

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

August 7, 2022

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Let us celebrate God's presence among us at all times. We know the unique gift we have of God meeting our every need. Let us give praise to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Gathering Music

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Arise in body or Spirit

Greeting

Please rise in body or spirit. 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.

G **And also with you.**

A You are the treasured people of the Lord,

G **a people holy to the Lord our God.**

P Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children

G **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

A One does not live by bread alone,

G **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

Gathering Song

Many and Great, O God

ELW 837

Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Let us pray.... Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.
☑ **Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

- 📖 A reading from **Genesis**.

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

- 📖 The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

📖 A reading from **Hebrews**.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised.

¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**



1 God, whose farm is all cre - a - tion, take the grat - i -
 2 Take our plow - ing, seed - ing, reap - ing, hopes and fears of
 3 All our la - bor, all our watch - ing, all our cal - en -



tude we give; take the fin - est of our har - vest,
 sun and rain, all our think - ing, plan - ning, wait - ing,
 dar of care in these crops of your cre - a - tion,



crops we grow that we may live.
 rip - ened in this fruit and grain.
 take, O God: they are our prayer.

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

- ☐ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time

Message

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

You are Mine

ELW 581

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Hear us, O God.** The assembly prays, **Your mercy is great.***

- A** Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence

- A** Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. We especially name *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companion St. James Lutheran Church, Rogers City; Milo Bible Church, Hickory Corners, Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.

- G** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Hear us, O God.

- G** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Be with those who safeguard the world, *especially Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke).* Hear us, O God.

- G** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you *especially Jenny Anderson, Veronica Baarson, Marc Benda, Keith Busheé, Cherie Clements, Deanna Darnell, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Kathy Engle and family, Gene and Julie Fogarty and family, Mike Fruth, Greg Franks, Jeff and Sue Gibbons, Lorie Gladyness, Karl Golnek, Charlene Hall, Judy Heil, Mike Hoppe, Bill Melcher, Rick Palmer, Annette Poholski, Susie Smith, Jackie Stapel, George Ulrich Jr., Cheryl Wilke, and the family of Rob Young.* Renew us at your table of mercy. Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Hear us, O God.

- G** **Your mercy is great.**

- Ⓐ Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- Ⓐ With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Hear us, O God.

☞ **Your mercy is great.**

- Ⓟ Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

☞ **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

- Ⓟ The peace of Christ be with you always.

☞ **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)

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**

Thanksgiving Prayer

☞ Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

☞ **We praise you, O God.**

☞ Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

☞ **It is right to give our thanks and praise. We bless you, O God.**

☞ We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

☞ **We thank you, O God.**

☞ 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim that Jesus is among us.

☞ **Amen. Remembering love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☞ We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

☞ **Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

☞ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray how Jesus first 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

☞ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

We Partake of the Body and Blood of Christ

Communion Songs

*Taste and See
In the Singing*

ELW 493
ELW 466

Prayer after Communion

- Ⓐ 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.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit.

Blessing

- Ⓟ 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 Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- ☞ **Amen.**

Sending Song

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

ELW 763

Dismissal

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

Postlude

8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Chris Bush
Lector – Dave Neeb
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Traci Wales
Lector – Carol Vos
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck
Fellowship – Diane Neeb

Security Systems That Don't Fail

Jesus knows that we worry about a lot of things. Many people who own a lot of possessions live in fear of losing them. Some find that a security system installed with cameras and sensors and smart doorbells can lower their anxiety. But even with internet-of-things technology, these security systems do not stop the risk of theft. We may get a video of someone stealing our stuff, but we still lose the stuff. Anxiety over losing what we have persists and may in fact be ever-present as our cell phones alert us to each passerby at the front door.

Jesus proposes several other security systems that transform our anxiety over losing what we have into a different kind of calm. The first one he offers is probably the least popular: *Sell your possessions and give the money to the poor*. You don't have to worry about your belongings being stolen if you get rid of them. It's a radical option, but an option nonetheless.

Jesus also proposes another kind of security: *Place value in the things that can't be stolen*. When we treasure the mercy and love of God as our most prized possession, we have what no one else can take. We have a security system that does not fail. We have deep and abiding peace. Our fears are calmed.

There is one additional security system to which Jesus invites us: *Have confidence that it is God's good pleasure to give us life with God*, life in a world where everyone has enough and no one worries about losing it, life where we all know we are equally beloved. When this is our treasure, when it is where we place our hearts, we find the peace that is a secure gift.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Stewardship Information

Attendance: 78	Views: 92
Weekly Giving: \$1,201.00	Budget Amount: \$4,163.28
Renew Campaign Needed \$4342.00	
Renew Campaign Received \$ <u>0.00</u>	
TOTAL Outstanding \$4042.00	

Welcome to worship today! We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the ONE who gives us more than we need.

Grace Lutheran Church is seeking a Nursery Attendant during the 10:45 worship service.

September GraceGram The September GraceGram will be published before we know it. Do you have anything you would like to add? Do you have photos from the Car Show you'd like to share? Please send your articles and ideas to parishadmin@grace-hasting.org. The deadline is Wednesday, August 17. Thank you for your contributions.

Lutheran Disaster Relief Flooding in Kentucky has destroyed hundreds of homes and businesses and disrupted the lives of families. As the waters recede and the full scope of the damage is assessed, Lutheran Disaster Response will work with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and local communities to focus on long-term needs. You can help by donating to the ELCA Disaster Response Fund by going to www.elca.org/disaster, or by mailing a donation made out to Lutheran Disaster Response and sending it to **ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**. You can also put your donation directly into the collection plate. Please be sure to indicated "U.S. Flooding" in the memo line. Thank you for helping.

Books-for-Kids is an outreach project sponsored by our Outreach Committee. Our goal again this year is to purchase age-appropriate books for needy students in Shayna Gibbons classroom. Contributions should be marked "**Books for Kids**".

Money Counters Needed We need additional members to help with money counting. Can you volunteer an hour or two each week to help with this important ministry? No experience needed and you will be provided with training. See Deborah Wilke for additional information.

Replace, Repair, Renew Campaign. As you can tell by the above numbers, we have paid off all of these items. Now we enter into the Renewal phase of the campaign which has a goal of raising \$4842.00 for a new HVAC system for the Fellowship Hall. Thanks again for your continued generosity.