

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 25, 2023

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit, and the continued growth given by our gracious God.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music

The Power of Your Love

arr. Jane Holstein

Welcome

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

- P** O Lord, open our lips,
C and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.
- A** Blessed God, satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
C that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- P** Give praise to the Holy Trinity our true God,
C who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.

Gathering Song

How Firm a Fountain

ELW 796

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- P** The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray... Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve.
C To give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

📖 A reading from **Jeremiah**:

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"

then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.

¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

℣ The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 69:7-10; 16-18



☩ Refrain



An - swer me, O LORD, for your love is kind.

⁷Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,
and shame has cov- | ered my face.

⁸I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,
an alien to my | mother's children.

⁹**Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.**

¹⁰**I humbled my- | self with fasting,
but that was turned to | my reproach. ☩**

¹¹I put on | sackcloth also,
and became a by- | word among them.

¹²Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me,
and the drunkards make | songs about me.

¹³**But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set, O LORD:
"In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.**

¹⁴**Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep waters. ☩**

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swal- | low me up;
do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.

¹⁶Answer me, O LORD, for your | love is kind;
in your great compassion, | turn to me.

¹⁷**Hide not your face | from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.**

¹⁸**Draw near to me | and redeem me;
because of my enemies de- | liver me. ☩**

Second Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

☒ A reading from **Romans:**

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

☞ The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

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. After reflection,

Arise in body or in spirit to sing the hymn.

Hymn of the Day

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

ELW 769

You may sit or kneel for prayer.

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Receive our prayer, O God.** The assembly prays, **You give us mercy.***

☐ Trusting in God’s abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

☐ You entice your church to speak truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ’s death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. Guide and strengthen *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrissy and David, our synod companions Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Edmore; First Baptist Church of Middleville; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Receive our prayer, O God.

☑ **You give us mercy.**

☐ Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth’s resources. Receive our prayer, O God.

☑ **You give us mercy.**

☐ Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. Be with those who safeguard the world, including

Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke). Receive our prayer, O God.

☞ You give us mercy.

☞ You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorably upon all who struggle especially *Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Sharon Bolton, Cherie Clements, Pat Wales DePew, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Lisa Golnek, Tina Kemper, Norma Ludlow, Martha Mizak, Lisa Nurenberg, Abbie Osborn (pregnancy), Corrina Palmer, Ricky Palmer, Sherry Palmer, Annette Poholski, Kathy Politis, Theresa Strefling, Al Throop, and Erika Wood.* Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. Receive our prayer, O God.

☞ You give us mercy.

☞ Even when we experience rejection your love invites us to new life. Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. Receive our prayer, O God.

☞ You give us mercy.

☞ All who have died with Christ also live with him.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. Receive our prayer, O God.

☞ You give us mercy.

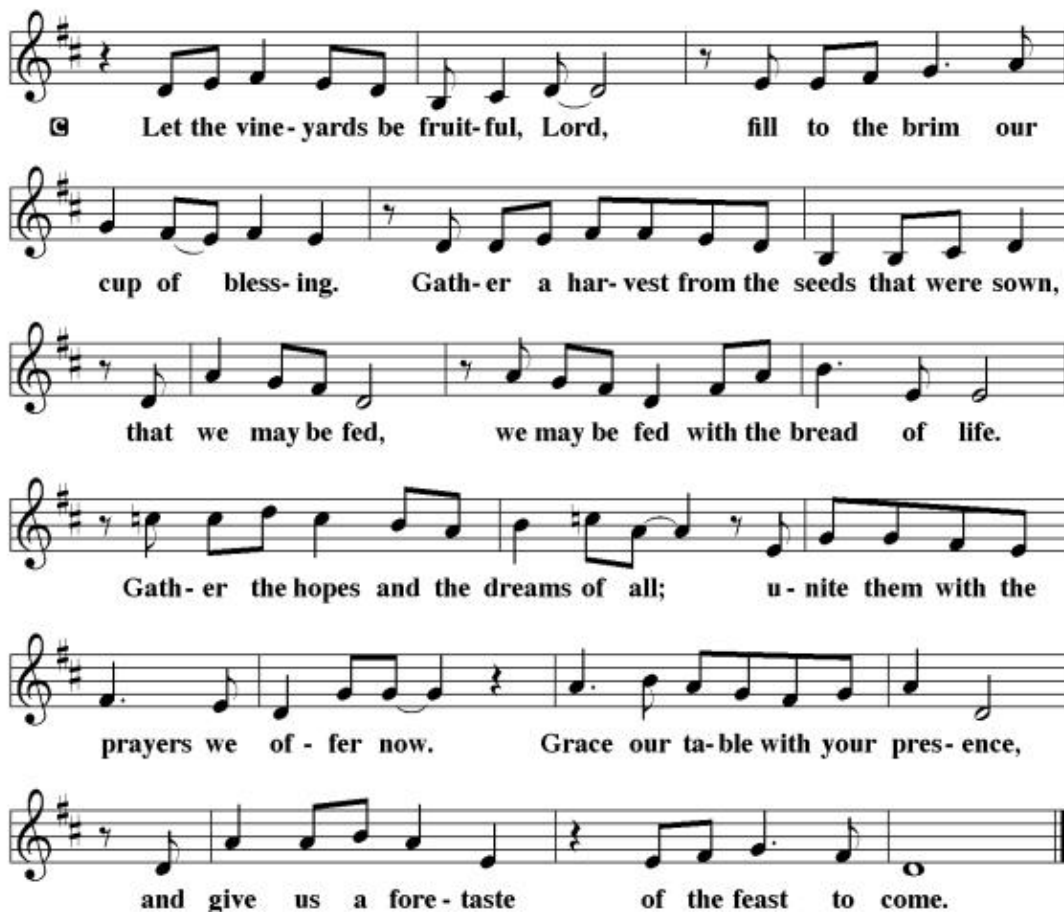
☞ Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

☞ Amen.

Arise in body or spirit.

Offering Song

Let the Vineyards



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

- A** 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.
- G** **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

- P** The peace of Christ be with you.
- G** **And also with you.**

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

Great Thanksgiving



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a 'P' in a box, followed by the lyrics 'The Lord be with you.' The second staff begins with a 'C' in a box, followed by 'And al - so with you.' The third staff begins with a 'P' in a box, followed by 'Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.' The fourth staff begins with a 'C' in a box, followed by 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The final staff begins with a 'C' in a box, followed by 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Table Prayer

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of five staves of music in a treble clef, 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The second staff continues with 'Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are'. The third staff has 'full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The fourth staff says 'Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the'. The fifth staff concludes with 'Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' There are various musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, and a triplet of eighth notes in the second staff.

- Ⓟ Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.
- Ⓞ **When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.**
- Ⓟ 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, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death,
- Ⓞ **we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.**
- Ⓟ Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
- Ⓞ **so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.**

☐ Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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.**

Sit

Lamb of God

☑ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Songs

Lord of Our Life
We Come Now to Your Table

ELW 766
ACS 970



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

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.

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore.

O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
 2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
 3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
 name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your
 end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
 good-ness, I will keep .. on .. sing-ing— ten thou-sand
 soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
 rea - sons for my heart to find.
 years and then for - ev - er - more!

Sending

A Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Evil? I Renounce It!

The service of Holy Baptism asks baptismal candidates, parents, and sponsors to reject sin in a series of renunciations:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Those assembled respond: “I renounce them!” (*ELW*, p. 229)

In today’s gospel, Jesus warns the disciples about what sorts of evil, risks, and divisions may be ahead for them. Discipleship has already cost them their intended vocations, and the road ahead includes conflicts that will split families and may cost them their lives. Such was the reality in ancient days when taking on Roman authority.

Today, risks for living out faith still exist, especially in countries without freedom of religion. But most of us have difficulty imagining what resistance to our faith would look like. One look at the morning news reminds us that evil is rampant in our world. We resist evil when we raise our voices against violence, when we march against inequality, when we welcome and house the stranger new to our country and community, and when we fight for the rights of Black and brown and LGBTQ+ siblings. Some among us tackle systemic racism and corruption in workplaces and institutions—often at great risk.

This passage from Matthew is difficult and disturbing, yet there is gospel in it. Jesus tells those who follow him not to fear, and that we undertake this mission of mercy with vulnerability and dependence on a most gracious God. Amid the risks, despite the uncertainty, the gospel is to be proclaimed “in the light” and “from the housetops” (Matthew 10:27), for it is the most powerful tool we have against the evil of this world.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Save the Date The Social Activities Committee invites you to a concert by the Cereal City Concert Band and a tour of the Kellogg Manor House on **Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023**. House tours are from Noon-3:00 pm and the concert is from 3:00-5:00 pm. Sign up sheet and details to follow.

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 continues to call each one of us. Even though we do wrong or sin by not caring, just loves us and asks us to love one another.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 43	Views: 222
Weekly Giving: \$1,340.00	Budget Amount: \$4,301.04
<i>Lifting Up</i> Campaign Needed: \$9,240.65	- Note starting need was \$25,000.00
<i>Lifting Up</i> Campaign Received: <u>-\$ 0.00</u>	
TOTAL Outstanding: \$9,240.65	

Annual Report Several copies of the Annual Report are available in the Gathering Area for you to view ahead of the Annual Meeting.

Time and Talent Inventory is available in the Gathering Area. Please fill out and return by July 1 to the collection folder. Thank you.

Prayer Chain Grace has an activated prayer chain. If you want to be a part of the prayer chain, or have a request for prayer, please text or call Patti Comp at 248.408.5613.

Adult Forum studies normally studies Proverbs in the Gathering Area today at 9:30 am. Hope to see you there!

The nursery is available during the 10:45 worship service. Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service.

The Annual Grace Auto Show is July 30, 2023. We will be having a combined service at 10:00 a.m. Please invite your friends and neighbors to this fun event.

The 2023 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, JULY 9th at 9:30 am.

8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Randy Teegardin
Lector – Vicki Tebo
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck II

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
Lector – Jeanette Markwart
Cantor – Ken Scheck
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck II
Fellowship – Jeanette Markwart