

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
June 23, 2024

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 23, 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.

Welcome

Gathering Music

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

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785

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 of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm.
G By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.

📖 A reading from **Job**:

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

⁷when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—

⁹when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,

¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped.’”

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15



Refrain



You stilled the storm and si - lenced the waves of the sea.

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's mercy en- dures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

²³**Some went down to the sea in ships,
plying their trade in deep waters.**

²⁴They beheld the works of the LORD,
God's wonderful works in the deep.

²⁵**Then God spoke, and a stormy wind arose,
which tossed high the waves of the sea.**

²⁶They mounted up to the heavens and descended to the depths;
their souls melted away in their peril.

²⁷**They staggered and reeled like drunkards,
and all their skill was of no avail.**

²⁸Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,
and you delivered them from their distress.

²⁹**You stilled the storm to a whisper
and silenced the waves of the sea.**

³⁰Then were they glad when it grew calm,
when you guided them to the harbor they desired.

³¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**

³²Let them exalt you in the assembly of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing hallelujah!

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.

☒ A reading from **2 Corinthians**:

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Please arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

WOV page 31



Gospel Reading

Mark 4:35-41

Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

☐ 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

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

ELW 763

Please be seated.

Prayers

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

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

A brief silence

A Equip your faithful people to approach this world with a sense of wonder. Make your church a safe place to explore big questions, troubling doubts, and honest laments. Humble our hearts to repent of the ways that communities of faith have inflicted pain or trauma. Guide and direct *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrissy and David, our synod companion Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Rose City; Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken*. Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A You spoke creation into order from the chaos of the swirling deep. May your name be praised by rivers and seas, wetlands and waterfalls. Secure clean water for all people and protect water sources from contamination or exploitation. Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

A Amid whirlwinds of division, violence, and conflict, remind us again that you are as steadfast as the foundations of the earth. Rejuvenate peacemakers, advocates, and community organizers when they feel weary in their work. 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 Deliver your people from their distress, O God. In times of affliction or hardship, sustain us in faith. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling. Grant consolation and peace to all who live with chronic, terminal, or persistent illness *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, Ed Markwart, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, Lisa Nurenberg, Corinna Palmer, Rick Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Shirley Peterson, The Family of Annette Poholski, Patty Renne, Jennifer Rohr, Cynthia Rudesill (pregnancy), Pastor Sara Samuelson (Trinity Lutheran Church, New Era), 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 Enfold all travelers with your protection. Bless the comings and goings of this assembly as we travel for leisure or for work. Let all journeys be met with hospitality on the way, and let community members return to us with celebration. Merciful God.

C **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intersessions may be offered.

P Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation for all the redeemed of the Lord. Joined together with the great cloud of witnesses, we give thanks for your steadfast love and your wonderful works.

C **Amen.**

Please arise in body or spirit.

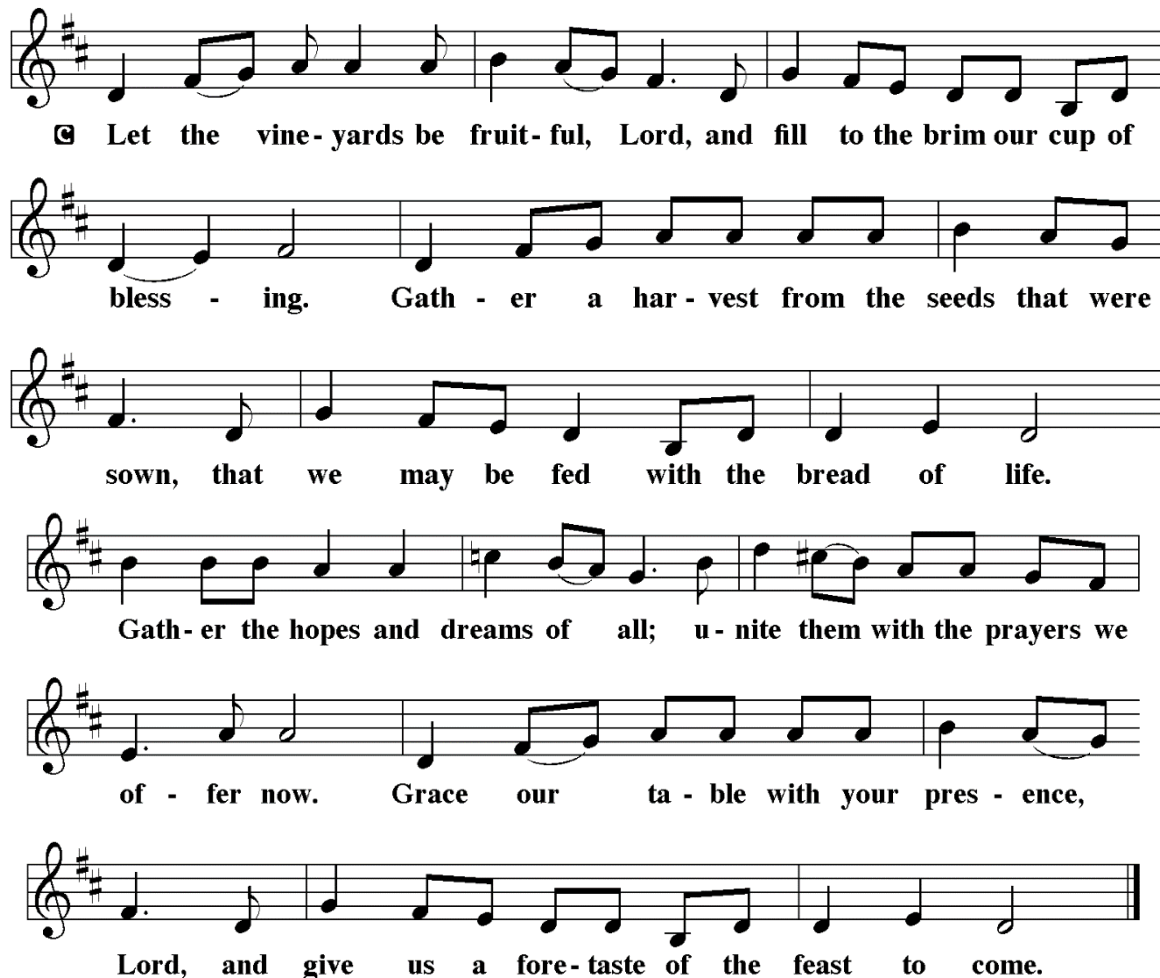
Sharing the Peace of God

- ☐ The peace of Christ be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.** (*We share the peace of Christ with one another.*)

Offering Song

Let the Vineyards

WOV page 35



☑ 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

WOV page 36

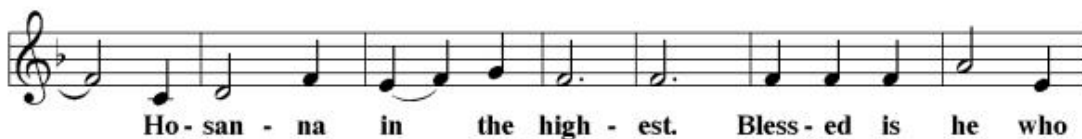


Table Prayer

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.

*Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me
Here is Bread*

ELW 767
ELW 483

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

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

Postlude

8:00 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton
Lector – Dave Neeb
Cantor – Cindy Olson
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck

10:45 am

Assisting Minister –Paul Kuhlman
Lector – Jack Vos
Cantor – Mary Kuhlman
Musician – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck
Fellowship – The Kuhlman's

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 Jesus who walks among us a gives us true peace.

Stewardship Information



Attendance: 37 Views: 462
 Weekly Giving: \$4,455.00 Budget Amount: \$4,366.17
 Staff Computer Fund: \$1,500.00

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

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$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.

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 for the gift of \$1,500.00 towards this need. With this gift, the ministry of Jesus Christ here at Grace Lutheran Church can continue in a much smoother fashion.

Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show Please join us on **Sunday, July 28** for the 9th 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.

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.

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.

Fifth Sunday Fellowship a reminder there will be a **combined service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 30th** which is next Sunday. Thank you to the Social Activities Committee for sponsoring fifth Sunday fellowship time and for providing special treats 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.

Why Are You Afraid?

We often find ourselves swamped by the storms of life, wind and waves beating into our boat. Perhaps it's a literal storm like the disciples experienced in today's gospel reading. Natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and even brutal blizzards have the power to upend our lives. So, too, do health crises, financial struggles, lost jobs, divorce or other relationship difficulties, the death of loved ones, and so many other situations.

Like the disciples, we may become overwhelmed by the storms and angry with God, who appears to be sleeping on the job. "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" is a common prayer in such moments. In response to that prayer, the disciples witnessed a miracle. Jesus stood up, rebuked the storm, and suddenly, all was calm.

But how often have you cried out to the Creator only to find that your personal storm rages on? The tests come back with bad news, the bank account remains overdrawn, the relationship ends, death still seems to have the last word. In these moments, it's easy to doubt: Why hasn't God stopped *my* storm? This side of heaven, we likely will never know why God stills some storms and not others. Yet, just as the disciples had Jesus with them in their boat, so do you. They were safe with their Teacher and the same is true for you.

The storms may beat against your boat with unimaginable force. But in your baptism, Jesus "climbed into your boat" and promised to be with you forever. You may be holding on for dear life. But truly Jesus is also holding onto *you*. Though your boat is rocking all over the stormy sea, he is with you, and you are safe. Do not be afraid.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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