Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music August 6, 2023

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 6, 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.

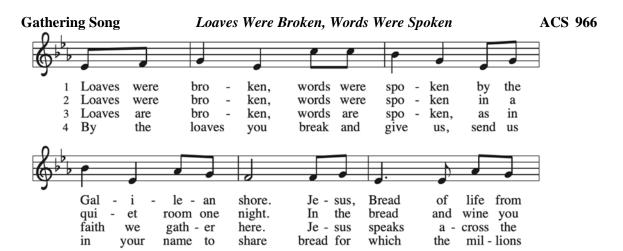
Gathering Music

Welcome

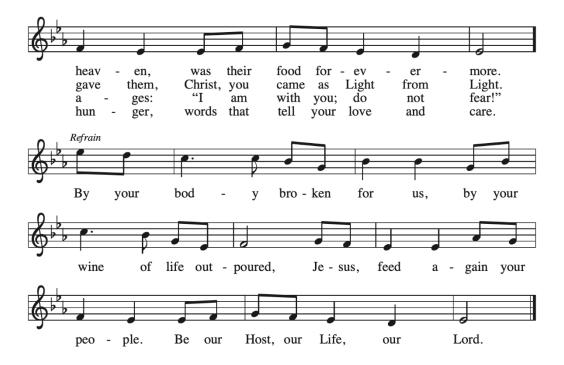
Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

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



Tenth Sunday of Pentecost - Page 2



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.
- And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- ⚠ Let us pray... Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance.
- Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-5

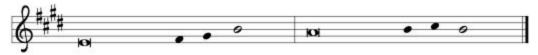
God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

L A reading from **Isaiah**:

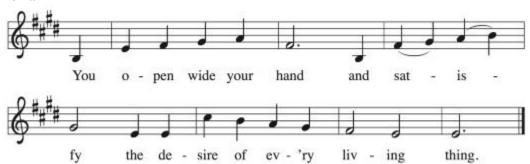
¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

- **L** The word of the Lord.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21



Refrain



⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹LORD, you are [|] good to all, and your compassion is over [|] all your works. **□**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

¹⁵The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD, and you give them their food | in due season.

¹⁶You open | wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

17You are righteous in | all your ways and loving in | all your works. ■

¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you, to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

¹⁹You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you; you hear their | cry and save them.

²⁰You watch over all | those who love you, but all the wicked you | shall destroy.

²¹My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name forey- | er and ever. ■ Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

L A reading from **Romans**:

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

L The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading Matthew 14:13-21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

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

ఆ Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

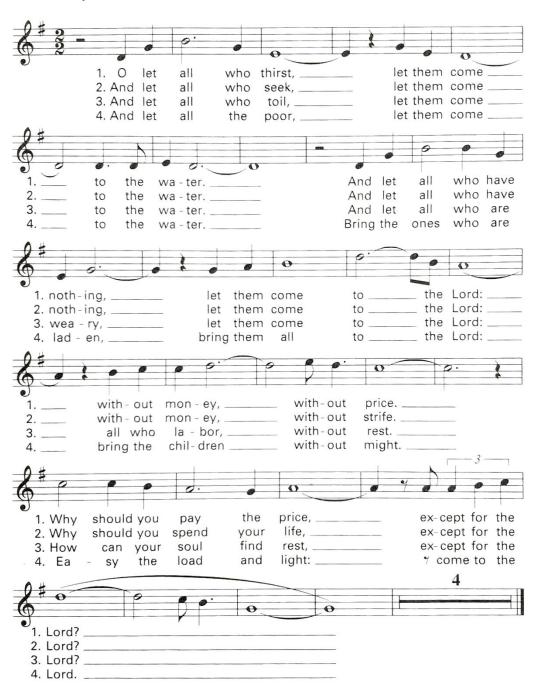
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

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.



You may sit or kneel for prayer.

Prayers

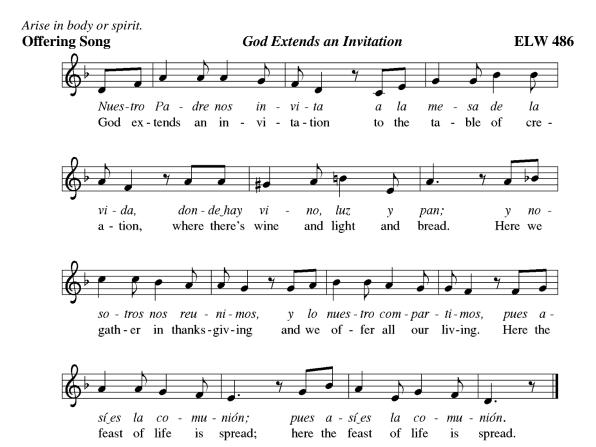
We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, Receive our prayer, O God. The assembly prays, You give us mercy.

- Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.
 A brief silence.
- A You gather your church together by the Holy Spirit. Inspire all the baptized to proclaim your abundant love throughout the world. Guide us in the mission of the gospel through word and deed. We lift up *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companions Christ the King Lutheran Church, Gladwin; Freeport United Methodist; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Receive our prayer, O God.
- **ఆ** You give us mercy.
- A You cherish your creation, from the smallest microbe to the largest mountain. Protect fragile ecosystems, send favorable weather, supply food and water to nourish creatures, and raise us up to care for all you have created. Receive our prayer, O God.
- **You give us mercy.**
- A You desire peace and justice in the world. Instill within all political leaders your desire, support the work of international peace organizations, and provide relief for those in war-torn areas. 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.**
- A You comfort those who are hurting. Accompany those who are alone, heal those who are sick, provide for all who hunger or thirst, console the bereaved, bring joy to the sorrowful, and attend to all who call on you especially *Veronica Baarson*, *Bob Bolton*, *Sharon Bolton*, *Chris Bush*, *Cherie Clements*, *Pat Wales DePew*, *Bob & Bonnie Ehredt*, *Lisa Golnek*, *Tina Kemper*, *Norma Ludlow*, *Lexi Markwart*, *Martha Mizak*, *The family of Tealy Moore*, *Lisa Nurenberg*, *Abbie Osborn* (pregnancy), *Corrina Palmer*, *Joanie Oster*, *Ricky Palmer*, *Sherry Palmer*, *Annette Poholski*, *Kathy Politis*, *Patty Renne*, *Theresa Strefling*, *Randy Teegardin*, *Al Throop*, *Kay Wagner*, *Pat Wagner*, the *Family of Matt Wilke*, and *Erika Wood*. Receive our prayer, O God.
- **Q** You give us mercy.
- A You place us within communities for mutual support and love. Reveal yourself to us in worship, fellowship, and ministry with our neighbors. Provide for feeding ministries and food banks in our area, that we share your abundance with all who hunger.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- A You have placed before us examples of faithful living who have witnessed to your promises throughout time and space. Rouse us by their lives of service and dedication to be your hands and feet in this world. Receive our prayer, O God.
- **Q** You give us mercy.
- P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

@ Amen.



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.
- **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.
- And also with you.

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

Great Thanksgiving

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **☑** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **☑** 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



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- 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.
- P 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.
- P Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
- **9** Amen

Lord's Prayer

- P 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

- **P** God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

Sit



Communion Songs

We Come Hungry to the Feast You Satisfy the Hungry Heart ELW 479 ELW 484

Prayer after Communion

- A 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

- P 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

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674

Sending

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

Postlude

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 come to each one of us, feeding us with the abundance of grace and giving us more than we need.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 58 Views: 192

Weekly Giving: \$2,130.00 Budget Amount: \$4,301.04 July Online Giving: \$3,522.00 Auto Show SAC: \$548.00

Lifting Up Campaign Needed: \$7,740.65 - Note starting need was \$25,000.00

Lifting Up Campaign Received: -\$ 0.00 TOTAL Outstanding: \$7,740.65

Mark Your Calendar On August 20th the social activities committee is planning on going to the Cereal City Band Concert at 3:00 pm with a tour of the Kellogg

House prior to the concert. There is no charge. We plan to leave the church in a carpool at 1:30 pm and will stop for food after the concert. The sign-up sheet is available in the Gathering Area.

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 Sundays at 9:30 am. Hope to see you there when we resume next Sunday.

The nursery is available weekly 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.

Relay for Life You are invited to participate in **RELAY FOR LIFE** by walking, donating, or praying for a safe event on **September 16 10am-10pm** at TYDEN PARK in Hastings. See the bulletin board and display for more details.



The Outreach Committee is participating in the Hand2Hand Program which provides food over the weekend to students and their families. Currently 55 students at Northeastern Elementary and Hastings High School are served by this program. We are collecting donations and you can help by donating Yoo-Hoo Chocolate Milk,

pudding cups, Slim Jims, granola bars, individual size instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, and ready-to-eat mac and cheese. Please place all donations in the box at the front entrance. Donations are due by August 25 and will be packed at Greet Street Methodist on August 30th.

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The Problem with Numbers

So much attention to numbers! Five. Two. Twelve. Five thousand. And far more than five thousand when the women and children are included in the count (almost as if it's a census-taker's afterthought). But who, really, was doing the counting? And why? Was there a crew in that deserted place tallying attendance like ushering teams who survey church pews on Sunday mornings? Probably not. Yet the numbers often dominate this story, a miraculous story so significant to the evangelists that it is, unlike any other miracle, written into all four gospels.

What might be lost from this story when the numbers—how many people, so few loaves, only a couple fish, and even the counted leftovers—command our attention? The numbers apparently consumed the disciples' imaginations and produced their reaction: "Send them away."

Consider how often stories end like this: "Send them away." How quickly, even easily, numbers settle an issue and decide a story's conclusion, people's fate. But for Jesus the story is not over. Instead he says, "They need not go away" (Matthew 14:16). The numbers neither control nor tell the story. Compassion does. And more, that is not only how the story ends; compassion is how the story begins: "When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them" (Matt. 14:14).

Rather than the numbers, it is the "where" of this story that is significant. We easily overlook where Jesus is doing his ministry: Ashore. In a deserted place. It is not in the religious space of the synagogue. In the religious space, Jesus' teaching so offended the congregation that, dishonored, he left unable to accomplish anything among them. Unable to make a space of compassion and care there, he goes out to where the people are. If this doesn't give us pause, we are not paying attention.

We see where Jesus is. Where is the church?

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8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton Lector – Tim Schoessel Cantor – Cindy Olson Musician – Cindy Olson Pastor – Ken Scheck II

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Traci Wales Lector – Linda Melcher Cantor – Cindy Olson Musician – Cindy Olson Pastor – Ken Scheck II Fellowship – Diane and Doug Neeb