

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
May 17, 2015

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH

Lord Jesus Christ, You are seated at the right hand of the Father where You rule the universe and yet there You intercede for me. Through Word and Sacrament You also dwell with me. You have given these gifts to me and to Your Church to give peace, hope and life through the forgiveness of sins. Keep me and all believers steadfast in our faith toward You and our love for our neighbors. Grant that I may be Your witness sharing the Good News of Your suffering, death, resurrection and ascension as the guarantee for eternal life for those who have no hope. In Your name I pray. Amen

WELCOME

Alleluia, Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed, Alleluia! Jesus said, “Holy Father, keep them in your name, which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one.” This is the final Sunday of the Easter cycle which completes our preparation for the special sending of the Holy Spirit which we will observe next Sunday, the Day of Pentecost. **Welcome** to everyone gathered here this morning! It is our prayer that you will be strengthened in your faith through the proclamation of the Gospel. Each Sunday throughout the year is a celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. **We invite you to come and worship with us again.**

We ask that everyone fill out an attendance registration card found at each pew and return it to an Usher as the Offering is collected. Children are welcome in our Service and will be invited to come forward for a Children’s Message. Parents may accompany them if they wish. We have a staffed nursery facility for infants and toddlers located downstairs in this building for anyone who has need. Restroom facilities are located downstairs as well as on this floor level across the bridge before entering the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please speak with an usher or greeter.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be celebrated in the 10:45 Service today. In this sacrament we receive Christ’s very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Those who are not members of Grace are asked to speak with our Pastor before partaking of this sacrament so that the unity of faith might be established. Thank you for honoring this request.

AS WE GATHER

This Sunday is a bridge between the Ascension of Our Lord and Pentecost Sunday. This is a time of waiting and yet not without its own purpose. For the disciples, this was a time of regrouping. The empty spot left by Judas was to be filled by another who was with them a witness of Christ’s ministry, His death and resurrection. Perhaps we would find it daunting to be a successor to Judas, but the Church was not focused backwards rather forward looking. One was chosen, and the Church readied for what God would do on Pentecost according to His promise. God is still choosing us, by the voice of the Gospel which calls, gathers and enlightens us, and in the waters of Holy Baptism He sets us apart as His own and for His glory as He calls us to serve Him and our neighbor.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given today to the glory of God and the beautification of His House by Verna and Shirley Rieve in memory of their father Mr. Fred Rieve and in thanksgiving to the Lord for His many blessings.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor:		Rev. James C. Walter
Director of Parish Music:		Nathan Beethe
Secretary:		Pat Funk
Early Childhood Center Director:		Colleen Moorman
Acolyte:	(8:15)	James Junkans
Cantor:	(8:15)	Joel Junkans
Ushers:	(8:15)	Bobby Bemberg, Daniel Loyd Tim Loyd, Ed Mahnken
Greeter:	(8:15)	Lori Bloom
Altar Guild:	(8:15)	Sandy Price and Robert Jones
Acolyte:	(10:45)	Claire Hammond
Communion Assistant:	(10:45)	Shaun Baker
Cantor:	(10:45)	Ron Krueger
Ushers:	(10:45)	Rudy Bischof, Jeremy Hammond Stacy Johnson, Richard Sanders
Greeter:	(10:45)	Jim and Nancy Wade
Altar Guild:	(10:45)	Beverly Sanders
Coffee Hosts:		The Cline Family
Altar Guild:	(Wed. evening)	Suzanne Raddle and Wilma Richter
Nursery Attendant:		Mary Ann Dyer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS – The appointed readings for next Sunday, May 24th, The Day of Pentecost, are: The Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14, The Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21, and The Gospel Reading: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15.

Grace Lutheran Church
5124 Hillcrest, Little Rock, AR 72205
Mailing address: P. O. Box 250769, Little Rock, AR 72225

www.gracelutheranlr.org
Telephone Number: 501-663-3631

THE ORDER OF MATINS
for
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Pre-Service Music

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good - Sam Eatherton

Lighting of the Chancel Candles

Prelude

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing - John Behnke

Ringling of the Church Bell

Opening Hymn: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493 sts. 1-4

Stand

Ascension Observance

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen**

Collect

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen**

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493 sts. 5-6

Opening Versicles

Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

Antiphon

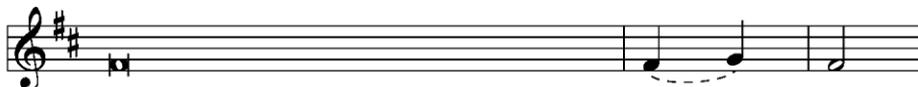
P The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!



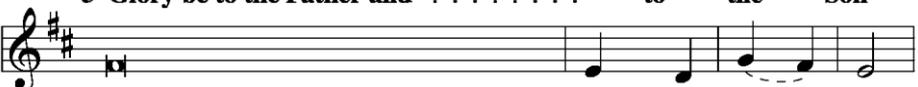
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7



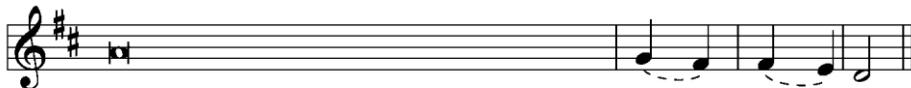
C 1 O come, let us sing	to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a	great God
3 The sea is His, for He	made it,
5 Glory be to the Father and	to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of	our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great	king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand	formed the dry land.
5 and to the	Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon

P The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm

Psalm 1 (antiphon: v. 6)

P For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

C but the way of the wicked will perish.

P Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

C Nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

P but his delight is in the law of the LORD,

C and on his law he meditates day and night.

P He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.

C In all that he does, he prospers.

P The wicked are not so,
C but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

P Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
C nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

P for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
C but the way of the wicked will perish.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen

P For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
C but the way of the wicked will perish.

Sit

Children's Message

Office Hymn: Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819

Readings

First Reading

Acts 1:12–26

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 5:9–15

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 17:11b-19

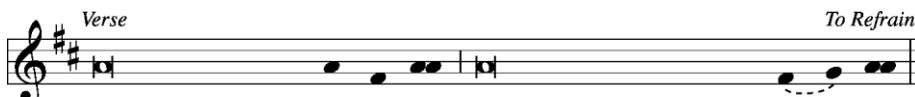
- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The reading of the Holy Gospel.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Responsory

Psalm 96:2; Psalm 29:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:20



- L** 1 Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.
2 Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that sleep.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** Give to the Lord all glo - ry and strength, give Him the



hon - or due His name. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Sit

Sermon

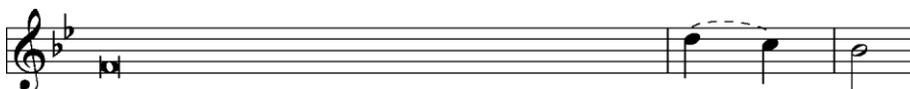
Acts 1:12-26

“Chosen Ones”

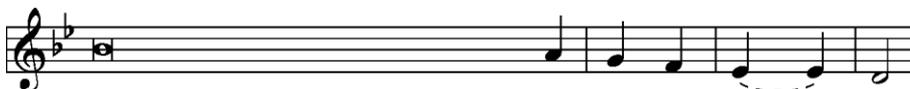
Stand

Canticle

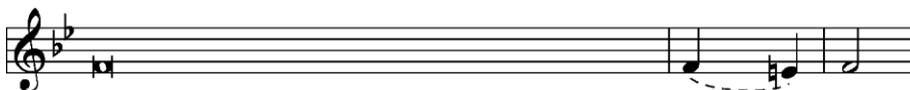
Te Deum



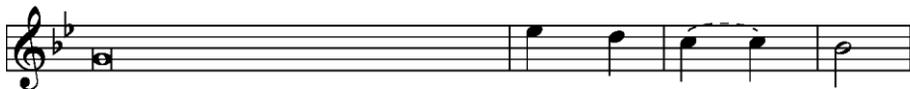
- C** 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.



- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;



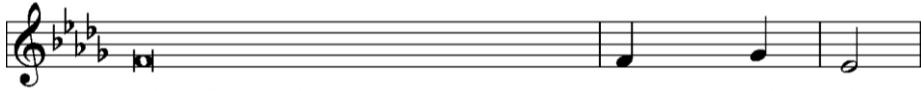
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



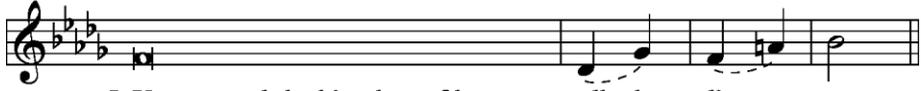
- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



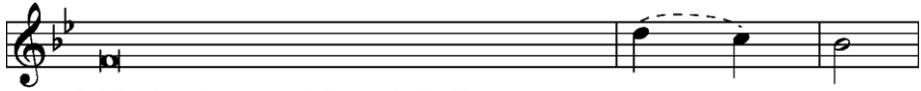
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



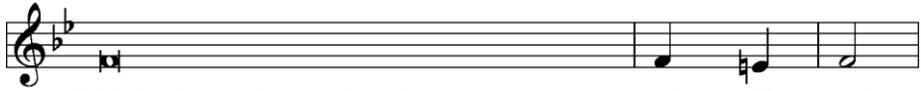
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



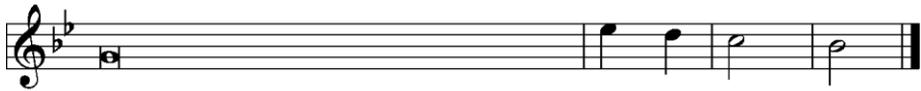
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

Sit

Offering

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good - Keith Kolander

Prayer

Stand

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

P 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

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray. O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends with the following:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with the following:

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen

Collect for Grace

- P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benedicamus

[Psalm 103:1]



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

LSB 466

Postlude

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia - Jonathan Kohrs



Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

SUNDAY:	8:15 a.m. – Matins Fellowship and Coffee in the Parlor 9:45 a.m. – Sunday School and Pastor Walter’s Bible Class 10:45 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion 1:00 p.m. – Chuch Picnic at Reservoir Park
MON - FRI:	7:30 a.m. – Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC)
TUESDAY:	10:00 a.m. – Women’s Bible Class 12:00 noon – Fellowship Club 6:30 p.m. – Adult Choir 7:00 p.m. – Board of Elders
WEDNESDAY:	6:30 a.m. – Men’s Bible Study (St. Vincent’s) 7:00 p.m. – Mid-Week Service
THURSDAY:	7:00 p.m. – Confirmands Questions and Answers Service
SATURDAY:	9:30 a.m. – Confirmation Rehearsal
NEXT SUNDAY:	Confirmation in the 10:45 Service

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL - The account of “Paul and Silas in Prison” serves as the focus of Sunday School today. Just as God freed Paul and Silas from prison, granting them life out of death, so Christ by His crucifixion and resurrection frees me from the prison of my sins and grants me life eternal. Questions for discussion include “*How is this event more than just a story about Paul’s escape from prison?*” and “*How has God rescued us from the prison of sin?*”

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for children ages 3 years through 6th grade meet in the lower level of the Family Life Center. **JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES** meet in classrooms downstairs in the church.

PASTOR WALTER’S CLASS meets upstairs in the Family Life Center in Parker Hall. Pastor Walter continues a study from the series **God’s Word for Today: Galatians – The Cost of Freedom.** Today Pastor Walter will continue with **Lesson 4 – “The First Proof-The Gospel Works.”**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD’S BLESSINGS TO:

May 18 – Robert Grant

May 19 – Luke Eustice, Casey Jenkins, Emma Lile, Bowman Stein, Sandy Sweeney

May 21 – Sandy Price

May 23 – Cole Jenkins

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO:

May 18 – Carmen and Drew Stewart

May 20 – Angie and Gary Proud

May 21 – Karen and Roy Bullard, Lindsay and Jarrod Zweifel

May 22 – Lauren and Craig Schluterman

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Milo Witte is recovering this week following surgery.

Ruth Whitney is recovering from a broken ankle.

Irvin Clawitter is in rehab at Baptist Rehabilitation Center.

Verna Rieve is in rehab at Briarwood Nursing and Rehab Center.

Warren Rivers continues his recovery at home.

Joan Ann Olsen is in The Lakes at Maumelle Health and Rehab.

Dennis Fastenau is continuing chemotherapy treatment.

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP – Attendance: Sunday 5/10: 225 (8:15 – 137 and 10:45 – 88). Mid-Week Service 5/13: 13. **Offerings:** Sunday 5/10: \$11,267.00. Mid-Week 5/6: \$110.00. Memorials: \$100.00. Building Fund: \$140.00. Scholarship Fund: \$1,025.00.

CONGRATULATIONS to Tim and April Allaben on the birth of their son Weston Gray on May 6th. Weston has a big brother Will, and his grandparents are Bill and Anita Allaben. Congratulations and God's blessings to the Allaben family.

BOARD OF ELDERS will meet on Tuesday, May 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Carter Stein is the director.

FELLOWSHIP CLUB will meet on **Tuesday, May 19th, at 12:00 noon** in Parker Hall for a delicious lunch served by our ACTS friends. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship. Call the church office for more information.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION ON KAVANAUGH - On Monday, May 18th, Diamond Construction will start on the relay of a sewer main servicing this area. The project will last approximately 4 days (weather permitting) and will require a full closure of Kavanaugh between L Street and North Lookout. Access to the church and ECDC will be maintained although detoured if needed for the duration of the project. We urge you to access Grace by going east on Lee Street to Beechwood, turn left on Beechwood going across Kavanaugh to Hillcrest. Turn left on Hillcrest and come to the church.

CONFIRMATION - Five of our young people will publicly confess their faith in Jesus Christ by the **Rite of Confirmation** next Sunday, **Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, in the 10:45 Service**. Their **Question and Answer Service** will be this **Thursday, May 21st, at 7:00 p.m.** Our confirmands are Mason Henry Andrews, Lauren Victoria Faulkner, Anna Katherine Manchester, Jack Michael Manchester and Alex Madison Roberts.

BOARD OF ENDOWMENT is currently accepting applications for scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year. Applicants must be attending a Lutheran University or Seminary to be eligible. Applications are available through the church office. If you are currently receiving a scholarship from Grace, we ask that you update us with your fall plans. **All applications due by May 30th.** *Rudy Bischof, Director, Board of Endowment*

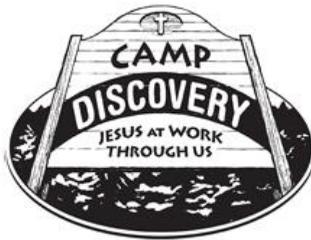
OUR GRADUATES - In the **June Newsletter** we will be publishing the names of all those who are graduating from junior high, high school or college this spring. We would also like to know of any awards or scholarships you have received, and if you are graduating from high school, please share your plans for after graduation. Please call the church office with this information or e-mail it to Pat at patfunk@gracelutheranlr.org.

FOOD PANTRY - Our food pantry is currently at low levels. Please consider picking up a couple of items for sharing with those who have need. We especially like to have for distribution canned or bagged meats like tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages, and Spam. We can use vegetable, chicken or beef soups, but we do not need any “cream of” type soups. Canned ravioli or other Italian items that can be micro-waved are also good items for us to have. Canned vegetables and fruit are also welcomed as are packs of pudding and boxes of cereal. A table will be set up on the bridge for you to place your food pantry items. Thank you in advance for helping us to assist others.

MEMORIALS -

IN MEMORY OF MRS. SHERRY BISCHOF
TO THE SHERRY BISCHOF MEMORIAL FUND
By Rudy Bischof

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Grace Lutheran Church
June 7 - 11, 2015



Registration is now open for our **Camp Discovery: Jesus at Work Through Us VBS**. The dates are **June 7-11 from 5:30-8:15 p.m.** A light supper for the children will be served each evening. Registration forms can be found in the breezeway. Registration forms can be placed on the table in the breezeway or mailed to the church office.

Please contact Catherine Manchester (cmanchester@icloud.com) or Diane Roberts (di4hogs@yahoo.com) with any questions.

**ANNUAL GRACE FAMILY
CONGREGATION-WIDE PICNIC**

Sunday, May 17th

1:00 p.m.

at

RESERVOIR PARK

(just past Pavilion in the Park on Cantrell)

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FUN

a FRIEND or TWO

for HORSE SHOES, FRISBEES, and PRIZES

Bring a bucket of chicken and/or your favorite picnic dish and join us for good food, fun and fellowship. Drinks will be provided.

We will have our regular Sunday worship services at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. and the picnic will start around 1:00 p.m. There will be plenty of time after the 10:45 service to change into your casual clothes and get your picnic food together.

Everyone is invited to come together for great food, lots of fun, awesome prizes and fantastic fellowship!

See you there,
Board of Parish Fellowship



Fun, fellowship and great food!!!