# The Ascension of Our Lord



The Ascension of Christ—Rembrandt, 1636

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church May 20, 2012



7:45 AM

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise
Arr. by Cindy Berry

10:00 AM

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True Setting by Paul Manz

## **DIVINE SERVICE II**

Christian Worship Supplement

WELCOME

**HYMN** 

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise Christian Worship #175

**STAND** 

#### INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

#### **CONFESSION**

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

#### **ABSOLUTION**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

#### LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

Kyrie—Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian Church.

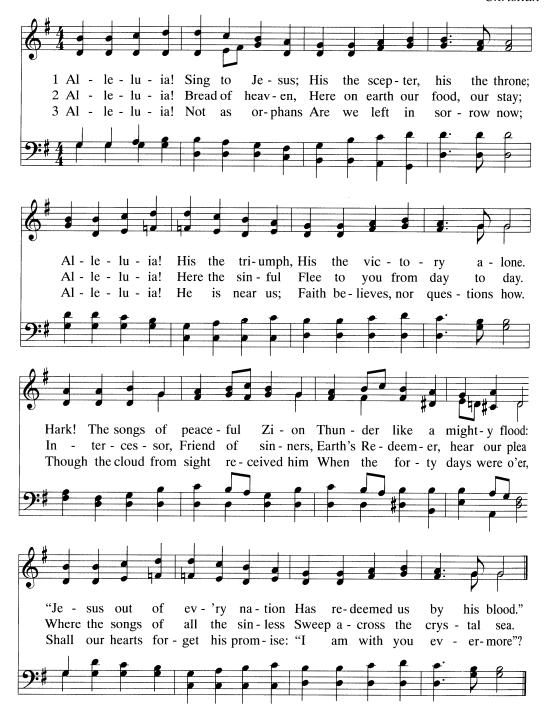
**M:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

- M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.
- C: Christ, have mercy.
- **M:** For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- **M:** Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.
- C: Amen.

HYMN
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Christian Worship #169



#### THE WORD

#### **SALUTATION**

M: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

#### FIRST LESSON

"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides on the heavens to help you and on the clouds in his majesty. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you, saying, 'Destroy him!' So Israel will live in safety alone; Jacob's spring is

### **Deuteronomy 33:26-29**

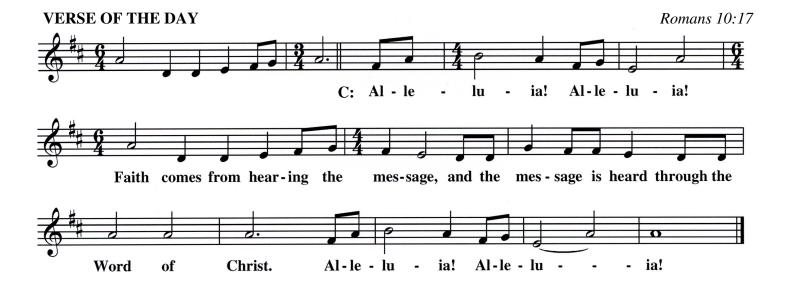
secure in a land of grain and new wine, where the heavens drop dew. Blessed are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will trample down their high places."

#### SECOND LESSON

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach

### **Ephesians 4:7-16**

unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



**STAND** 

GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

**M:** The Gospel according to Luke chapter twenty-four.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are

witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

BE SEATED

**STAND** 

#### NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**BE SEATED** 

**OFFERING** Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the pew and pass it along. Thank You!

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** 

7:45 AM

**Draw Us to Thee**Christian Worship #170

**STAND** 

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH—THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

**M:** Father of Glory, your Son lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. We offer our prayers to you, confident that you hear them for the sake of our resurrected and ascended Savior, Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for taking on our flesh to bear our sin and to be our Savior. By your resurrection and ascension into heaven, you crushed sin, death, and Satan. Increase in us patient trust as we continue to wait for the fullness of your glory to be revealed on the Last Day. Fix our minds firmly on the day of our own resurrection and ascension victory. Lord, in your mercy,

- C: Hear our prayer.
- M: Eternal God, though your Son has ascended to sit at your right hand, he continues to rule over all things for the sake of his Church. Help us not to doubt his care and concern for our lives. By your Spirit, strengthen our faith to trust that Jesus does indeed live to silence our fears and to wipe away our tears by his comforting word of forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: Heavenly Father, your Son came from heaven to enact your plan for our salvation. Perfectly completing this plan to the point of death and burial, he returned to you as our Mighty Lord and sits above all rule and authority and power and dominion. Rejoicing in his victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from his ascension before you, where he ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with the angels and archangels and all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to you alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

7:45 AM - Please continue on page 7 with the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

### THE SACRAMENT

#### **PREFACE**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

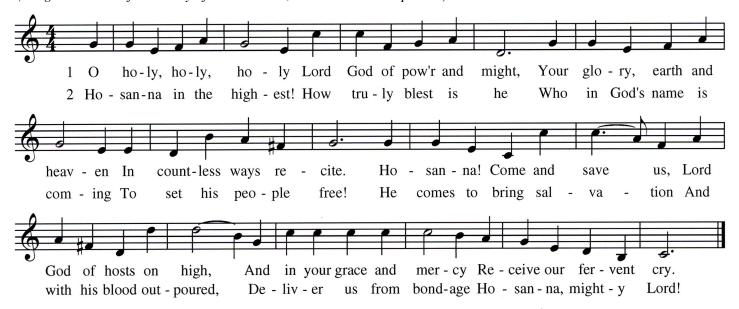
C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction. (Sung to the tune of "The Day of Resurrection," Christian Worship #166)



#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.
  - By his incarnation, he became one with us.
  - By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
  - By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
  - By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

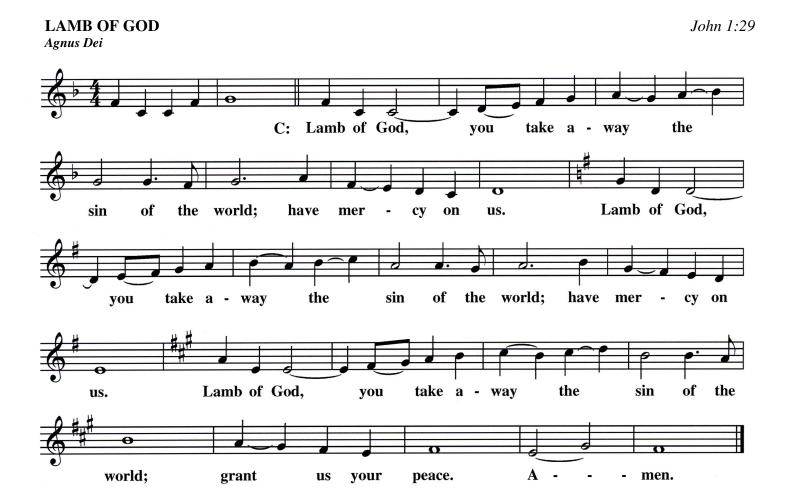
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



**BE SEATED** 

#### DISTRIBUTION

Our church practices "Member Communion." If you are a guest today and are a confirmed member of another WELS church, we invite you to the Lord's Table with us. If you are a guest today and are not a member of one of our Wisconsin Synod churches, we ask that you would speak to one of the pastors after church today or at some other time to discuss receiving the Lord's Supper with us in the future.

We provide **gluten-free communion wafers** for those with wheat allergy, gluten-sensitivity or celiac disease. These wafers are stored and handled separately to avoid cross-contamination. They are "bread" as Scripture requires and are consecrated along with the rest of the bread. For those requiring gluten-free wafers, please take one from the container on the stand located at the front rail as you approach for communion. Simply hold it so that the pastor can see it at the time of distribution.

**Grape juice** is available for those who for health or medical reason require it instead of wine. Please speak with a pastor about providing grape juice for you on future Sundays.

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC** 

**7:45 AM O Worship the King** *Arr. by Cindy Berry* 

**10:00 AM** Fairest Lord Jesus By Melody Bober

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN (10:00 AM)** 

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build Christian Worship #173

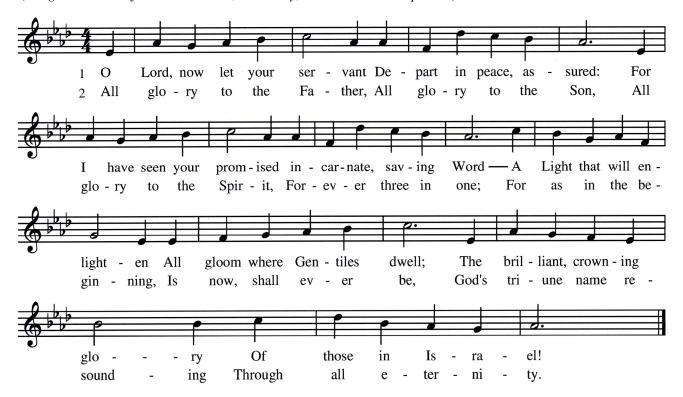
**STAND** 

SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

Nunc Dimittis

Please join in singing the response below following a brief introduction. (Sung to the tune of "Come unto Me, Ye Weary," Christian Worship #336)



M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN Crown Him with Many Crowns

Christian Worship #341

POSTLUDE 7:45 AM Christ Is the World's Light

Christian Worship #343

10:00 AM Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him

Arr. by Mark Thallander

## THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher	
Worship Leader	Pastor Ron Koehler (10:00 AM)
Communion Assistants (10:00 AM)	Pastor Nathan Kassulke
	Member Ministry Elder, Jason Watson
Accompanists	Stephanie Kania (7:45 AM)
	Tina Christianson (10:00 AM)
Distribution Music	
Trumpet	
Ushers	Vic Thornton, Vernon Neal (7:45 AM)
Rick Street, Ed Et	nington, Joe Dyjak, Nathanael Dyjak, Jon Dongoske (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech	Chris Stuhr (10:00 AM)



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#### **Administrative Assistant:**

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Colin M. Rieke (VAIL) revcmr@gracetucsonwels.com

#### **Counselor:**

Cinda Drescher cinda@gracetucsonwels.com

## To Aid You in Worship...

- LARGE PRINT
   BULLETINS ARE
   AVAILABLE IN THE
   NARTHEX. ASK A
   GREETER OR USHER FOR
   A COPY.
- For those with young children: A private Mother's Room is located across the courtyard in the Ladies' Restroom. Parents of young children may also use the Child Care Room in the basement at any time to quiet and care for them (the service can be heard in both locations).
- Sermon copies & service CDs are available in the narthex.

# **Welcome to Grace!**

Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

## **Holy Communion**

There are before-communion and after-communion prayers in our Christian Worship hymnal on p. 11, and a personal preparation guide on p.156 to help prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper. If you are a guest with us today, please see p. 9 in today's worship folder under "Distribution" for information about our practice of Member Communion.

**Altar Flowers** have been given by Bill and Lisa Toben in celebration of their anniversary.

#### Read Ahead for Next Sunday:

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Acts 2:1-21 John 14:25-27 Next Sun. Sermon Text & Theme:

John 14:25-27 The Holy Spirit Gives Me Jesus

## May Women's Night Out This Tuesday!

The **Women of Grace Night Out** is this Tuesday, May 22 at 6:00 PM. This year's event will be at the *Macaroni Grill* at 5100 E. Broadway Blvd. RSVP to Debbie Koehler 293-5617 or Teri Guenther 235-1177 **TODAY**. If you plan to attend, there is <u>Scrip</u> available for the restaurant. Be sure to bring a friend and join us for an evening of Christian fellowship. You don't want to miss this enjoyable event and guests are welcome!

#### **Redeemer Lutheran School Graduation**

You are invited to Redeemer Lutheran Church this Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 PM for an eighth grade graduation worship service. Grace member James Pauley is a 2012 Redeemer graduate. After the service there will be a reception to honor the graduates and to recognize the service of four teachers who are concluding their service at Redeemer this year: Mrs. Eckert, Mrs. Moreno, Mrs. Schmugge, and Mrs. Ferbeyre. Redeemer is our WELS Elementary School.

# **Arizona Lutheran Academy Commencement Concert**

The ALA Commencement Concert is this Friday, May 25 at 7:00 PM. If you are unable to make it up to Phoenix you can view it online at the ALA website: <a href="www.alacoyotes.org">www.alacoyotes.org</a>. Nathanael Dyjak, Danny Koehler, Tyler Koehler, Ariana Weinstein, and Josiah Weinstein will be performing. ALA graduation is Saturday, May 25 at 10:00 AM. *Arizona Lutheran Academy is our WELS Lutheran High School located in Phoenix*.

# This Week's Schedule (5/20/12 - 5/27/12)

Today ASCENSION SUNDAY -Worship Services/Communion	Thursday -Women's Bible Study: <i>Genesis</i>
<ul> <li>The Life of Christ: Jesus' Teaching (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a</li> <li>Grow in Grace Class (Conference Room in Office) 9:00a</li> </ul>	Friday -ALA Commencement Concert7:00p
-Lifeliners (High School Group): <i>Bible Study</i>	Saturday -ALA Graduation10:00a
-Coffee Fellowship following 10 AM Worship	Sunday PENTECOST SUNDAY
Monday -Bible Study at Vail Golf Club: Book of Acts9:30a	-Worship Services
Tuesday -Women of Grace Night Out at Macaroni Grill6:00p	-Adult Bible Studies:
Wednesday -Midweek Bible Study: Church History	<ul> <li>The Life of Christ (Fellowship Hall)</li></ul>

# **Christian Fellowship Group Meeting**

Mark June 9 at 10:00 AM in the Grace-University Fellowship Hall on your calendars! This is your chance to learn about *service dogs* and see Taylor (a real life service dog) in action! Grace's Christian Counselor, Cinda Drescher, will tell all about getting and using a service dog. Please bring a healthy snack to share. We hope you will join us! *The Christian Fellowship Group provides people 55 and older with an opportunity to enjoy the company of others on a very informal basis.* 

# **Financial Peace University**

Grace is once again hosting a Financial Peace University course! The course will be held at Grace-University and run 10 weeks on Thursday evenings beginning June 7. This new shortened format (it has been 13 weeks in the past) will still cover all the material, and requires the purchase of a Lifetime FPU Membership Kit. For a limited time we are able to offer the Membership Kits for \$80 (they have normally been \$100). If you have had an interest in learning Dave Ramsey's principles for managing your money, now is the time! If you are not familiar with Financial Peace University, speak to one of the pastors or many Grace members who have already made use of it. Visit <a href="https://www.GraceTucsonWELS.com/FPU">www.GraceTucsonWELS.com/FPU</a> for more information and to register.

## **Redeemer Summer Preschool**

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool is offering a Summer Session this July 23-27, 8:30 AM-12:15 PM. The cost of this one week session is \$100. All potty trained 3, 4, and 5 year olds are welcome. Join us for an exciting week of educational activities, Bible stories, games, snacks and crafts! Our theme is ice cream, so be prepared for some sweet treats too! Our summer session is a great opportunity to prepare your child for a preschool atmosphere this fall! Call Redeemer for more information and to pick up a registration form (520-572-8136).

## A Few Actions from the May 15 Voters' Meeting

- Undesignated Memorials will be used to provide the balance needed to purchase the ice machine for which the Women of Grace had been gathering funds. We appreciate the WOGs efforts on this and the member donations that were given toward this purchase.
- Undesignated Memorials will be used to purchase three coffee brewers and pots to replace ones that are no longer working.
- \$1,000 from the Perpetual Memorial Fund will go to help our youth group, the Lifeliners, as they carry on their normal activities and attend the International Youth Rally this summer.
- The Perpetual Memorial Fund will cover the \$45 registration cost for Beth Kassulke to attend the Northwestern Publishing House Music Reading Workshop this summer in Appleton, WI. Beth will be covering all related expenses, including travel. An additional \$500 may be used to purchase music and training materials for the music program at Grace.
- Grace committed a total of \$10,000 to Arizona Lutheran Academy for their 2012-2013 fiscal year. We operate on a calendar year, so we are saying that we will meet the rest of our commitment for 2012 (\$5,000) and will plan to give \$5,000 for the first half of 2013. We will discuss that more fully in the fall as we prepare Grace's 2013 Ministry and Spending Plan.

## **Vacation Bible School**



Get in the time machine and travel back to Jerusalem and other biblical sites at our "Back to Jerusalem" Vacation Bible School! Along the way, we'll learn that God's message to us about his love for us never changes. Each day devotions, songs, and crafts reinforce the lessons. So, gather up your children, nieces, nephews and friends in the neighborhood and bring them to Grace-University for time-travel fun! VBS is June 18-22, 9:00-11:30 AM. More information and registration forms are available online or in the Grace-University Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with VBS, please speak to our coordinator, Cindy Breitkreitz (298-9758) or to Pastor Kassulke. Donations for Vacation Bible School are also appreciated.

#### Church Picnic

Please plan to join us at Grace-University on Sunday, June 24 after the 10:00 AM worship service for our annual Church Picnic. The June 24 worship service will also serve as our VBS closing service. Members of Grace are asked to bring a side dish and a dessert to share. Grace will provide grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Volunteer help is also needed.

Since this is our first Church Picnic since the launch of our second site, we are encouraging members of Grace to attend worship at Grace-Vail on June 24 (also at 10:00), to help tear-down and clean up after the service, and then to join us for food and fellowship at the Picnic.

# In the Footsteps of Paul

From May 28 to June 9 Pastor Clemons and eleven members from Grace will be traveling to Greece, Turkey and Italy following in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. Joining them will be a group of ten members from Christ Lutheran Church in Prescott Valley and a group of five from Atonement Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Wednesday morning and evening Bible Studies will still be held. Pastor Kassulke will be conduct the Bible Studies in Pastor Clemons' absence.



Grace invites its members to "Do Good" by following the Apostle Paul's encouragement to help others. Gifts of clothing, food and household items will assist those in need on the Apache reservation, children in our Lutheran schools, and others in our own community.

Please consider how you might "Do Good!"



# **APACHE LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

Your donations of gently used clothing are received on Sunday mornings after worship at the counseling building behind the church at Grace-University. These will help our Apache brothers and sisters in Christ on the reservation. Other drop off times may be coordinated through Russ and Sandy Weir (795-0062), Cinda Drescher (615-6059), Geri DeRosa (615-6059), or Bill & Dorothy Rauh (296-8840). Grace's Christian Fellowship Group coordinates this effort.



Donations of toys, household items and clothing collected here in Tucson will be taken to the Lutheran Thrift Store in Phoenix. Proceeds from the store support Arizona Lutheran Academy, our high school in Phoenix. Jeff Weinstein can be contacted about receiving items you would like to donate (909-7649).



Grace has supported the Food Bank for many years. Those wishing to donate boxed and canned food items may leave them in the southwest corner of the fellowship hall under the greeting card table. Monetary donations may also be made through your regular offering envelopes by simply writing the dollar amount and "Food Bank" on the envelope.