



A Place of Grace

A Newsletter for and about Grace Church

April 16, 2026

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

I couldn't have said this any better, so I decided not to try. Here is this month's reflection and I hope it blesses each of you during this Easter tide! Thank you Sr. Rosemary.

Love,

Pastor Ken~

He is Risen Indeed!

Everyday Easter

We live Easter pondering on the graces obtained through our pains and struggles, with joy and celebration. I want to sustain this joy, but after a short while I tend to forget that there is a season for everything—and whatever happens is for my good—and I begin complaining again. I am invited to the realization of the end to which the suffering points. It brings me closer to God and my fellow human beings, and a time to appreciate people I sometimes take for granted.

Easter reminds me of the times when people have been there for me: during the long illness of a loved one, the loss of a loved one, or even the wedding of a loved one, when I could not have managed on my own.

Humanity is the same, the world over, and Easter is a reminder of how much we need one another. The end of one problem should mark another Easter, earning us more favor with God and with fellow human beings. This becomes a cause for sustained joy since with every "Good Friday" challenge is an Easter: The problems will pass, and we will have a reason to celebrate.

Let the realization of the love of God, who gave his only begotten son so that those who believe in him might not perish but might have eternal life (John 3:16), mark our renewed relationship with God that has its peak at Easter.

Then every day becomes Easter, and our spiritual drought becomes a thing of the past since the joy of Easter continues to water our hearts sustaining our inner lives. Arise with the risen Lord and cheer up! Be happy, not because there are no challenges, but because this is the path to our true happiness.

Sr. Rosemary Wanyoike, Wisdom from the Global Sisterhood



THIS MONTH AT GRACE

Sundays

Worship at 10:00 a.m.

We are on Facebook Live and YouTube!

Mondays

Women's Bible Study – 2nd and 4th Monday 6:30 p.m.

AA Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

TOPS – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays

Service at MediLodge – 10 a.m.

2nd Wednesday, Lunch and Fellowship – 12:00 p.m.

Service at Village Manor – 4:00 p.m.

Open Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

AA Meeting - 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Thursdays

New Creations – 4:30 p.m.

Council Meeting – 2nd Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Fridays

AA Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.



Pentecost Sunday – May 24, 2026

What is Pentecost and why do we celebrate it?



"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." — Acts 2:1-4"

In the Bible, Pentecost was originally a Jewish feast known as the Feast of Weeks. It was celebrated 50 days after Passover and was associated with the harvest. This explains why many people from different regions were present in Jerusalem in Acts 2.

For Christians, Pentecost took on a deeper meaning.

It became the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the followers of Jesus. This event marked the beginning of the spread of the Christian message. It was not planned by human effort. It began with divine action.

Why it matters.

- Birth of the Church — The Holy Spirit empowered believers to spread the gospel
- Fulfillment of prophecy — Joel 2:28-32 was fulfilled
- The Spirit for all — Not just prophets, but all believers received the Spirit
- Power for witness — 3,000 were saved that day

Each year, Pentecost reminds believers of the same event recorded in Acts 2. It marks the moment when fear turned into boldness and when a small group became a growing movement.

**Grace will decorate the altar with red geraniums again this year.
Be on the lookout for order forms.**

Monthly Devotion

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise him. Psalm 28:7

This verse depicts a beautiful scene of joy that fills the heart when one relies on God. In the journey of life, we often face various challenges and difficulties. At such times, we need a power that surpasses our own abilities, a power that can only come from God. God is our strong support and a firm shield, protecting us from all evil and allowing us to dwell in safety under His care. When we experience God's help and protection, our hearts are filled with gratitude and joy. This joy is not merely superficial emotions but deep gratitude and praise that wells up from within our hearts for God.

May we entrust everything to God, and rely on His strength. In His love, we will find true joy, not only because He is our helper but also because He is our sole Savior, deserving of our reliance and praise.

Walk in the Light Devotions

the *Lord*
is my
Strength
and my
Shield
Psalm 28:7

May Day - Friday, May 1, 2026

May Day originated as an ancient European festival celebrating the arrival of spring.

May Day, celebrated on May 1, has roots in ancient European traditions marking the beginning of summer roughly halfway between the spring equinox and midsummer solstice. Early celebrations included the Roman festival Floralia honoring Flora, the goddess of flowers, with theatrical performances, games and fertility rituals. In Celtic regions, the Gaelic festival Beltane marked the start of summer with bonfires, flower gathering and rituals to promote fertility and protect livestock. The traditions often involved dancing, decorating homes with greenery and crowning a May Queen.



Do you remember making May Day flowers in school?



What's Happening at Grace?

Graceful Hands has been busy once again!

They made "Egg" pockets with goodies for New Creation kids for their Easter celebration on March 26, 2026. Each egg held an invitation to Easter service for outreach.

They are working on placemats for Greg Stiles to deliver to his Meals on Wheels folks.

They will be working with a new charity mission called "The Luke Clinic" which is based out of Whitmore Lake and serves the Detroit area by making and providing baby quilts and blankets for their Baby Bundles which are given to the new mothers they are servicing.

They will continue to make items to sell at our Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 8 right after church service. The money raised will be used to feed identified Livingston County needy families a holiday meal.

The **Outreach Team** has also been busy. Adopt-a-Highway is Saturday, April, 18, 2026. Contact the office if you would like to help.

Tom Shallhorn is putting together a group to go to Homeplate. See Tom or the bulletin board for more information.

The Outreach Team will supply goodies on April 30, 2026, for the teachers at Challenger Elementary for Teacher Appreciation Week.

The **Property Team** has been busy sprucing up the Church. They insulated the Fellowship Hall furnace air intake, installed a new relief valve on the Fellowship Hall hot water heater and filled potholes in the entrance driveway.

Thank you to all the teams that make Grace a great place to worship!