

The Lord himself goes before you
and will be with you;
he will never leave you nor forsake you.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.
Deuteronomy 31:8

The Graduation of the Class of 2021
Grace Lutheran School
River Forest, Illinois
June 2, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church and School

We are glad that you have joined us for this evening's worship service.

Please refrain from taking photos during the service and silence all cell phones and pagers.

For those who have trouble hearing, sound enhancement units are available in the back of the church.

GRADUATION SERVICE

CLASS OF 2021

JUNE 2, 2021, 6:30 P.M.

PRELUDE

Aria

Paul Manz

FACULTY PROCESSION

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Johann Pachelbel

PROCESSION OF GRADUATES

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesus, joy of man's desiring
Is my refuge and my stay.
Him, I love, he is my lifespring
And my health and strength always.
His great love doth help me daily.
Ah, my Jesus is my friend.
Him I trust on him depend.

We stand.

GREETING

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** We gather with joy and thanksgiving
to celebrate with these students as they graduate from
Grace Lutheran School and to worship God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
C have mercy and hear us.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

L Show us your mercy, O Lord,

C and grant us your salvation.

L Clothe your ministers with righteousness.

C Let your people sing with joy.

L Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

C for only in you can we live in safety.

L Lord, keep this nation under your care,

C and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

L Let your way be known upon earth;

C your saving health among all nations.

L Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten,

C nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

L Create in us clean hearts, O God,

C and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, we give you thanks
for calling these young men and women your own.
As they graduate from this school
and enter into a new phase in their lives,
we ask that you continue to strengthen them with your Holy Spirit,
and daily increase in them your gifts of grace:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 31:8

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you;
he will never leave you nor forsake you.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Psalm 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

²Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

³Know that the LORD is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

⁵For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THIRD READING: James 1:2–3

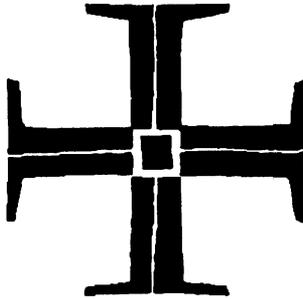
²My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; ⁴and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

ADDRESS

Mr. Dan Hogan and Mrs. Sara Hogan



We stand.

HYMN: Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh; arr. R. Vaughan Williams

Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda

We sit.

PASTORAL BLESSING

Pastor David R. Lyle

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

Ms. Lisa Wolfanger

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS

Mr. Bill Koehne

Mr. James Claud

*Out of respect for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ,
we hold all applause until all members of the class
have received their diplomas.*

PRESENTATION OF CLASS GIFT

CLASS SONG: Simple Gifts

Traditional Shaker Melody
arr. Michael D. Costello

We stand.

PRAYER

- ☐ We give thanks to you, heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ your dear Son,
that you have this day so graciously protected us.
We beg you to forgive us all our sins
and the wrong which we have done.
By your great mercy defend us from all the perils
and dangers of this night.
Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls, and all that is ours.
Let your holy angels have charge of us,
that the wicked one have no power over us.
- ☑ **Amen.**

- L** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **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.**

CHORAL BLESSING: As You Go on Your Way

James Engel

Now as you go on your way may God be with you;
May he go before you to show you the way;
May he go behind you to encourage you;
May he walk beside you to befriend you;
May he be above you to watch over you;
And may he be within you to grant you peace.

Conrad Thompson

BENEDICTION

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** Almighty God: Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. Oh, re - fresh us;
in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

- L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Paul Manz

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Leader: The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, Associate Pastor
Preacher: The Rev. David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor
Organist: The Rev. Michael D. Costello, Cantor
Soloist: Ms. Janel Dennen, Music Teacher
Speakers: Mr. Dan Hogan and Mrs. Sara Hogan
Videographer: Mr. Al Swanson
Sound Board Operator: Ms. Julie Hinz

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Lisa Wolfanger, MS

GRADUATES

Tudor Abuzatoaic
Aea Betinis
Emanuel Betinis
Audrey Chizzo
Anne Claud
Morgan Daly
Dawn Dominis
Seilah Feliciano
Anthony Fye, Jr.
Jacob Hoffman
Caleb Hogan
Maxwell Holder
Jayla Hoover

Jakayla Hoover
Ayanna Hoskins
Abigail Karolyi
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Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus
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Julie Modrich, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance
Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager

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Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ