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

157 I Danced in the Morning

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The
4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †

(Em) (A)
Gm C

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me, †

(Em) (A7) (G) (D)
Gm C7 B^b F

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
came with me and the dance went on.
left me there on a cross to die.
I am the dance and I still go on.
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

This 20th-century ballad-like retelling of the life of Christ, though written for this Shaker tune, has many similarities with the pre-Reformation carol "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day." Such narrative carols were common both at Christmas and as part of medieval mystery plays.

TEXT: Sydney Carter, 1963
MUSIC: American Shaker melody; adapt. Sydney Carter, 1963
Text and Music: © 1963 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

LORD OF THE DANCE
Irregular

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

Refrain

(F#m) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (D) (Bm)
 Am Dm Am Dm F Dm

Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

(Em) (A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)
 Gm C F Dm F C7 F

Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher-ev - er you may be,

(Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 Gm C7 F B^b F

and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

The image shows a musical score for a song titled "JESUS CHRIST: LIFE". It consists of three staves of music in a single system, all written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is labeled "Refrain" and contains six measures of music with chords: (F#m) Am, (Bm) Dm, (F#m) Am, (Bm) Dm, (D) F, and (Bm) Dm. The lyrics "Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the" are written below the first staff. The second staff contains seven measures of music with chords: (Em) Gm, (A) C, (D) F, (Bm) Dm, (D) F, (A7) C7, and (D) F. The lyrics "Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher-ev - er you may be," are written below the second staff. The third staff contains five measures of music with chords: (Em) Gm, (A7) C7, (D) F, (G) B^b, and (D) F. The lyrics "and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he." are written below the third staff. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with eighth and quarter notes.

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

Sometimes this prolific 19th-century hymnwriter wrote texts for others to set, and sometimes she created words for tunes others had composed. This text was of the second kind, and the resulting close fit between words and music has made them both popular and inseparable.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

KOREAN

- 1 예수를 내가 주로 믿어
성령과 괴로써 거듭나니
이세상에서 내 영혼이
하늘의 영광 누리도다
- 후렴 이것이 나의 간증이요
이것이 나의 찬송일세
나사는 동안 끊임없이
예수 내 구주 찬송하리
- 2 온전히 주께 맡긴 내영
온전한 기쁨을 누리면서
자비와 사랑 속삭이는
하늘의 천사 보리로다 후렴
- 3 예수께 맡긴 나의 영혼
주안에 복되고 평안하니
세상도 없고 나도 없고
사랑의 주만 보이도다 후렴

840 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought. My
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well It is well with my soul;
 with my soul;

This text is a remarkable expression of faith born of grief. The author, an active Presbyterian layman who had just lost four daughters in a tragic shipwreck, wrote it while sailing to Paris to meet his wife, who had survived. The tune was named for the ship that sank.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

it is well; it is well with my soul.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Trusting in the Promises of God". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics "it is well; it is well with my soul." are written below the treble staff. The music ends with a double bar line.

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