Grace Lutheran Church

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No Hiding

Growing up in a household where keeping secrets was the way to avoid conflict, he began learning the practice of hiding behind whispers and unfinished sentences. It was called "keeping the peace." Time carried him away from childhood into years of adulthood but not from the fear of letting himself be fully known. With an expanding catalog of unallowable topics, his life was a rigid, no-grace way to live. Still, he continued progressing from apprentice to master secret-keeper. For years he was successful and accomplished. More and more he was admired, even envied, by others for what his life had become. However, his loneliness grew wider and deeper. Less and less was he able to recognize himself in a carefully screened world of lengthening shadows. His good soul was singing the blues.

Then a day came, as days do for so many, when the curtain on his stage fell, its ropes, once secure, now frayed and broken.

One afternoon during a melancholy walk, he happened upon a stranger fussing in her garden. There a moment of grace opened with her casual question, ". . . and who are you?" Caught having no ready reply, he ducked into verbal camouflage. "I'm in a time of transition" was all he said. But when he walked away, her question went with him. "Who are you?"

Weeks later the two found themselves visiting over a bowl of noodles in a not at all quiet cafe. By the mysterious, wholly unexpected grace of God, he spoke, saying, "Let me tell you" Soon, with neither certainty nor fear, he heard himself say the words "no hiding" as he began to voice so many unfinished sentences.

It is only grace, pure, free-to-be-who-God-made-you-to-be grace, that Jesus extends in the gospel invitation to break the silence of fear. So do not be afraid. "Those who find their life will lose it, and those," Jesus says, "who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matt. 10:39).

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3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2017

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

Morning Has Broken

ELW 556 (red book)

Greeting

P 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 . . . Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds,

9 to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

First Reading Jerimiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

L A reading from **Jerimiah**:

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him."

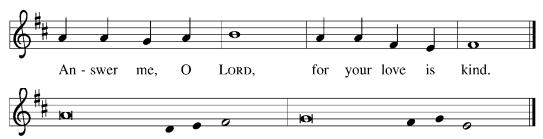
¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their

eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

■ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 69:7-18



⁷Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach, and shame has cov- | ered my face.

⁸I have become a stranger to | my own kindred, an alien to my | mother's children.

⁹Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.

¹⁰I humbled my- | self with fasting,

but that was turned to | my reproach.

¹¹I put on | sackcloth also, and became a by- | word among them.

¹²Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me, and the drunkards make | songs about me.

¹³But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.

¹⁴Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;

let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep waters.

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swal- | low me up; do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.

¹⁶Answer me, O LORD, for your | love is kind; in your great compassion, | turn to me.

¹⁷Hide not your face | from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.

¹⁸Draw near to me | and redeem me;

because of my enemies de- | liver me.

Second Reading Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death. Our lives in the present are marked and shaped by his crucifixion, just as our lives in the future will be marked and shaped by his resurrection.

A A reading from **Romans**:

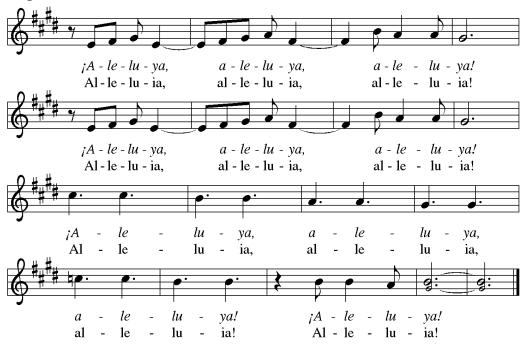
^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

⚠ Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition, requiring absolute trust in God and an unswerving commitment to their Lord.

P The Holy Gospel, according to **Matthew**.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

P 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

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

ELW 443 (red book)

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

- A Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world. *A brief silence.*
- A God of grace, we give you thanks for renewing the church in every age. Bless missionaries who boldly proclaim your mercy throughout the world. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, Kingdom Hall of Jehovahs Witness in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul. Lord in your mercy,

G hear our prayer.

A Generous God, you love the sparrows and shower your whole creation with abundance. Guide our stewardship by your wisdom so that all life flourishes as you intend. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayers.

A God of peace, change the hearts of leaders who go to war. Enlighten their minds with your holy imagination, opening new paths to peace and renewed life. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, especially *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten*. Lord in your mercy,

• hear our prayers.

A Compassionate God, you tell us not to fear, but we do. Give courage to everyone who faces oppression and bigotry, hunger and homelessness. Bring healing and hope to all your people. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, especially *Doug Haddix*, *Jane Secor*, *Victoria Steadman*, *Danny Gillons*, *Dick Melcher*, *Kris Gilbert*, *Barbara Macaully*, *Tina Lowe*, *Zues Duits*, *John Glasgow*, *Sharon Duits*, *Corrina Palmer*, *Pat Wagner*, *Tristin Nuyen*, *Gale Morway and Bob M*. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayers.

A God of community, thank you for the gift of this congregation. Bless all who are new here. Teach us how to welcome one another. Unite us as we proclaim your love. Shine through our common life. We ask your blessing of discernment upon our Call Committee, and bless our congregation with endurance while we wait for our next Pastor. Pour out your spirit of courage and faith upon the leader who will receive your call of service to Grace, and let your will be heard clearly by all involved in this process. Lord in your mercy,

• hear our prayers.

A Be attentive, gracious God, to 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,

hear our prayers.

⚠ We give thanks for all who have been baptized into Christ Jesus and now rest in the fullness of Christ's resurrection. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayers.

P All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Sit

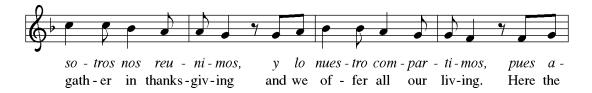
Offering of Gifts and Music

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

Stand as you are able.









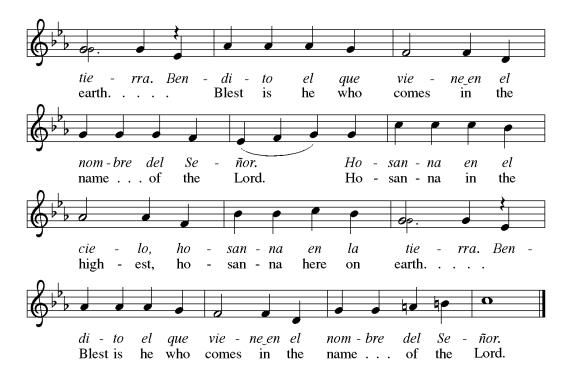
Offering Prayer

- A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing.
- **Q** You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **2** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **☑** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P 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:





Eucharistic Prayer

- P 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.
- P 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.
- P 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

- **P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:
- Our Father in heaven, holy 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

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

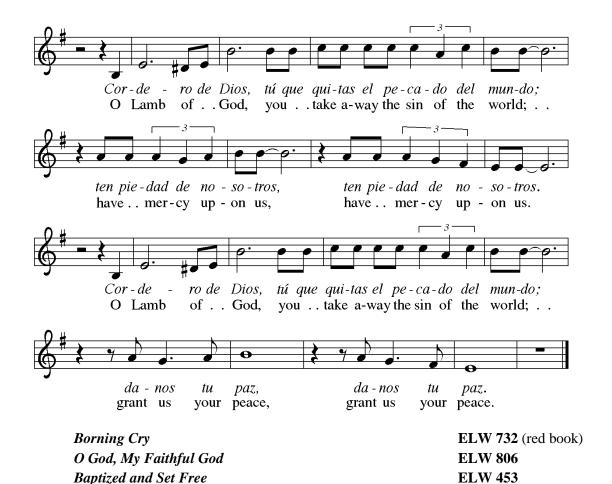
- **† Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.
- \$\P\$If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.
- If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and 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.

have .. mer-cy up - on us,

Sit



have .. mer-cy up - on us.



Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.

■ Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.

Sit

Congregational Announcements

Stand as you are able.

Blessing

P May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father,

→ Son, and Holy Spirt, bless you now and forever.

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 Song Wade in Water ELW 459 (red book)

Dismissal

- **A** Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 98 Weekly Giving: \$2,241.00 Budget Amount: \$4,226.98

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar, saltine crackers, instant mashed potatoes.

Communication Team meeting on July 3rd.

Youth Sunday, June 9th – the youth are leading worship and will have a fundraiser cookout/ auction after 2nd service

Mutual Ministry Planning meeting on June 9th after 2nd service.

Noisy offering will be held on July 9th.

Council meeting has been moved to July 11^{th} at 6:00~pm

<u>Annual Meeting has been moved to Sunday, June 16</u>th. This will be a one service Sunday at 10:00 am, with the Annual Meeting immediately following.

Outdoor service & 3rd annual Grace Car Show on July 30 will be a one service Sunday, worship at 10:00 am, with a luncheon to follow at 11:30. The luncheon is provided by Thrivent and the Social Activities Committee. Car Show will follow lunch. We are worshipping outdoors so bring lawn chairs for your comfort.

No Executive Board meeting in July.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, June 25

Worship 8:00 & 10:00 am

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:00 am
Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Kate Watson
Lector	Steve Kaiser	Gwen Hansen
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Hope Peck
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Gary/Lisa Golnek
		Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Lyle/Joyce Proksch	Carl Neil, Kristi Winick
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, July 2, 2017

Assisting Ministers	Barry Wood	Traci Wales
Cantor	Mary Kuhlman	Mark Anton
Lector	Jack Vos	Joyce Daugherty
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Mark Anton
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Clyde Watson
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Dumm	Mark Anton
		Ed Domke
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	Eve Wright
Chancel Team	Kay Howell	Chris Bush