

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
June 9, 2024

# Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 9, 2024

**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

*Lead Me, Guide Me*

ELW 768

## 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... All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory.  
☞ **Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

*Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.*

📖 A reading from **Genesis**:

<sup>8</sup>[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.<sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

    "Because you have done this,  
        cursed are you among all animals  
        and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
        and dust you shall eat  
        all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
        and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
        and you will strike his heel."

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: 81:1-10**



**Refrain**



Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love.

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;


<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be feared. **

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,  
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

**from all their sins. **

## Second Reading

## 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

*Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.*

### **L** A reading from **2 Corinthians**:

<sup>13</sup>Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

<sup>5:1</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**WOV page 31**



*In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.*

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus went home;] <sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

<sup>28</sup>“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —<sup>30</sup>for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” <sup>33</sup>And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Children’s Message**

*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**

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

**Song of the Day**

*Please be seated.*

***A Mighty Fortress***

**ELW 504**

## Prayers

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

**A** We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence*

**A** You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and David, our synod companion Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Portage; Saint Edwards Catholic Church, Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Merciful God.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

**A** Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

**A** Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of 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).* Merciful God.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

**A** With haste, rescue victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, or hopelessness *especially Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Dennis Baarson, Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Diana Brown, Walter Brown, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Bob and Bonnie Ehredt, Opal Gillons, Lisa Golnek, Caitlyn Habben (pregnancy), Lorraine Handsbarger, Virginia Henion, Ed Markwart, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, The Family of Jan Northrup, Lisa Nurenberg, Corinna Palmer, Rick Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Annette Poholski, Patty Renne, Jennifer Rohr, Mike Shoemaker, Ron Smith, Barry Swanson, Deb Talsma, Al Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson.* Merciful God.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

**A** Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**P** Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you. Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

### **Sharing the Peace of God**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

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

### **Offering Song**

### *Let the Vineyards*

WOV page 35



**C** Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and 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 with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, 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**

### 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.**
- It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Table Prayer

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in Christ's death and resurrection.

**We look with hope for Jesus' coming. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

**May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

**Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, our God, 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**

☐ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**



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

*When Peace Like a River*

ELW 785

*Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal*

ELW 464

### 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**

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

**Postlude**

**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister – Mark Anton**  
**Lector – Phil Poholski**  
**Cantor – Cindy Olson**  
**Musician – Cindy Olson**  
**Pastor – Ken Scheck**

**10:45 am**

**Assisting Minister – Traci Wales**  
**Lector – Bill Freedlund**  
**Cantor – Pastor Ken**  
**Musician – Cindy Olson**  
**Pastor – Ken Scheck**  
**Fellowship – Chip and Brenda Hess**

## No Room for Compromise

Some things seem more trouble than they're worth. People who fish with monofilament line may find that when it kinks, and tangles it isn't worth the effort to pull apart the knots. Likewise for knitters whose balls of yarn unravel into a snarl on the floor. Or when packages of puff pastry can be had from the grocer's freezer case, a baker may well find making it from scratch more bother than benefit and opt for ready-made. Those banking on Jesus' admonition to forgive seventy times seven may find it impossible to make peace with his uncompromising warning that "whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness." Like a foreign-language crossword puzzle, it might seem unsolvable.

Some might find relief in joining the people gathered around Jesus' home who concluded that it would be best to ignore him: "He has gone out of his mind." Others, like his family, stay on the edge of conflict and attempt to restrain him—"Hush, you're making a scene." Tensions are high, not only out among the crowds, not merely *close* to home, but in the *center* of home, the very heart of community and family. The air sizzles with discord. It must have been like the many broken bonds and hollowed-out relationships familiar to us today, at a time roiling with division. Pursuing hope and finding healing might seem not worth the effort.

To that temptation Jesus delivers a scorching, confounding warning: by ascribing his actions to the evil one, rejecting good as though it were demonic, judging the spirit of God's love to be wicked—all of this is to choose *against* forgiveness and mercy. Without recognizing the urgency of love behind Jesus' warning, we may think his words a contradiction to Jesus' commitment to forgiveness. In fact, he uncompromisingly claims that the way of forgiveness belongs to the kingdom of God. Period!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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**Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show** Please join us on **Sunday, July 28** for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show from 9:00 until 3:00. There will be a combined worship service beginning at 10:00. Registration for participants begins at 9:00 with dash plaques being given to the first 40 entrants. Food and beverages are being provided by Thrivent beginning at 11:30. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to bring a dessert to share.

**Blood Drive** Grace will be hosting a blood drive TOMORROW **Monday, June 10**. This blood drive will have a 1980s theme so please be sure to sign up and join in the fun. The sign-up for helping and for donating cookies/juice is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. If you would like to donate blood you can use the Red Cross Donor App from the Apple or Google Play Stores or you can call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment. Thank you for supporting this event.

**The Brothers of Grace** will not be meeting in June, July, or August. They will resume again in the fall so keep an eye out for more info in upcoming bulletins and GraceGrams.

**The 2024 Grace Annual Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, JULY 14th at 9:30 am. Please plan to attend. Please submit all reports for the Annual Meeting by Sunday, June 2nd.

**Time and Talent Surveys** are now available in the Gathering Area. Please return completed forms into the collection folder (also located in the Gathering Area) by July 1. Thank you.

**Commitment Sunday Forms** If you would still like to fill out a pledge form, they are available on the table in the Gathering Area.

**Bell Choir Outing** This Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> the bell choir will be visiting Woodlawn Meadows memory care building for a 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. concert. (Please note, this is a date change from Thursday, June 6.) All are welcome to participate in singing along with familiar hymns and to experience other fun musical pieces performed by the youth handbell choir and a few friends from the adult choir. The concert will last approximately 40 minutes. For more information contact Kim Domke at 269.908.0024.

**Fifth Sunday Fellowship** There will be a combined service at **10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>** the Social Activities Committee is sponsoring a fifth Sunday fellowship time. Special treats will be available after the worship service. We look forward to seeing you!

**Help Wanted** Grace is seeking a treasurer for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Please contact Tim Schoessel if you are interested. We thank Linda Maupin for her service.

**Annual Grace Church Picnic** You are cordially invited to the annual Grace picnic at the home of Phil and Amy Poholski (6810 Highlandview Drive, Middleville) **TODAY.** As a reminder hotdogs, condiments, chips, lemonade, and iced tea are provided. Please bring a lawn chair if you are able, and walking shoes if you would like to walk through the woods. The picnic is held regardless of rain or shine. We hope to see you today.

**Women of Faith** meet **Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.** Our final meeting for the year will be this Tuesday, June 11 and we will resume in the fall.

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. 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 risen Christ who breathes new life into us.

### Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 69 Views: 346  
 Weekly Giving: \$2,505.00 Budget Amount: \$4,366.17  
 May Online Giving: \$2,546.20

<b>Grace Projects Goal</b>	<b>\$25,252.00</b>	<b>HVAC Grace Project</b>	<b>\$564.50</b>
Received To Date	- \$ 2,355.00	Received to Date	- \$ 0.00
<b>Total Needed</b>	<b>\$22,897.00</b>	<b>Total Needed</b>	<b>\$564.50</b>

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$0.00  
 Given this week toward HVAC Repair: \$0.00  
*Total for week* \$0.00

**Sanctuary HVAC** The HVAC has been repaired in the sanctuary. The Executive Committee is making this known so we can cover the cost of this repair in this fiscally challenging time. If you would like to help with this \$564.50 bill, please indicate “HVAC” with your donation. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.

**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.

**Staff Computer Offering** the two church laptops have outgrown their capabilities to support the work of both Pastor Ken and Cindy. We are collecting a special offering to cover this expense. When donating, please indicate “computer fund” on your envelope. Thank you so much for support for this important purchase.

**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.

**Adult Forum** please join us at 9:30 with Pastor Ken leading the study.

**Vehicle Needed** Aurora, our nursery attendant, needs to borrow a car so she can take her driving test. If you can help, please call her at 269.953.5200.