

Grace Lutheran Church

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Reciprocal Mission

It's mission season. Around this time of year we sometimes gather our youth and transport them to other parts of the country or abroad to do mission through ministry, hospitality, and volunteer opportunities. We take on painting jobs, assist at soup kitchens, and work on beautification projects in the hope of serving God by achieving a tangible mission goal. Often the communities we travel to differ from us culturally, racially, and economically, and we enter as outsiders.

The Samaritan who becomes the unlikely hero in today's text is an outsider. His social status evokes feelings of disdain from others and prejudgments about his moral character. Yet Jesus chooses the Samaritan to be the hero and shows us how far the definition of neighbor stretches.

This story also teaches us something about being vulnerable. An unidentified man lies helpless on the side of the road, stripped of his possessions, his good health, and his dignity. Can we allow ourselves to identify with this helpless person? It is possible that if we only see ourselves as givers, providers, or helpers within a community unlike our own, we can miss the valuable life lesson of being vulnerable enough to be a recipient of care. Such vulnerability allows us to engage in reciprocal mission with neighbors near and far.

How often have we been in need of prayer, conversation, or service and refused care from someone in our community, workplace, or pew because that person was outside the boundaries of our definition of neighbor? The "Samaritan," the outsider who is in need of service because of social location, political imprisonment, or economic standing, can be the provider of rescuing care if we allow ourselves to be vulnerable. As we do mission, there are many living in the mission field who are ready to provide gracious, life-changing help to the unsuspecting missionaries who come.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Our Participation Card has two sides to complete. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees.

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 10, 2016

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre-service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able.

Gathering Music

We Are Called

ELW 720 (red book)

Greeting

☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

☐ Let us pray . . . O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care.

☑ Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's own hearts.

☐ A reading from **Deuteronomy**:

⁹The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

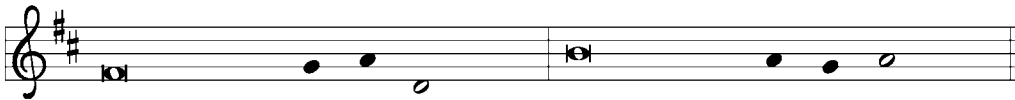
¹¹Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹²It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹³Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹⁴No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**




Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.



¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. **


⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O
LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. **

Second Reading: Colossians 1:1-14

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage from Paul.

A reading from **Colossians:**

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful

minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. Jesus tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

P The Gospel according to **Luke**.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You

have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Message

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message.

Message

Stand as you are able.

Song of the Day *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* **ELW 712** (red book)

Kneel or sit as you are able.

The Prayers

☞ Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

☞ Gracious God, your word is very near to us, building up your church and keeping it faithful to your word. Make our witness to your love strong and clear. Accompany the leadership of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Sarah; our companion churches throughout the world, New Life Lutheran Church in Spruce, Woodbury United Brethren in Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ **hear our prayer.**

☞ God of creation, even the seas, the rocks, and the trees are our neighbors. Increase the vitality and beauty of your whole creation, and move us to work for its health and well-being. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ **hear our prayer**

☞ Loving God, guide and direct the nations of the world to be good neighbors one to another, and to reach across the human barriers that divide us. Protect those who serve in the military, especially Myrina Clements, Kayla Pohl, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ **hear our prayer.**

A Protecting God, sustain police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and others who attend to public safety. Uphold those who are sick, injured, or who will die this day, and those who care for them. We pray especially for *Carol Vos, Chuck Harmon, Sue Rider, Sue Steeby, Abigail Kopf, Tiana Carruthers, and Ella Grove*. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A Listening God, encourage this assembly in its ministries of prayer and service. Enlarge our capacity for hospitality and our willingness to welcome those who are not like us. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A Gracious God, hear the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A O God, you have called the saints your own. Gather us, with them, into your kingdom, in the promise of life forever with you. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

P We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G **Amen.**

Stand as you are able.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

G **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)

Sit

Offering of Gifts & Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill it out and place a Participation Card in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

After the usher passes your pew, you are invited to drop your coins in the metal bowl at the front of the nave. These gifts are sent to Barry County Cares.

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

We Are an Offering

ELW 692 (red book)

Offertory Prayer

A God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.

G **Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**


P Lift up your hearts.

☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give God thanks and praise.

☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

☐ Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation everything was whole and well in your praise.

☑ When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death,

☑ we await that day when all the people of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

- ☐ Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
- ☑ **let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.**
- ☐ Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
- ☑ **both now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:
- ☑ **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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation To Communion

- ☐ Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast of the Lord.

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

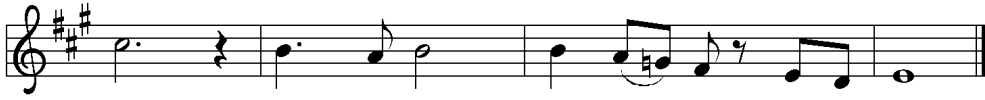
Sit

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

ELW 659 (red book)

When We Are Living

ELW 639

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

- A** Let us pray . . . O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ.
- C** **Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

Announcements

Stand as you are able

Blessing

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Hymn

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715 (red book)

Sending

- A** Alleluia. Proclaim the good news.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

We depart for study, service and fellowship.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 84

Weekly Giving: \$5,874.00

Budget

Amount: \$4,233.32

Adopt-a-Highway cleanup will take place on Saturday, July 16th at 8:45 am. If you are interested, please sign up in the narthex.

ANYONE interested in youth ministries (either helping with the ministry or parents who have youth to participate) will be meeting at Grace Tuesday, July 19th at 6pm. We will be discussing 2016/17 school year and will brainstorm on ideas to share God's love with our youth. It is important to have parents involved so please come! If you wish to participate but can't make the meeting please contact Jana Bishop at 269.838.3348.

Wednesday Prayer Group – Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. All are encouraged to pray, even if you are unable to attend

Barry County Cares is currently in need of items for their Personal/Household items pantry, which depletes quickly. Items requested are: hand lotion, deodorant, razors/shaving cream, shampoo/conditioner, Kleenex, paper towels, dish detergent and laundry detergent. Please remember those less fortunate the next time you do your shopping. Donations can be dropped off in the box next to Pastor Paul's office.

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:00am
Assisting Ministers		Vickey Argo
Cantor		Jack Vos
Lector		Carol Vos
Communion Server		Sandy Mosteller
Acolyte/Crucifer		Emmalee Peck
Ushers		Mark Anton, Gwen Hansen Joe Longcor, Sandy Mosteller
Greeter/Coffee Hr.		Ingrid Morgan, Kristi Winick
Nursery		Cheryl Drumm
Chancel Team	Kay Howell	Chris Bush

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, July 17, 2016

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Connor Wales
Cantor	Mark Anton	Kate Watson
Lector	Chris Bush	Kristi Winick
Communion Server	Melissa Patton	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Katie Pohl	Jack Barnaart
Ushers	Dan/Melissa Patton Gavin & Grayson Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek Dollie Larson, Mark Anton
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Carla Neil
Nursery	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Steve/Traci Wales
Chancel Team	Kay Howell	Chris Bush

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, July 10	Worship at 10:00 am, followed by Annual Meeting Vacation Bible School begins 5:15-8:45 pm
Monday, July 11	Communication Team meeting 10:00 am Community Outreach 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 12	Vacation Bible School 5:15-8:45 pm Brothers of Grace 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, July 13	Vacation Bible School 5:15-8:45 pm Prayer Group 6:00 pm
Thursday, July 14	Vacation Bible School 5:15-8:45 pm Brothers of Grace 7:00-8:30 pm