

# Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St  
Hastings MI 49058



Website: [www.grace-hastings.org](http://www.grace-hastings.org)

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI  
Worship Committee e-mail: [gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com)

Phone: (269) 945-9414  
(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
August 18, 2019

## **A Gospel of Division**

“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! . . . Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!” (Luke 12:49, 51). Jesus’ words in today’s gospel seem far different from the message of compassion and love we expect from him. Jesus shows us God’s boundless love, but this is a message that provoked conflict. The message of Jesus led to his death at the hands of the religious and political authorities. His disciples feared the same fate—not without reason.

By choosing to become followers of Jesus, early Christians might have found themselves going against their own parents, siblings, or children. The Christian community became a new family, united as adopted children of God and siblings of Christ. Today, although faith and familial relationships exist in harmony for a large number of Christians in North America, the message of Jesus is still a source of division and conflict because of what the gospel calls us to do.

Jesus calls us into a kingdom unlike any of the kingdoms of this world. We are called to pursue justice for all people, to care for those on the margins, to seek God’s will before our own. Jesus’ message conflicts with our common cultural messages, which tell us to seek our own profit at others’ expense, to look out for our own but not for those who are different. In a world that glorifies self-promotion and self-sufficiency, our Lord calls us to love.

Jesus did not come to bring a comfortable gospel. He came to bring a challenging gospel, one that calls us to oppose the powers of this world that harm, exclude, and instill hate. Following this gospel might even set us in opposition to our own friends and family. But the message Jesus brings is a message of salvation and of love for all people—and sometimes that requires taking a stand.

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### **BEFORE WORSHIP**

Please fill out our Participation Card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees. Sometimes there are additional questions on the back of the card, so don’t forget to check both sides of the card.

## Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 18, 2019

*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.*

### Welcome/Worship Instructions

*Arise in body or spirit*

### Greeting

*The pastor and the assembly greet each other.*

**P** The love of God, made known in Christ Jesus our Lord and poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

**A** As in one body we have many members,

**C** **so we, who are many, are one body in Christ.**

**P** Where two or three are gathered in my name, says the Lord,

**C** **I am there among them.**

**A** O God, you open our hearts by sending into us your Holy Spirit.

**C** **Direct us by the light of that Spirit. Amen**

Gathering Music

O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate

ELW 722 (red book)

### Prayer of the Day

**A** Let us Pray...O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth.

**C** **Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Sit*

## First Reading

## Jeremiah 23:23-29

*Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection.*

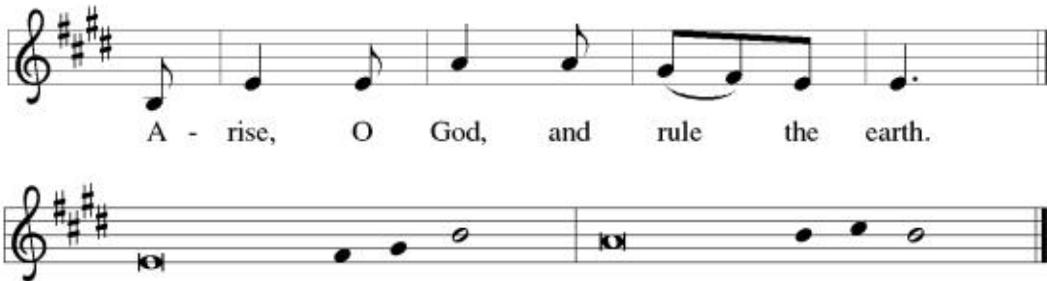
*Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.*

### ☐ A reading from **Jeremiah**:

<sup>23</sup>Am I a God nearby says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**



## Psalms 82

<sup>1</sup>God stands to charge the divine coun- | cil assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst | of the gods:

<sup>26</sup>**How long will you | judge unjustly,  
and show favor | to the wicked?**

<sup>3</sup>Save the weak | and the orphan;  
defend the hum- | ble and needy;

<sup>4</sup>**rescue the weak | and the poor;  
deliver them from the power | of the wicked.** ☑

<sup>5</sup>They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- | bout in darkness;  
all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup>**Now I say to you, | 'You are gods,  
and all of you children of | the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup>nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals,  
and fall like | any prince.’”

<sup>8</sup>**Arise, O God, and | rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations | for your own.** ☒

## **Second Reading**

## **Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

*The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.*

☒ A reading from **Hebrews**:

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

## Alleluia

*¡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 12:49-56**

*Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.*

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

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided:

father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## Children's Time

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. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

## Message

*Silence for reflection*

*Arise in body or spirit*

## Song of the Day

*What Wondrous Love is This*

**ELW 666**

*Kneel or sit as able.*

## Prayer

**A** Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A** O God, you have given us your word. Like a fire, kindle its flame within and among us. Empower us for the work of breaking down walls, reconciling the divided, and building faith. Guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrysanne, David and Roseanne; our synod companion churches, St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Grand Rapids, Heritage Hills Bible Church of Bellevue; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.

**G** **Your love is everlasting.**

**A** You formed the furthest reaches of the universe, yet your spirit dwells within each life. Be the companion and keeper of every creature and redeem all your creation in Christ. Hear us, O God.

**G** **Your love is everlasting.**

**A** You rise up to rule the nations. Bless grassroots movements and guide elected officials. Teach the nations to be good neighbors to each other. Inspire us all to share food, land, knowledge, and our arts for the common good. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Zack Green (Mikolajczyk), Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley (Burdicks), Brandon*

and Stevi Kay Miller (McManaway), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), and Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls). Hear us, O God.

**☞ Your love is everlasting.**

**Ⓐ** You rescue those in any need. Be with surgeons, nurses, and all medical personnel who care for the sick. Shelter all who need homes and feed all who are hungry. Comfort those who are bereaved. including *Dan Anderson, Matt Dunnigan, Karl Golnek, Dustin H., Delmer Hansen, Larry Hansen, Newell and Sara, Pat Lewis, Darlene Martino, Lynnze, Hope Peck (boot camp), Dave Neeb, Bri Neeb, Cameron, Vicky, Joanne, Marie, Mary Rider, George Ulrich, Jr. and the victims of the mass shootings in Dayton and El Paso.* Be their health and their shield. Hear us, O God.

**☞ Your love is everlasting.**

**Ⓐ** We thank you for the friendship, community, and witness of those gathered here today. Send us out to welcome those estranged from family or experiencing difficult separations. Hear us, O God.

**☞ Your love is everlasting.**

**Ⓐ** 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.*

**Ⓐ** We look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Be with us in the tragedies and troubles of this world and join us and all the saints with Christ in perfect joy. Hear us, O God.

**☞ Your love is everlasting.**

**Ⓟ** All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

**☞ Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Offering of Gifts and Music**

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

*Arise in body or spirit*

**Offering Prayer**

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine.
- ☞ **Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Sharing the Peace of God**

- Ⓐ The peace of Christ be with you.
- ☞ **And also with you.**

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

**The Great Thanksgiving**

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

# Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



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.

## Table Prayer

☐ Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom.

☑ **We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on the disciples of every race and nation.**

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
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, Christ's death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit,

☑ **we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.**

☐ Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal:

☑ **Anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.**

☐ All glory and honor is yours, Holy Trinity, now and forever.

☑ **Amen**

## Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:
- ☑ **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

- ☐ God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

### *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.



### **Sending of Communion** *(only if needed)*

- A** Gracious God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, you give new life through bread and wine: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- G** **Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

- A** Let us pray . . . O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy and fed us at your table.
- G** **Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Mission Minutes**

*Arise in body or spirit.*

### **Blessing**

- P** Be strengthened with the power of God, † the love of Christ, and the help of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

**Sending Song**

*Lord, you Give the Great Commission*

**ELW 579**

### **Dismissal**

- A** Go in peace. Christ is sending you.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Week at a Glance

<b>Sunday, August 18</b>	Worship Services at 8:00 am & 10:45 am
<b>Monday, August 19</b>	CPR / AED class (9:30am- 12:30 pm) First Aid classes (12:15 pm – 4:30) Executive Mtg 6 pm LACS 6-9 pm
<b>Tuesday, August 20</b>	Council Mtg 6 pm

### Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Chris Bush	Vickey Argo
<b>Cantor</b>	Pastor Ken	Vickey Argo
<b>Lector</b>	Chris Bush	Joe Longcor
<b>Communion Server</b>	Jana Bishop	Laura Scheck
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Volunteer	Lance Ogden
<b>Usher</b>	Mark & Jana Bishop	Ed & Luke Domke
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Mark & Jana Bishop	Bill & Lorraine Freedlund
<b>Table Guild –</b>	Chris Bush	
<b>Bread Maker –</b>	Cindy Olson	

### Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, August 25, 2019

	8:00 am	10:45 am
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Randy Teegardin	Mark Anton
<b>Cantor</b>	Jack Vos	Anna Scheck
<b>Lector</b>	John Burdick	Gwen Hansen
<b>Communion Server</b>	Jan Schreiner	Sandy Mosteller
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Mark Anton	Volunteer
<b>Usher</b>	Dave Neeb & Kay Marsh	Gary Golnek & Sandy Mosteller
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Lyle & Joyce Proksch	Doug & Diane Neeb
<b>Table Guild –</b>	Chris Bush	
<b>Bread Maker –</b>	Cindy Olson	

## Stewardship Information

**Worshippers last week: 78      Weekly Giving: \$ 2,271.00      Budget Amount: \$4,617.93**

**Adult Forum will meet today** and will study how we are transformed by our inclusion.

**Mike Hamp** is walking 284 miles to bring hope to those battling addiction and struggling for mental health. Join Secure Counseling as we send him off : 220 S Broadway St., Hastings today 1-4 pm. All are welcome.

**Prayer list additions:** Jill Burkhead, Gary Edwards and Wes Gillons.

**LACS** will practice at 6 pm tomorrow evening.

**Executive Committee** meets tomorrow evening at 6:00 pm.

**Council** meets Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm.

**CPR / AED class** tomorrow beginning at 9:30 am. See Kim Domke for details.

**Barry County Cares** – A note was received thanking the church for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> donations totaling \$72.71. **Noisy Offering** on August 11<sup>th</sup> totaled \$ 93.61. This money also goes to Barry County Cares to benefit people in need.

**Barry County Food Bank** is in need of soup, Hamburger Helper and stuffing mix. Please consider dropping off a few items.

**Safety and Security Mtg.** on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm.

**Bell Choir Workshop** on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8 pm. If you plan to attend or are interested, please contact Kim Domke.

**Women of Faith** will resume monthly meetings on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at Mallard Pond (1:30-3 pm).

**Save the Date for Crop Walk 2019!** Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Middleville United Methodist Church.

**Mutual Ministry:** If there is a ministry concern, please contact Carl Schoessel. Carl is our member of the Mutual Ministry Committee that is highlighted this week and can be reached by a phone call or a text message at 269.838.8407.

**If there is a pastoral emergency,** please do not hesitate to call Pastor Ken Scheck at 269-370-4632.