

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
August 13, 2023

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 13, 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

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

Gathering Song

Shout to the Lord

ELW 821

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☞ 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... O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.
☞ **Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in “sheer silence.” God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

📖 A reading from **1 Kings:**

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:8-13



R Refrain



⁸I will listen to what the LORD¹ God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their¹ hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to¹ those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell¹ in our land.** **R**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have¹ met together;
righteousness and peace have¹ kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up¹ from the earth,
and righteousness shall look¹ down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed¹ grant prosperity,
and our land will¹ yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go be-¹ fore the LORD
and shall prepare for¹ God a pathway.** **R**

Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

📖 A reading from **Romans**:

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! *¡A - le - lu - ya!*
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So, Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

- ☐ 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

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW 756

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.

- ☐ God of grace and faith, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. We lift up *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companions Settlement Lutheran Church, Gowen; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Middleville; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Receive our prayer, O God.

- ☑ **You give us mercy.**

A God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Receive our prayer, O God.

G **You give us mercy.**

A God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. 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 God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick 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, 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.

G **You give us mercy.**

A God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service as examples of following your call. Receive our prayer, O God.

G **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.

G **Amen.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Offering Song

God Extends an Invitation

ELW 486



Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



sí es la co - mu - nión; pues a - sí es la co - mu - nión.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

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 Lord be with you.
- ☑ **And also 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



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
 earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
 name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
 high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
 Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

- P 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.
- C **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

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
 O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
 grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Songs

I Was Sinking Deep in Sin

TFF 188



1 I was sink-ing deep in sin, far from the peace-ful shore, ver - y deep-ly
 2 All my heart to him I give, ev - er to him I'll cling, in his bless-ed
 3 Souls in dan-ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com-plete - ly saves; he will lift you



stained with-in, sink-ing to rise no more; but the mas-ter of the sea
 pres - ence live, ev - er his prais-es sing; love so might-y and so true
 by his love out of the an - gry waves; he's the mas-ter of the sea,



heard my de-spair-ing cry, from the wa-ters lift-ed me, now safe am I.
 mer - its my soul's best songs; faith-ful lov-ing ser-vice, too, to him be - longs.
 bil - lows his will o - bey; he your Sav-ior true will be: be saved to - day.

Refrain →

Refrain

Love lift - ed me! Love lift - ed me! When noth - ing
 else could help, love lift - ed me. love lift - ed me.

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

ELW 763

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.
- C** **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.
- C** **Amen.**

Sending Song

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785

Sending

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

Postlude

Here and Now

“Lord, save me!” (Matthew 14:30). Right now! Right here! Right away! Peter was desperate. Neither Peter nor Jesus was thinking of heaven. The cry cracking through the storm at sea had nothing to do with a hoped-for future in a realm beyond earth in a time to come when the days of this life, here, are no more. In the tumult, in the deep-water chaos and fright, “Lord, save me!” is an urgent cry for Jesus to reach “here”—not to take me “there.”

Christians can become so bent on “being saved” as an afterlife promise that they go along, living with little discovery of Jesus present in the world, saving the world here and now.

“Lord, save” is a refrain repeated throughout all of scripture from Genesis to Revelation. In the first chapter of Matthew’s gospel is the prophetic “Wow!” that Jesus is Emmanuel, meaning “God is with us” (Matt. 1:23). From the moment he begins his ministry, Jesus makes visible and touchable the kingdom of heaven that “has come near” (Matt. 4:17). He gathers a community of disciples, announces and creates good news, cures, teaches the way of blessedness, does mercy, insists on forgiveness, encourages faith, remembers the forgotten, sees the unseen, chooses the rejected, gives courage, offers hope . . . all to save *here and now*.

“Lord, save me!” The saving takes place even before Jesus dies on the cross. The reason for his parables: to save. The meaning of the miracles: to save. The purpose of his teaching: to save.

“Lord, save me!” What a courageous appeal those words are, trusting Jesus to be Lord—master not only of a gated spiritual territory, but master on windy seas where we tremble and gasp and sink into the deep waters of a turbulent world that roils our lives. Courageous Peter, with little faith and little doubt, dares us to make his words our own: “Lord, save me!”

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8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Dave Neeb

Cantor – Cindy Olson

Musician – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Ken Scheck II

10:45 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Bill Freedlund

Cantor – Ken Scheck II

Musician – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Ken Scheck II

Fellowship – Bill and Lorraine Freedlund

Noisy Offering will be collected today to benefit Barry County Cares. You may place coins and other money into the silver bowl located in the front during the singing of the offertory song. Noisy Offering is taken every second Sunday.

Books for Kids Please consider giving toward our books for kids program. Each gift of \$20.00 will ensure that a child will be provided a book in Shayna Gibbons classroom. Thank you for your consideration in helping with this ministry need.

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 save each one of us. We don't need to ask, we don't need to be a good person, we don't need to have everything together. Jesus comes and saves us because he loves us.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 48	Views: 162
Weekly Giving: \$2,235.00	Budget Amount: \$4,301.04
Brothers of Grace: \$50.00	Youth Ministry: \$500.00
Grace Projects: \$17,994.51 (Insurance claim for roof)	
<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

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.