Grace Lutheran Church 239 E North St Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 2:00 pm-6:00 pm

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music June 15, 2025

Holy Trinity Sunday June 15, 2025

Holy Trinity is the day that Christians celebrate the gift of God's presence revealed through Jesus Christ. When Christ came to earth, we realize we have a God who takes care of us like a loving parent, that God came to share salvation by healing, teaching, and forgiving our sins by dying on the cross, and finally gives us continued presence through the Holy Spirit. The colors of the day are white and gold for the purity of God and life we are given by our gracious God.

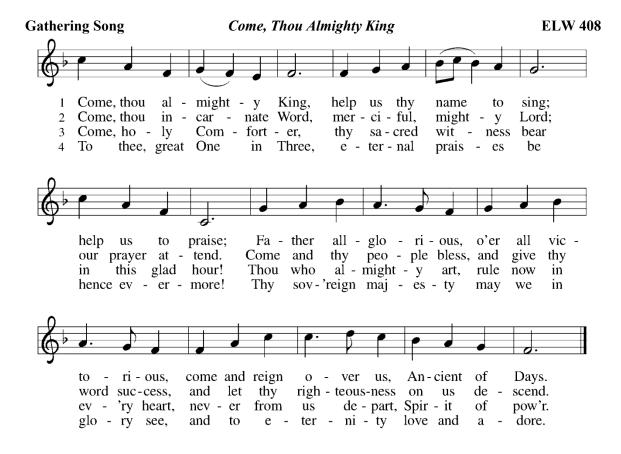
Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Welcome

Gathering Music

Arise in body or Spirit **Opening Sentences**

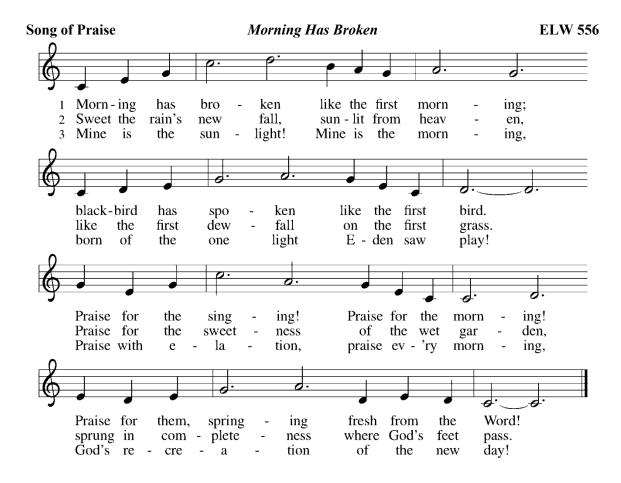
- ▶ O Lord, open our lips,
- **G** and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.
- A Blessed God, satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
- **G** that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- **P** Give praise to the Holy Trinity our true God,
- **G** who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.



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.
- **G** And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

- Let us pray . . . Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Threein-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three.
- Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

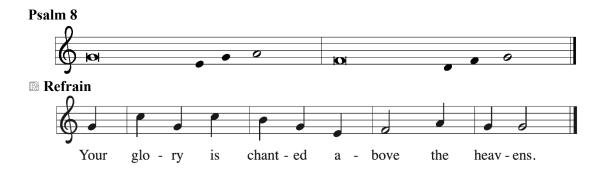
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

In the Bible, wisdom is portrayed in terms sometimes human and sometimes divine. Often, wisdom is personified as feminine. In this passage, Woman Wisdom is depicted not only as the first creation of God, but also as God's helper, rejoicing in God's creation, especially in human beings.

L A reading from **Proverbs**.

- ¹ Does not wisdom call,
- and does not understanding raise her voice?
- ²On the heights, beside the way,
- at the crossroads she takes her stand;
- ³ beside the gates in front of the town,
- at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
- ⁴ "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live.
- ²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.
- ²³ Ages ago I was set up,
- at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
- ²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.
- ²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—
- ²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.
- ²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
- ²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep,
- ²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
- ³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker;
- and I was daily his delight,
- rejoicing before him always,
- ³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race."
- L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



¹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

² you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-¹ fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger. I

³ When I consider your heavens, the work [|] of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set [|] in their courses,

⁴ what are mere mortals that you should be mind-¹ ful of them, human beings that you should ¹ care for them? ®

⁵ Yet you have made them little less | than divine; with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works ¹ of your hands; you have put all things un-¹ der their feet:

⁷ all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

⁸ the birds of the air, the fish ¹ of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths ¹ of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! \square

Second Reading

Paul describes the life of faith with reference to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Even now, we have peace with God through Jesus, and our hope for the future is grounded in the love of God that we experience through Christ's Holy Spirit.

L A reading from **Romans.**

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

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

Arise in body or spirit. **Gospel Acclamation**



Gospel Reading

Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be made known through the coming Spirit who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

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

Please be seated. 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



Please sit or kneel.

Prayers

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

A Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence

▲ Abiding God, your love pours into your whole church, creating faith and bestowing hope. Fill all the baptized with these good gifts in our various callings. Gather your church in every place and expression into the unity of your Spirit. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and Kjersten, our synod companion Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids; Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Hastings; Faith Bible Church, Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken. God of grace,*

G Receive our prayer.

▲ Creating God, your name is majestic in all the earth, and we are filled with awe at your creation. Renew this planet and all its wonders: springs abounding with water, earth and soil, beasts of the field, birds of the air, and fish of the sea. God of grace,

G Receive our prayer.

▲ Sovereign God, you delight in the whole human race. On this week of Juneteenth, bring an end to racial oppression and heal the wounds of racial trauma. Grant us your wisdom, so that all people, especially those in authority, work for the life and freedom of others. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Seth Domke (Domke), Hudson Schick (Markwart), and Leopold Schick (Markwart). God of grace,*

G Receive our prayer.

▲ Compassionate God, your mindful care for us is everlasting. Give peace to all who are troubled, endurance to all who suffer, deliverance to all who are afflicted, and healing to all who are sick, especially Jennie Anderson, Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Terri Barry, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, the family of Kari Cross, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Bob Ehredt, Bonnie Ehredt, Greg Franks, Lori and John Giacalone, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Joy Jenks, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Dana Lepien, Larry Maupin, Dawn McElgunn, Ed McManaway, Linda Melcher, Dr. Michael Menolasino, Sandy Mikolajczyk, Martha Misak, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Kali Ranguette (pregnancy), Tammy Rodriguez, Lynnze Rudesill-Nuyen, Joan Schelter, Angie Stanton, Kathy Surratt, Ed Szumowski, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson. God of grace,

C Receive our prayer.

- ▲ Living God, your glory appears in our shared life. On this Father's Day, give to all fathers and father figures gentle hearts and strong spirits, heal the wounds in our families, and comfort those for whom this day brings pain. God of grace,
- **G** Receive our prayer.

Here other intersessions may be offered.

- Eternal God, your hope does not disappoint. We give you thanks for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. Hold us in our grief, and bring us at last to fullness of life in you. God of grace,
- **G** Receive our prayer.
- **P** Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- G Amen.

Please arise in body or spirit.

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.)



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.
- **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

Great Thanksgiving

₽ The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

■ Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

▶ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give our thanks and praise.

▶ It is indeed our duty and delight 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:

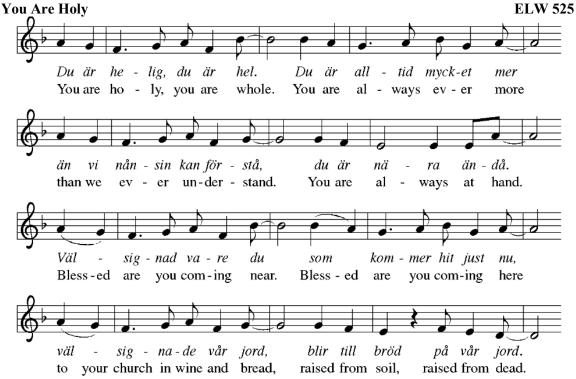




Table Prayer

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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

G 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.

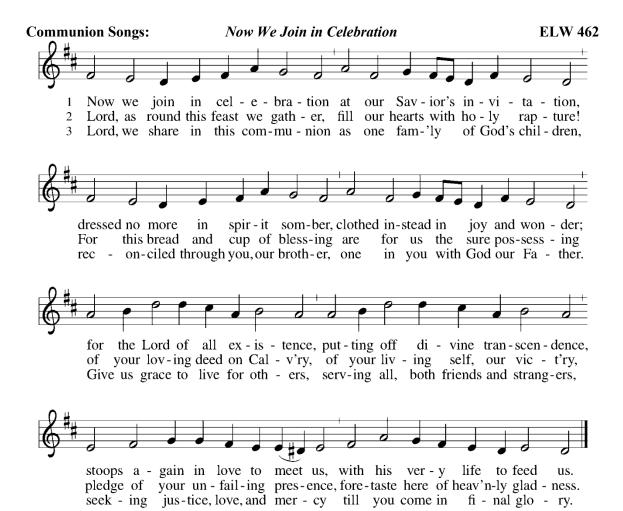
Invitation to Communion

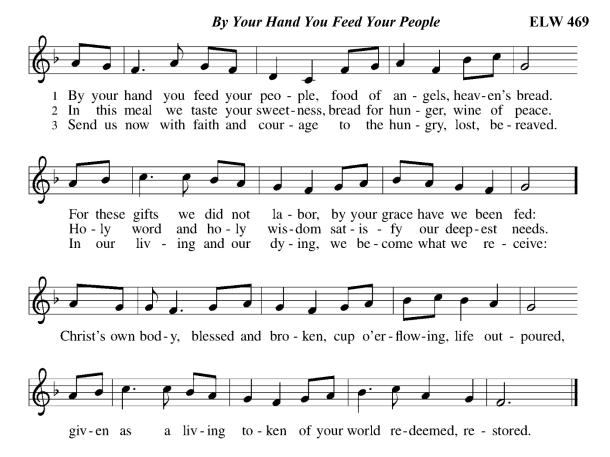
- **P** Taste and see that the Lord is good.
- **C** Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.



Jesus, Lamb of God





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.

G Amen.



Sending

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

Postlude

<u>9:30 am</u> Assisting Minister – Mark Anton Lector – Gwen Hansen Musician – Cindy Olson Cantor – Anna Scheck Pastor – Ken Scheck Fellowship – Bill and Lorraine Freedlund Bread Distributor, Mission Minutes and Blessing – Anna Scheck

Beyond the Known Limit

Telescopes provide a whole new way to see the cosmos, and over the centuries since their invention, we have expanded our understanding of the known universe. For example, we keep increasing our estimate of just how many galaxies are out there. In another hundred years, that number will no doubt be even greater. Will we ever find a fixed boundary?

We might view love as we do the universe. We might experience a limit to love today, but as we embrace the truth that God is love, we continually discover another truth: there is no limit to love. Jesus says all is contained in the two great commandments—love God, and love neighbor as self.

On Pentecost, the church was given the profound gift of love by the Holy Spirit, flowing and very much alive. The church is encouraged to dive deep into that love, to experiment with and experience the reality of love, as shown to us by the God who created us.

One practical way to know God's love is to acknowledge there is so much more to learn about it. We allow for the possibility of infinity in how God expresses love, whether for the person we see in the mirror or for the person who angers us the most.

The Trinity is often shown in ancient art as the Holy Triune gathered around a table in deep and honest conversation. This conversation began way before the beginning, continues in the present, and lives forevermore. The ancient art often offers the viewer a space in the holy circle for one more person. That "one more" is each one of us.

When Jesus says, "I have many things to say to you" (John 16:12), we give thanks that at the holy table, the triune God invites us to sit together and then gifts us with all the time in the universe for each one of us to listen to the loving words God has to say. From sundaysandseasons.com.

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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 our Triune God. How God is revealed to us is a mystery, but we are thankful that God comes and dwells with us each and every day.

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.	Stewardship InformationAttendance: 47Weekly Giving: \$7785.00Budget AmourNoisy Offering: \$26.88	Views: 212 at : \$4,366.17
	Cost of ALL materials for Landscaping Project Brat Sale Received To Date Gift Towards Landscaping Project Landscaping is Paid Off, Extra to General Fund	\$789.31 \$670.00 <u>\$200.00</u> + \$80.69
•	Grace Projects Goal\$ 25,252.00Received To Date-\$ 4,600.00Total Needed\$ 20,652.00Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$50.00	

Women of Faith meets on Tuesdays at 11:00 am here at Grace. All women are welcome. We are having casual summer meetings, without an official study resource.

The nursery is available weekly during the 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.

Parish Administrator is Anna Scheck; office hours 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday-Thursday. Cindy Olson will be the new parish administrator, as Anna will start a full-time job with the Barry Community Foundation on July 1st. Cindy is the PA-in-training!

Adult Forum Please join us after worship with Doug Neeb leading. Pastor Ken will continue with a study on Hebrews next week.

The Annual Church Picnic is next Sunday, June 22 at the Poholski's house. Food will begin at 12 noon. The Poholski's are providing hot dogs, chips, lemonade, and iced tea. Please bring a dish to share, and a lawn chair. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

The Executive Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 17 at 4:45 pm with Congregation Council meeting at 5:30 pm.

Fun in the Sun Blood Drive is on Monday, June 30 from 10 am – 4 pm. Registration is open, call 1-800-733-2767 or go to https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html. Please consider giving blood and spread the word to those who may be interested! Sign up to help with the event on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on July 13 after worship. Please plan to attend, so that we have quorum. **Reports are now due on June 17 at the council meeting.** Holy Trinity Sunday Page 20