

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St

Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

Phone: (269) 945-9414

(269) 945-2645

Fax: (269) 945-2698

Pastor Paul E. Kuhlman

E-mail: gracehastingspastor@gmail.com

Counting Words

Count how many times the word *welcome* is repeated in this short gospel reading. It sticks out like a palm in the desert.

What does that word, *welcome*, mean to you? That you . . . are gladly received? may settle in? belong? are safe? share in a loving community? are wanted and necessary? are not all by yourself?

There is, of course, the opposite of welcome: rejection. Earlier in this chapter of Matthew, when Jesus tells the disciples what to expect, he warns that those who proclaim and bring good news of the kingdom of heaven, those who choose the way of Jesus, will not always find a welcome for themselves or for their good news. Disciples may discover that they are . . . turned away, homeless, excluded or banned. Vulnerable, friendless, shunned or not needed, alone.

Count another word: *whoever*. It's as wondrous as a palm in the desert. It means no one is excluded and anyone is included! Jesus binds the words *whoever* and *welcome* together.

Good news from Jesus is nearly always surprising and predictably countercultural. Miracles and parables, what he does and says, catch his fans and foes off guard. The unlikely company Jesus keeps, the whomevers who welcome him, those he gathers in and sends out in his name, are shocked and are shockers!

Jesus' "who-can-believe-it?" good news means that though we find ourselves rejected by those we thought or hoped would receive us, we may mercifully discover that we belong with ones we never imagined would embrace us. We may thankfully learn that we are secure with those who once scared us. We are wanted and needed among the beloved weak ones and there, with them, experience the gracious reward of life in the communion of saints and sinners whoever they or we may be.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23413.

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.

4th Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 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 Song

O Day of Rest and Gladness

ELW 521 (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 God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world.

☑ **Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action, Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

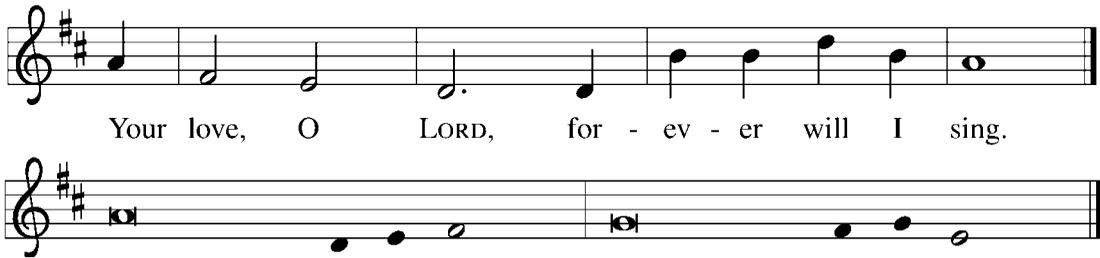
☐ A reading from **Jeremiah**:

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18



¹Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will pro- | claim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab- | lished forever;**
you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.

³I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:

⁴**I will establish your | line forever,**

and preserve your throne for all | generations.’ ” 

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the | festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light | of your presence.

¹⁶**They rejoice daily | in your name;**

they are jubilant | in your righteousness.

¹⁷For you are the glory | of their strength,

and by your favor our might | is exalted.

¹⁸**Truly, our shield belongs | to the LORD;**

our king to the Holy | One of Israel. 

Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power that motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

A A reading from **Romans:**

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.

¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you,

having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:40-42

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

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

☛ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

☞ 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

Blest are They

ELW 728 (red book)

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

☛ Called together in the Spirit’s embrace, let us pray for the mending of God’s world.

A brief silence.

☛ We pray for the church. For exiled Christians, oppressed churches, and all who suffer persecution because of faith in you: deliver freedom, courage, and partners in peacemaking. 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 companion churches in Latvia, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, St. John Lutheran Church in Grayling, Lakewood United Methodist Church in Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul.* Lord in your mercy,

☛ **hear our prayer.**

☛ We pray for the earth and its creatures. For sage grouse, wolverines, and all vulnerable species; for humans and the choices we face: sustain life and guide our stewardship of all that you have made. Lord in your mercy,

☛ **hear our prayers.**

☛ We pray for the United States and Canada as we celebrate the founding of our nations. For the president and prime minister; for the congress and parliament: grant wisdom and hearts for

justice, that all our people flourish. 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 We pray for those in need. For those who seek jobs, shelter, food, health, and love; for dear ones known to us: meet their need by your bountiful compassion and our community's action. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, especially *Doug Haddix, Ingrid Morgan, Jane Secor, Victoria Steadman, Danny Gillons, Dick Melcher, Kris Gilbert, Barbara Macaully, Tim Lowe, Zeus Duits, Gale Morway, Sharon Duits, Corrina Palmer, the Don Martin family and the Elliot family*. Lord in your mercy,

☞ hear our prayers.

A We pray for all who worship you today. For wise elders and curious seekers, joyful spirits and burdened souls: give holy welcome, share tender mercies, and deepen trust in your goodness. *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.

A We give thanks for all who have died in the faith and received the reward of the righteous. Bless their memory among us and their life with you. 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.

☞ 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 Song

God Extends an Invitation

ELW 486 (red book)



Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



sí es la co - mu - ni - ón; pues a - sí es la co - mu - ni - ón.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing.

C 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.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 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:



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



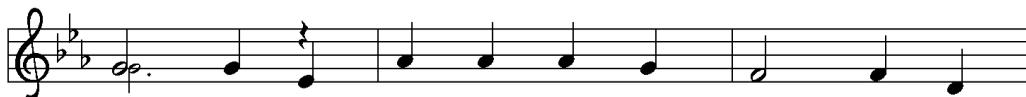
San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

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, 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

☐ 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.

✠ 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



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Let Us Break Bread Together
Taste and See
United at the Table

ELW 471 (red book)
ELW 493
ELW 498

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.

C 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.

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 Song

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

ELW 547 (red book)

Dismissal

Ⓐ Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 83

Weekly Giving: \$2,786.00

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.

New phone number for Bob & Sharon Bolton (269) 275-9305

New phone number for Kay Howell (269) 953-1148

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

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

Noisy offering will be held on July 9th.

Council meeting has been moved to July 11th at 6:00 pm

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

Renovation Volunteers - We are looking for 8-12 volunteers to join our work crew on **July 29th** to start the next phase of our renovation. For more information please contact Doug Neeb.

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, July 2	Worship 8:00 & 10:00 am
Monday, July 3	Communication Team 10:00 am
Thursday, July 6	Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm (fellowship hall)
Sunday, July 9	Youth Worship Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am

Today's Worship Leaders

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>
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

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, July 9, 2017

Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Jack Vos	Vickey Argo
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Sandy Mosteller
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Emmalee Peck
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Mark Anton, Gwen Hansen Sandy Mosteller, Joe Longcor
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Steve/Peg Kaiser	John/Mary Kleinbrink
Chancel Team	Kay Howell	Chris Bush

