

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org
Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
July 2, 2023

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

July 2, 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

Amen

arr. Jack Schrader

Welcome

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

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

Gathering Song

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

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.
G And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray... O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world.
G Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

📖 A reading from **Jeremiah**:

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18



Refrain



¹Your love, O LORD, forever¹ will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will pro-¹claim your faithfulness.

**²For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab-¹lished forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly¹ in the heavens.**

³⁴I have made a covenant with my¹ chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to Da-¹vid my servant:

**⁴I will establish your¹ line forever,
and preserve your throne for all¹ generations.' ”**

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the¹ festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light¹ of your presence.

**¹⁶They rejoice daily¹ in your name;
they are jubilant¹ in your righteousness.**

¹⁷For you are the glory¹ of their strength,
and by your favor our might¹ is exalted.

**¹⁸Truly, our shield belongs¹ to the LORD;
our king to the Holy¹ One of Israel.**

Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

📖 A reading from **Romans**:

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

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.***

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

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church. For wisdom to heed the voices of prophets in our midst who cast a vision of God's promised future. For courage to welcome people whom society rejects. For resolve to serve all in need. Guide and strengthen *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrissy and David, our synod companions Calvary Lutheran Church, Elk Rapids; First Congregational Church, Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Receive our prayer, O God.

G **You give us mercy.**

A We pray for creation. For all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams. For lands experiencing scorching heat, drought, or wildfires. For conservation organizations and environmental activists. For scientists working on clean energy solutions. Receive our prayer, O God.

G **You give us mercy.**

A We pray for this nation and all nations. For presidents, governors, and legislators. For judges, juries, district attorneys, and public defenders. For those who are incarcerated. Guide us in ways of freedom that promote the common good. 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.

G **You give us mercy.**

A We pray for those in need. For exiles, immigrants, refugees, and those seeking asylum. For victims of harassment, torture, or abuse. For those who are ill especially *Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Sharon Bolton, Chris Bush, 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, The Family of Matt Wilke, and Erika Wood.* For any near death and for all who grieve. Receive our prayer, O God.

G **You give us mercy.**

A We pray for children. For their safety at home and in childcare settings. For their flourishing at summer programs and camps. For the many people who care for them including parents and grandparents; childcare workers and teachers; coaches, counselors, and mentors; pediatricians and psychologists. Receive our prayer, O God.

G **You give us mercy.**

- A** We give thanks for all the saints and prophets who have received the free gift of God, which is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

May their lives of humble service inspire us in faith. Receive our prayer, O God.

- G** You give us mercy.

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

- G** Amen.

Arise in body or spirit.

Offering Song

Let the Vineyards

The musical score is written on six staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and a treble clef. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

C 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

- Ⓐ 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.)

Great Thanksgiving

Ⓐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so 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.

Table Prayer

Ⓐ 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 musical score is written on five staves of a single treble clef. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains 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 contains 'full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The fourth staff contains '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.' The music features various note values, rests, 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

This Little Light of Mine
Here is Bread
Taste and See

ELW 677
ELW 483
ELW 493

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

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

Sending

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

Postlude

A Welcome Promise

Earlier in the chapter from which today's gospel comes, Jesus gave his first twelve disciples instructions and advice before he sent them out to minister, teach, and preach (Matthew 10:1-8). We too are called to proclaim good news wherever we go, and like those first twelve, we may wonder why anyone should be interested in what we have to offer. We're not sure that we are good enough with words to persuade anyone. We're not sure that we are good enough with tools to be helpful with practical tasks. We're not sure that we have the financial resources to change lives with charitable giving. Often, we're not sure that we are brave enough to even try.

It's a good thing Jesus never sends us out alone. He always comes with us! That's why he can say that anyone who welcomes us welcomes him. What a wonderful gift to be able to bring to the people we meet: the opportunity to meet Jesus himself!

Sometimes Jesus sends us to faraway places. Sometimes he sends us deeper into our own communities. Sometimes he sends us to welcome others, and sometimes he sends us to be welcomed by others.

In all of those times, and in all of those places, Jesus has this reminder for us: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me" (Matt. 10:40). We can depend on that because we can depend on him. Jesus is with us when we experience amazing hospitality and when we feel like we are all alone. Jesus is with us whether we are brave or timid. Jesus is there for the people we meet along the way, and Jesus is here for us. The promise is as certain as the waters of baptism, as real as the taste of bread and wine.

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Bratwurst Making Please save the date of Wednesday, July 26 - 5:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School Green Street United Methodist Church has graciously invited our youth to attend their VBS this year July 10-12 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. The theme this year is "Hero Hotline". If you have questions or are able to help by being a volunteer, please contact Salina at kidzone.greenstreetumc@gmail.com.

Church Emails Some emails being sent to Gmail accounts from the parish administrator account have been bouncing back to the spam folder. To solve this problem, the grace.lutheran.hastings@gmail.com account has been reactivated. If you see emails from this account, they are not spam and your replies will come through. If you feel as if you are still not receiving emails, please let Brenda know by contacting the church office at 269.945.9414. Thank you.

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. Jesus welcomes us and invites us to welcome others.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 58	Views: 250
Weekly Giving: \$1770.00	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 (minus the nomination slate/ballot) are available in the Gathering Area for you to view ahead of the Annual Meeting.

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! There will be no Adult Forum next week due to the Annual Meeting.

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 next **Sunday, JULY 9th at 9:30 am.**

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. 20, 2023.** House tours are from Noon-2:45 pm and the concert is from 3:00-5:00 pm. Sign-up sheet and details to follow.

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 – Traci Whales
Lector – Bill Freedlund
Cantor – Paul Kuhlman
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck II
Fellowship – Diane Neeb