

Grace Lutheran Church

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Weak Faith? Strong God.

Athletes spend time in the weight room to build up their strength so they can run faster, jump higher, hit harder, avoid injuries, and improve their endurance. Want to get better at your game and increase your ability to outperform your opponent? Train hard. Get in the weight room. Sometimes we talk about faith that way. We say things like “Have a little more faith,” or “She has such a strong faith.” The disciples ask Jesus to “Increase our faith!” Jesus has just told them, “If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive. And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive” (Luke 17:3b-4). No wonder they feel as though their faith isn’t adequate. Forgiveness is challenging, especially when someone is a repeat offender. But Jesus doesn’t send them to the faith-training weight room to strengthen their faith. Instead, Jesus seems to encourage them to use the little faith they have and God will do wonders with it. After all, it isn’t a matter of how strong our faith is but how strong God is. God can do the impossible. God can help someone who has been hurt forgive the one who hurt them. When hurts are deep, forgiveness seems impossible. The desire to lash out, seek revenge, or crumble under the weight of the hurt all seem much more probable. But God can do what we find hard to do. God can help us not excuse the hurt but free us from the desire to exact more hurt. How can Jesus ask this of us? Because from the cross he forgives the ones who put him there. He knows that new life comes through forgiveness. Drink deeply of his forgiving strength at the table today.

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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.

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 2, 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

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

ELW 531 (red book)

Greeting

☞ Blessed be the Holy Trinity; one God; the only sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

☞ **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray . . . Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us.

☞ **When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading:

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the wicked will perish, but the righteous will live by faith.

☞ A reading from **Habakkuk**:

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. ²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37:1-9



¹Do not be provoked by | evildoers;

do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight | in the LORD,
who shall give you your | heart's desire. ☒**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,
and see what | God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light
and the justice of your case like the | noontday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land. ☒

Second Reading:

2 Timothy 1:1-14

This message written from Paul to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

☒ A reading from **1 Timothy:**

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

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:

Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

P The Gospel according to **Luke**.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. ⁷“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Message/Children’s Church

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

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638 (red book)

Kneel or sit as you are able.

The Prayers

☞ Rejoicing in the Spirit’s work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

☞ Increase the faith of your church, O God. Raise up faithful parents and grandparents, prophets and teachers who know, love, and spread your gospel. Bring power to our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Sarah; our companion churches in Latvia, Honduras and Papua New Guinea, Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Wyoming, Country Chapel in Delton; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul. Hear us, O God.

☞ **Your mercy is great.**

☞ Tend and nurture the lands and seas, O God. Raise up faithful stewards of all you have entrusted to human care. Hear us, O God.

☞ **Your mercy is great.**

☞ Save the nations, O God. Raise up faithful leaders who strive for peace and justice in the midst of violence and destruction. Protect those who serve in the military, especially Myrina Clements, Kayla Pohl, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten. Hear us, O God.

☞ **Your mercy is great.**

☞ Guard those in need, O God. Raise up faithful advocates and caretakers for those who are oppressed, poor, lonely, imprisoned, bereaved, or sick. Comfort all in need in body, mind, or spirit, especially *Sue Rider, George Ulrich Jr, Debra Wood, Al Miller, Gary Burdick, Danny and Greg Gillons, Katie Leary, Jennifer Anderson, Gladys Bishop and Corrina Palmer*. Hear us, O God.

☞ Your mercy is great.

A Give vision to this congregation, O God. Raise up faithful teachers, staff, volunteers, worship leaders, and council members who serve with purpose, joy, boldness, and love. Hear us, O God.

☞ Your mercy is great.

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 Hear us, O God.

☞ Your mercy is great.

A You abolished death, O God. Thank you for all those you called according to your purpose and who now rest in your light. Hear us, O God.

☞ Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

☞ 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.

Offertory Hymn

God Extends an Invitation

ELW 486 (red book)

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread,

☞ so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. 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 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, Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and you fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

☞ **You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.**

☞ 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 life given for us and his rising from the grave,

☞ **we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.**

☞ By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

☞ **strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of 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:

☞ Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

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.

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479 (red book)

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

ELW 492

Now the Silence

ELW 460

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray . . . We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ.

G Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

Announcements

Stand as you are able

Blessing

P God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

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

Shine, Jesus Shine

WOV 651 (red book)

Sending

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

G Thanks be to God.

Stewardship Information

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar and canned pasta, ie, spaghetti-o's, ravioli, etc. Donations can be placed in the box outside Pastor Paul's office.

Worshippers last week: 110

Weekly Giving: \$2,532.00

Budget

Amount: \$4,226.98

Children at the 10:45 service will be invited to participate in Children's Church after the Children's Sermon. They will return with the leader at the time of the Passing of the Peace.

Fall Festival - Saturday, **Oct. 8th** from 6 until ? Social Activities would like to invite everyone to a fall festival at Doug and Diane's pole barn. All ages are welcome. There will be games for kids and adults, a bon fire to roast s'mores and hotdogs, or to tell stories around. Please bring a dish to pass, table service will be furnished. We will provide pop, cider and hot dogs. You're welcome to bring your beverage of choice. We are not in the church so it could include some of your favorite alcohol. (Pastor Paul said it was acceptable.) Come and enjoy some free time and celebrate the remodeling of our church. Our address is 3561 Barber Rd. Hastings just a short distance from the church. Phone 269-945-9470. If you need directions just ask or give us a call

Noisy Offering is scheduled for next Sunday, **October 9**. It falls on the second Sunday of every month.

CROP Walk – the annual Barry County CROP Walk to address the problem of world hunger is scheduled for **October 9**. You can be a walker or you can commit to supporting a walker through your gifts. The walk begins at First United Methodist Church, 209 W Green St, Hastings. Registration at 1:30, walk is 2 miles from 2-3 pm, celebration 3-4 pm. Contact Kim Domke, 269-908-0024, or Jane Secor, 269-569-1275, if you would like to help. Checks should be made payable to CWS-CROP.

GraceGram articles for November are due no later than **October 17**. Please send your articles to parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Pasty Sale – Saturday, **November 12**. Sign-up sheet is on the wall outside of Pastor Paul's office, for baked pasties \$7/each, or unbaked pasties \$6/each. There is also a sign-up sheet for helping with the preparation, cutting, making & baking of the pasties. See the sheet for times and dates. Grace is hoping to pre-sell up to 450 pasties this year with the funds going to support Grace youth activities, so tell your friends, tell your neighbors and get those pre-orders in!

Today's Worship Leaders

8:00 am

10:00am

Assisting Ministers	Lorie Gladyness	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	John Burdick	Sandy Mosteller
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Katie Pohl	Emmalee Peck
Usher	Randy/Brenda Teegardin	Doug/Diane Neeb
	Lyle/Joyce Proksch	Dave Neeb, Ed Domke
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	Eve Wright
Nursery	Volunteers	Children's Church Phil & Amy Poholski
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, October 9, 2016

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Traci Wales
Cantor	Steve Kaiser	Vickey Argo
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Carla Neil
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Jack Barnaart
Usher	Dan/Melissa Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek
	Gavin & Molly Patton	Joe Longcor, Gwen Hansen
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Steve/Peg Kaiser	Ingrid Morgan, Kristi Winick
Nursery	Volunteers	Children's Church Eve Wright, Shayna Gibbons
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, October 2	Adult Forum – Parables 9:30 am Children's Church 10:45 am
Monday, October 3	Community Outreach 5:00 pm Adult Forum 6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 4	Executive Board 5:30 pm Worship Committee 6:30 pm
Wednesday, October 5	Prayer group 6:00 pm
Thursday, October 6	Clapper Kids 3:45-5:00 pm Grace Notes 5:45-7:00 pm
Saturday, October 8	Fall Festival at Neeb's 6:00 - ?