

Grace Lutheran Church

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Harvest at Home

A food desert is a geographic community where it is difficult to find affordable nutritious food without having a vehicle. There is a movement to help these communities grow their own nutritious food through urban and community gardens. This movement helps communities to recognize the fertile ground beneath them and imagine the potential harvest. The communities become empowered to feed themselves.

This new awareness of unrealized harvests is evident in Luke 9 which precedes this week's gospel. In that chapter, Jesus sends out his initial harvest, the twelve, into the villages, healing and proclaiming the good news (Luke 9:1-2). Upon the twelve's return, Jesus continues to minister to the crowds and instructs his disciples not to send the crowds to find food elsewhere but to provide for the multitudes out of their unrealized harvest (Luke 9:12-17). Chapter 9 concludes with Jesus sharing that the cost of discipleship—that is, the cost of being a laborer—is to let go of everything and follow him.

Though this week's text mirrors sending the twelve, it expands to “seventy others” and continues to expand to the churches of today. Clearly, the challenge of sending out laborers should begin with an internal harvest of sorts and an imaginative recognition that God has already provided.

It wasn't too long ago that we watched with anticipation as our congregation's children journeyed through Sunday school lessons, youth groups, and summer camps. Average growing seasons hampered our ability to adequately evaluate their growth potential. As our children return after their college years, we get to joyfully reflect on their old experiences and celebrate their new experiences as we now recognize what God has produced in our gardens. Reap the fertile ground beneath the congregation and send the laborers out to reap the full harvest throughout the world.

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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.

6th Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 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

Come, We That Love the Lord

ELW 625 (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 . . . Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom.

☞ **Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There the Lord reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

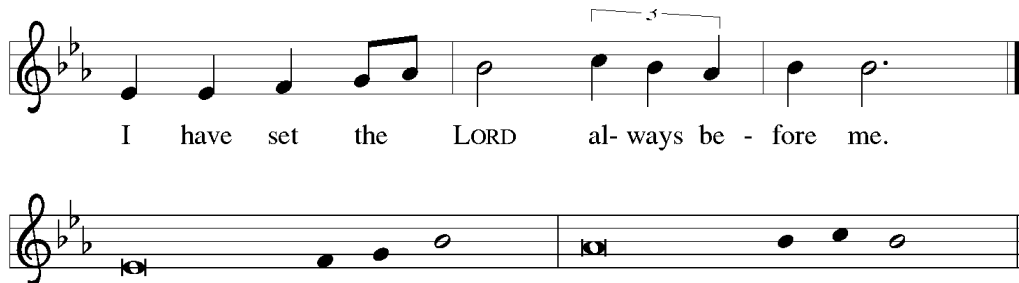
📖 A reading from **I Kings:**

¹⁵Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

¹⁹So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**



- ¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other.”
- ²**All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land,**
upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.
- ³But those who run after | other gods
shall have their troubles | multiplied.
- ⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods,**
never take their names up- | on my lips. [R]
- ⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup;
it is you who up- | hold my lot.
- ⁶**My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land;**
indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.
- ⁷I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night | after night.
- ⁸**I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;**
because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken. [R]
- ⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.
- ¹⁰**For you will not abandon me | to the grave,**
nor let your holy one | see the pit.
- ¹¹You will show me the | path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- |
evermore. [R]

Second Reading: Galatians 5:1,13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ’s Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

[L] A reading from **Galatians**:

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

P The Gospel according to **Luke**.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

☞ 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,

☞ 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,

☞ 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,

☞ hear our prayer.

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

☞ Amen.

Stand as you are able.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

☞ 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.

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.

☞ 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.

☞ And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

☞ We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☞ It is right to give God 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 ever-

lasting 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.

Eat This Bread

ELW 472 (red book)

Father, We Thank You

ELW 478

Now the Feast and Celebration

WOV 789 (blue book)

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.

G **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.

G **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

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

ELW 860 (red book)

Sending

A Alleluia. Proclaim the good news.

G **Thanks be to God.**

We depart for study, service and fellowship.

If you forgot to place your Participation Card in the offering plate, you can still drop it off in the basket outside the sanctuary.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 82

Weekly Giving: \$3,758.00

Budget

Amount: \$4,233.32

Stewardship Committee Calendar

1. Annual meeting ~ July 10

Special Congregational Meeting today between services to vote on the Constitution.

New phone number for Deb Watson – 269-908-7666

Handbells/Chimes Ringing – Thursday, July 8th, new ringer basics workshop, 3-4:15 pm
Practice/dinner 4:15-6:00 pm @ Grace, 6:30-8:00 pm ring at the Courthouse lawn.

Help is still needed for the Vacation Bible Event in July. Think about how you could help. You can sign up as a volunteer in the coffee area. Please, you have a gift to share and VBE has the place and time to share them.

Handbells - Anyone interested in ringing next year should contact director, Kim Domke, so that a few private lessons can be set up this summer. These are FREE and lots of FUN!!! No commitment to joining the choir until you come give it a try.

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:00am
Assisting Ministers	David Gladyness	Phil Poholski
Cantor	Mark Anton	Mark Anton
Lector	Lorie Gladyness	Bill Freedlund
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Katie Pohl	Hope Peck
Ushers	Kay Marsh, Mark Anton	Gary/Lisa Golnek
	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Dollie Larsen, Mark Anton
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Chris Bush	Doug/Diane Neeb
Nursery	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, July 3, 2016

Assisting Ministers	Lorie Gladyness	Traci Wales
Cantor	Steve Kaiser	Vickey Argo
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Carla Neil
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Gabe Barnaart
Ushers	Mark/Jana Bishop	Doug/Diane Neeb
	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Dave Neeb, Ed Domke
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Steve/Peg Kaiser	Eve Wright
Nursery	Chris Bush	Steve & Connor Wales
Chancel Team	Kay Howell	Chris Bush

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, June 26	Special congregational meeting – constitution approval
Wednesday, June 29	Prayer Group 6:00 pm