

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

October 23, 2022

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 23, 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 the Holy Trinity.

Gathering Music

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Greeting

Please rise in body or spirit. The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- P** Grace be with you from the Holy Trinity; our true God, who comes to us with the love of a parent, redeemer, and upholder.
- G** **And also with you.**

Gathering Song

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW 344

Opening Sentences

- P** Come, let us be filled by the Holy Spirit.
- G** **For the Lord gives us strength when we are weak in faith.**

- A** When we are cold in love,
- G** **Warm us with fervor so we may love our neighbors.**

- P** God's bountiful goodness fills all creation.
- G** **Let all colors and races give God hearty praise. Amen**



1 O - ceans rise, the coast-land trem-bles; moun-tains melt and dry earth
 2 Na - tions rage, the em - pire fal - ters; seek-ing ref - uge, ex - iles
 3 Come and see; God's mer - cy gath - ers all that sin and grief have



crum-bles. All the world with long - ing groans. Love a -
 wan - der. Walls and weap - ons rise from fear. Through this
 shat - tered. Life from fields of death is raised. Peace, be



bides, this gra - cious prom - ise is our help, our hope and
 wil - der - ness a riv - er flows to heal and bless us
 still; let pride - ful thun - der yield to songs of joy and



so - lace. God's strong word is sol - id ground.
 ev - er. God the cru - ci - fied dwells here.
 won - der. God and God a - lone be praised.

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray.... Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness.
- G** **Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

In a time of drought, the people pray for mercy, repenting of their sins and the sins of their ancestors. They appeal to God to remember the covenant, to show forth God's power, and to heal their land by sending life-giving rain.

☒ A reading from **Jeremiah**.

⁷Although our iniquities testify against us, act, O LORD, for your name's sake; our apostasies indeed are many, and we have sinned against you. ⁸O hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night? ⁹Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help? Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not forsake us!

¹⁰Thus says the LORD concerning this people: Truly they have loved to wander, they have not restrained their feet; therefore the LORD does not accept them, now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

¹⁹Have you completely rejected Judah? Does your heart loathe Zion? Why have you struck us down so that there is no healing for us? We look for peace, but find no good; for a time of healing, but there is terror instead. ²⁰We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you. ²¹Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us. ²²Can any idols of the nations bring rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Is it not you, O LORD our God? We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

☒ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84:1-7

¹How dear to me is your dwelling,
O LORD of hosts!

**²My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

**⁴Happy are they who dwell in your house!
They will always be praising you.**

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you,
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

**⁶Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

⁷They will climb from height to height,
and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

The conclusion of this letter to a young minister offers a final perspective on life from one who faced death. Though others let him down, Paul was sure of his faith in the Lord, who stood by him and lent him strength.

📖 A reading from **2 Timothy**.

⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**



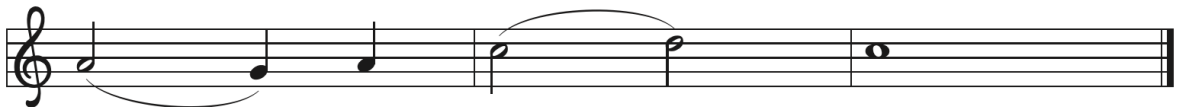
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
 2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
 3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
 4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
 5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow'ed to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
 Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
 Em - pow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
 we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
 we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
 Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
 we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
 a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
 Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:9-14

The coming reign of God will involve unexpected reversals of fortune with judgment rooted in mercy. Jesus tells a parable in which the one who humbles himself is exalted and the one who exalts his own righteousness is humbled.

- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to **Luke**.
- ☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁹[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

Children’s Time

Message

*Silence for reflection. After reflection,
Arise in body or in spirit to sing the hymn.*

Song of the Day

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW 326

Prayers

*You may sit or kneel for prayer. The prayer response after each petition is, **God of grace.** The assembly prays,
Receive our prayer.*

- ☐ In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God’s creation.
A brief silence

- ☐ God of mercy, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Inspire your church to serve and love all people with the unceasing grace you extend to us *especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companion New Life Lutheran Church, Spruce; Pleasant View Church, Dowling; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of grace.
- ☑ **Receive our prayer.**

A God of all creation, you formed a world where even the sparrow finds a home. Preserve the beauty and diversity of all creatures with whom we share the earth. Lead us to protect all living things. God of grace.

G **Receive our prayer.**

A God of peace, you are an ever-present help in time of trouble. Rescue families and nations torn apart by violence and warfare. Unite all people toward common goals of reconciliation and peace for every person. 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)*. God of grace.

G **Receive our prayer.**

A God of hope, you stand with the suffering and give strength. Comfort your people filled with fear or anger, anxiety or shame. Bring healing to all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit *especially Jenny Anderson, Frances Ann, Veronica Baarson, Greg Benda, Marc Benda, Walter Brown, Keith Busheé, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Paul Curtis, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Mike Fruth, Greg Franks, Jeff and Sue Gibbons, Karl Golnek, Amanda Haddix (pregnancy), Charlene Hall, Larry Hansen, Cheryl Hills, Mike Hoppe, Norma Ludlow, Alexis Markwart, Mattea Markwart, Doug Mephem, Terri Neeb, Annette Poholski, Cynthia Rudesill (pregnancy), Susie Smith, The Thomas Family, Al Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeannette Ulrich, Lindsay Varkula (pregnancy), Cheryl Wilke and Brody*. God of grace.

G **Receive our prayer.**

A God of restoration, you call us to trust in you and not ourselves alone. Make this congregation a community of humility and repentance, ready to encounter you in love and follow in your ways.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God of eternal life, to you be the glory forever. We give you thanks for all who have fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith, and now live with you.

G **Receive our prayer.**

P With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you.

G **And also with you.**

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

Offering Prayer

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it.
- ☒ **Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

Thanksgiving Prayer

- Ⓟ 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

- Ⓟ Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.
- ☒ **Thanks be to God.**

We Partake of the Body and Blood of Christ

Communion Songs

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 596

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

Prayer after Communion

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey.
- ☞ **Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit.

Blessing

- ☞ God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
- ☞ **Amen.**

Sending Song

Come, We that Love the Lord

ELW 625

Dismissal

- Ⓐ Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Randy Teegardin
Lector – Jamie Heise
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck II

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
Lector – Gwen Hansen
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck II
Fellowship – Paul Kuhlman

Fractured Hearts

At first glance, the Pharisee in Jesus' parable seems to be doing everything right. He attends worship faithfully, he offers thankful prayers to God, he tithes 10 percent of his income, and he even fasts regularly. That's an impressive list! However, it's not the state of his spiritual habits that Jesus reproaches, but the state of his heart. The Pharisee is diligent and observant, but he is putting trust in himself and his own piety rather than in God.

Martin Luther interpreted the first commandment, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3), to mean that we should put our whole confidence in God alone, trusting in God above all else. Our hearts should cling to God, Luther said. When our hearts start clinging to other things, as the Pharisee's did to his religious routine, we turn those things into idols.

In one version of the communal confession we use in worship, we admit to God: "We have not loved you with our whole heart" (*ELW*, p. 95). Despite our best intentions, our hearts can become fractured, clinging to all kinds of things before they cling to God. Sometimes all that's left for God is a tiny portion of our hearts. The words of the confession reorient us by reminding us of our dependence on God and our need for God's grace. We echo the prayer of the tax collector in Jesus' parable: "God, be merciful to us sinners!"

No matter how fractured our hearts become, though, God's response to our prayers will always be the same. God overflows with mercy and compassion toward us. At the end of our confession, we receive the assurance of forgiveness in Christ. That good news is for everyone—Pharisees and tax collectors alike. We are all God's beloved children, freed and forgiven by the radical grace of

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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2023 Calendars God's Creation Calendars are available in the Gathering Area for \$5.00. Please put your money in the envelope provided and make sure you include "Outreach Calendar" on the envelope. Envelopes can be deposited in the collection plate or placed on Brenda's desk.

Heating and Cooling Just a reminder as the seasons change, please do not adjust the thermostats in the building and leave them change. Push the run button when finished heating the space to the desired level. Thank you for your cooperation.

Psalms are for Singing Did you know that the Psalms were literally songs, sung to praise God or lament? Grace will soon return to singing the Psalm, starting in Advent, November 27th. If you would like to be a Cantor, or Singer of the Psalm, please let me know! Thanks, Cindy Olson.

Stewardship Information

Attendance: 64

Views: 190

Weekly Giving: \$1,580.00

Budget Amount: \$4,301.04

Renew Campaign Needed \$2,400.00

Renew Campaign Received \$ 100.00

TOTAL Outstanding \$2,300.00

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 loves us enough to challenge us to love one another.

Trunk-or-Treat, Monday, Oct. 31st We are planning to hold our Trunk-or-Treat event from 5:00-8:00 pm. Room decorating for participating volunteers at 4:30 PM. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to participate in this event this year and to everyone who has donated some candy to hand out to all the little ghosts and goblins who come through Halloween evening. Any questions: Contact Mike Kemper – 269 569-1484

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 toward a new HVAC system for the Fellowship Hall. Thanks again for your continued generosity.

Secret Santa Survey If you would like to participate in 2022 Secret Santa, please fill out a survey and place it in the offering plate, or on the Parish Administrator's desk. We look forward to having lots of fun this year.

Heritage Sunday on Sunday, October 30. We will be gathering together for a combined 10:00 service celebrating Reformation Sunday. There will be a meal directly following the service where you are encouraged to bring a dish to share you feel represents your heritage. Come join the fun!

Pasty Sale CHANGE OF DATE Please place your orders by Thursday, November 10th with pickup on Saturday, November 19th from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Call 269.945.9414 to place your order or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Just a reminder that pasties are \$7.00 for unbaked, and \$8.00 for baked. There is a limit of 156 unbaked and 144 for baked this time.

Phantom of the Opera The Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Organ Concert held at the Grand Rapids Public Museum presents The Phantom of the Opera on Saturday, November 5 at 2:00 p.m. Leave Grace at 12:30. Cost is \$15 per ticket, and you can pay with cash or check (made out to Grace Lutheran Church). Please indicate Organ Concert in memo line. Envelopes are available with the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.

Save the Date Jesus Birthday Party after the 10:45 Worship Service on Sunday, December 11.

Save the Date Caroling to the Homebound on Sunday, December 11 beginning at 1:00 p.m.