

Grace United Methodist Church



April 28, 2024 - 10:00AM

**Order of Worship
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Grace United Methodist Church is a Family of Faith
striving to share God's love with all.**

****Please Stand If You Are Able***

Opening Voluntary – A Garden Sunrise
D. Paxton

Choral Introit

Welcome/Greetings

***Call to Worship**

L: As members of Christ's tree of life,

P: we are connected, in love, to God.

L: As members of Christ's tree of life,

P: we are connected, in love, to one another.

L: As members of Christ's tree of life,

P: we strengthen our connection through worship.

***Opening Hymn #2236 "Gather Us In"**
GATHER US IN

(Faith We Sing Hymnal)

* Opening Prayer

Loving God, send your Spirit among us now. Bind us to you in love this day, that we may worship in unity and friendship. Bind us to you in love this hour, that we may be strengthened to bring abundant love to your world. In love and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Scriptures

Epistle - 1 John 4:7-21

⁷ Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. ⁸ The person who doesn't love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. ¹² No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and his love is made perfect in us. ¹³ This is how we know we remain in him and he remains in us, because he has given us a measure of his Spirit. ¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the savior of the world. ¹⁵ If any of us confess that Jesus is God's Son, God remains in us and we remain in God. ¹⁶ We have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. ¹⁷ This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because God first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God" and hate their brothers or sisters are liars. After all, those who don't love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen can hardly love God whom they have not seen! ²¹ This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also.

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. P: **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel – John 15:1-8 *(Please stand if you are able)*

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't

produce fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. P: **Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn before Message #402** – “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”
I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Message

Pastor Penny Gadzini

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer and Choral Response

Prayer of Confession

Speak truth to our hearts, O God. Speak love to our lives, that we may remain in your love and share your love joyously with others. Speak grace to our souls, that we may rest in your grace and forgive others as we have been forgiven. Speak mercy to our world, that all the world may know your love and find redemption in your grace. In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

God's promises are sure. The promises of forgiveness, grace, and love are true. In Christ's love and grace, we are forgiven and made new.

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Abiding in God's love, let's share signs of love and peace with one another.

Invitation to Tithes and Offerings

Connected in love, let us share our love offerings with Christ's church and God's world.

Choral Selection - Unto God, *J. Raney*

***Hymn No. 95** - Presentation of the Offering

***Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, bless these gifts with love. Transform lives with our ministries, that your people everywhere might know your grace, abide in your love, and connect with Christ, the vine of life. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #571 – “Go, Make of All Disciples”**

LANCASHIRE

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Closing Voluntary – Allegro, *E. M. Flavell*

(Please remain seated for the Closing Voluntary)

Pastor: Penny Gadzini, Pastor	Counting Team: Everett Fitch
Liturgist/Reader: Matt Roth	Ushers: Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano
Director of Music: Kenneth Richardson	Audio-Tech: Brandon Gauntlett



♥†♦Family of Karen Kiernan, ♥†Family of Dr. A.B.A Prempeh (Pat Eshun's brother), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Jasmin Whittaker, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Veronica Stone (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Eugene (Gene) O'Brien, ♥Hedy Kling, ♥Gene Marks, ♥Declan Jurgens, ♥Pat Hamilton, ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥David Biegler, ♥Vivian (4 months old) Peeples and sister Emilia (4 years old) Peeples, ♥Mary Turbeville (cousin of Lenore Kurz), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle, ♥Michael Ciampi (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Suella Fredrick (friend of Lorna McKenzie), ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Ken Richardson, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Milly Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske). **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for two weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

REMINDERS

Every Wednesday – Bible Study 7:30PM/Zoom

Every Saturday – Prayer Meeting 8AM/Zoom

The Zoom info is the same every week. A reminder is emailed with the Zoom info.

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

21 South Franklin Avenue, Valley Stream, NY 11580

Church Phone Number: 516/825-1182; Church E-mail: GraceVSNY@aol.com