

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

August 21, 2022

# Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 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

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

ELW 859

## Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray.... O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright.
- G** **Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## First Reading

Isaiah 58:9b-14

- L** A reading from **Isaiah**.

*God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

- <sup>b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.
- <sup>13</sup>If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;  
if you call the sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;  
if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;  
<sup>14</sup>then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;  
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

- L** The Word of the Lord.  
**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 103:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

**<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;

**<sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**<sup>6</sup>O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.

**<sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

## Second Reading

## Hebrews 12:18-29

*Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.*

☒ A reading from **Hebrews**.

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup>See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." <sup>27</sup>This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; <sup>29</sup>for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

☒ 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 13:10-17**

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.*

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup>When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” <sup>13</sup>When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. <sup>14</sup>But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” <sup>15</sup>But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? <sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” <sup>17</sup>When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

## Children's Time

### Message

*Silence for reflection*

### Song of the Day

### *Build a Longer Table*

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

## 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** You crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God, especially empower our Church leaders: *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companion Messiah Lutheran Church, Roscommon; Nashville Assembly of God; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.

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

**A** You satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds. Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive. Hear us, O God.

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

**A** You make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality. Be with those who safeguard the world, *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** You provide justice for all who are oppressed and relief to all who are afflicted. Heal those who are bent over by addiction, depression, and anxiety *especially Jenny Anderson, Veronica Baarson, Marc Benda, Keith Busheé, Cherie Clements, Patti Comp, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Kathy Engle and family, Jack Fiedler 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, Norma Ludlow, Alexis Markwart, Duane Myers Family, Rick Palmer, Annette Poholski, Susie Smith, Jackie Stapel, Students and Teachers (they have little or no anxiety as they return to school), Al Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Cheryl Wilke, and the family of Rob Young.* Set free all who cry out under the weight of mental, emotional, or physical distress. Hear us, O God.

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

**A** You call us to delight in the sabbath. Renew our bodies, minds, and spirits in this worshiping assembly. Give rest to all who lead our congregation in worship, study, and service.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

- Ⓐ Generations bless your holy name. We give you thanks for the communion of saints who have gathered in prayer and praise in this place. Support us in your love until we rest forever in you. 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	<i>Here is Bread</i>	ELW 483
	<i>We come to You for Healing, Lord</i>	ELW 617
	<i>There is a Balm in Gilead</i>	ELW 614

### 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

*How Firm a Foundation*

ELW 796

### Dismissal

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

### Postlude

## **A Good Time for Liberation**

Luke tells us that Jesus had such compassion for an ailing woman that he healed her without waiting. It's hard to imagine what it was like for her to be bent over for eighteen years. Anyone who has known back pain knows how debilitating it can be. The image of her stooped over is quickly transformed when she is healed, is liberated from her ailment, and stands up straight. She is set free from pain and social isolation. She spontaneously praises God. How could she not?

Some people present with Jesus and the woman did not celebrate or praise God. They complained that Jesus' timing was bad. It was the Sabbath day. Sabbath is a holy gift from God given for God's people to have rest, to be free from the burdens of labor, and to enjoy life in community with one another and God. Some thought restrictions against doing work meant it was a bad time for healing. They failed to see that as good as Sabbath-keeping is, there is never a bad time for healing. It is always the right time to liberate people from whatever disease and oppression keeps them bent over and suffering.

Luke's message is that Jesus comes to bring God's liberation for the poor, oppressed, sick, and sinful. Through mercy granted unconditionally, a new world is formed in Christ where it is always a good time for healing and liberation. Just as Jesus lifted up the woman bent over in pain, God lifts up the lowly and humble to give them life and liberty.

God surprises us with grace that comes even when we think it can't be the right time. Whether it is God claiming us in Christ through baptism, or granting healing from disease, or lifting up people bent over from marginalization, it is always the right time. How could we not offer our spontaneous praise as we are lifted up by such good news?

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### **8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister – Mark Anton**

**Lector – Dave Neeb**

**Cantor – Cindy Olson**

**Musician – Cindy Olson**

**Pastor – Mike Kemper**

### **10:45 am**

**Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo**

**Lector – Linda Melcher**

**Cantor – Cindy Olson**

**Musician – Cindy Olson**

**Pastor – Mike Kemper**

**Fellowship – The Freedlunds**

## Stewardship Information

Attendance: Not Available	Views: 128
Weekly Giving: \$2,905.00	Budget Amount: \$4,301.04
July Online Giving: \$2,034.00	
Renew Campaign Needed \$4,042.00	
Renew Campaign Received \$ <u>100.00</u>	
TOTAL Outstanding \$3,942.00	

**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 direction for our lives.**

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

**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.

**Lutheran Disaster Relief** Flooding in Kentucky has destroyed hundreds of homes and businesses and disrupted the lives of families. You can help by donating to the ELCA Disaster Response Fund by going to [www.elca.org/disaster](http://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**".

**You are Cordially Invited** Reverend Linnea RP Stifler is retiring. You are invited to an open house on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, from 3:00 until 6:00 p.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church 315 West Center Street, Hastings. Please join the Emmanuel congregation in celebration of her many years of service.

**Congregational Care** Congregational Care will meet Monday, September 19 at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Varkula. Thank you.