**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-Wed 11:00 am-4:00 pm

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

Pastor Ken Scheck II Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music June 22, 2025

# Second Sunday after Pentecost June 22, 2025

**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

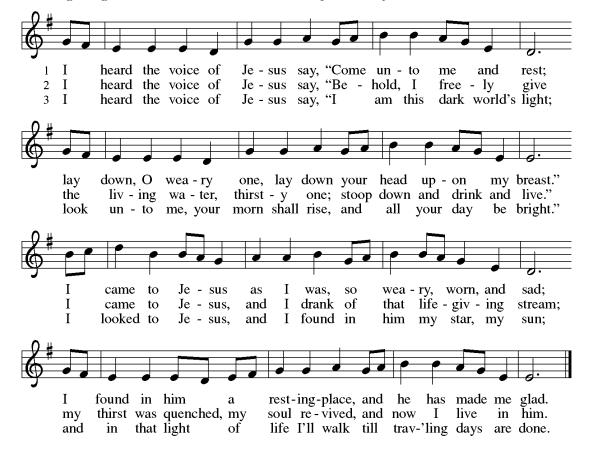
**Gathering Music** 

Arise in body or Spirit **Opening Sentences** 

- ▶ 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.
- Give praise to the Holy Trinity our true God,
- **G** who gives us life, salvation, and guidance all our days.

**Gathering Song** 

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



#### 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. . . O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world.
- In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
  Amen.

# Please be seated.

# **First Reading**

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

# L A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. <sup>2</sup> I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; <sup>3</sup> a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; <sup>4</sup> who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; <sup>5</sup> who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. <sup>6</sup> See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps <sup>7</sup> their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. <sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

# Isaiah 65:1-9

<sup>9</sup> I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

**L** The word of the Lord.

# C Thanks be to God.



<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, be not | far away;

O my help, hasten | to my aid.

<sup>20</sup> Deliver me<sup>|</sup> from the sword,

# my life from the power | of the dog.

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

<sup>22</sup> I will declare your name | to my people;in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.

<sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's <sup>|</sup> line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off-<sup>|</sup> spring of Israel.

# <sup>24</sup> For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid-<sup>1</sup> den from them;

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

<sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

# <sup>26</sup> The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

 $^{27}$  All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn  $^{|}$  to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow  $^{|}$  before God.

- <sup>28</sup> For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
- who rules o-  $^{\mid}$  ver the nations.  $\mathbbm{}$

#### Second Reading

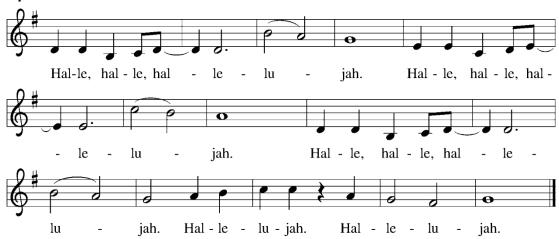
For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

#### **L** A reading from **Galatians**.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**L** The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



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

# **Gospel Reading**

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

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

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup> Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- 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 arise in body or spirit. Song of the Day

You Are Mine





#### 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

▲ We pray for the church. Clothe us in Christ, shower us in mercy, send us in love. Strengthen the faith and witness of Christians across the planet and Christians in our community. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrisy and Kjersten, our synod companion Faith Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids; Faith United Methodist Church, Delton; First Baptist Church, Middleville; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of grace,

# **G** Receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation. Deliver the earth from disaster, bring forth life amid uncertainty, inspire wonder at all you have made. Sustain all people who delight in the well-being of your creation: farmers, agricultural workers, gardeners, birdwatchers, conservationists, scientists, advocates, and policy makers. God of grace,

# **G** Receive our prayer.

▲ We pray for the nations. Pave a way to justice, drown the forces of oppression, bring peace on earth. Give leaders the will to turn from war and violence. When people must flee their homes, guide them to safety. 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.

We pray for people in need. Satisfy all who are poor, soothe those in pain, accompany all who are sick, especially Jennie Anderson, Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Terri Barry, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, 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, thanksgiving for the birth of Charlie Ranguette, Tammy Rodriguez, Lynnze Rudesill-Nuyen, Angie Stanton, Kathy Surratt, Ed Szumowski, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Brenda Watson. Give perseverance to each of us living with mental illness, and shield us from discrimination due to race, class, gender, or any other human distinction. God of grace,

# **G** Receive our prayer.

- A We pray for this assembly. Listen to our cries, come to our aid, make us one. Weave among us the fabric of belonging so that we rejoice in each person gathered here, and enliven our proclamation of how much you have done for us. God of grace,
- **G** Receive our prayer.

Here other intersessions may be offered.

A We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Keep them in your peace, comfort us in sorrow, raise us to new life. As we remember their faith and witness, may we trust your promise that we are yours forever. God of grace,

**G** Receive our prayer.

- P Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- **C** 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.
- **C** 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.

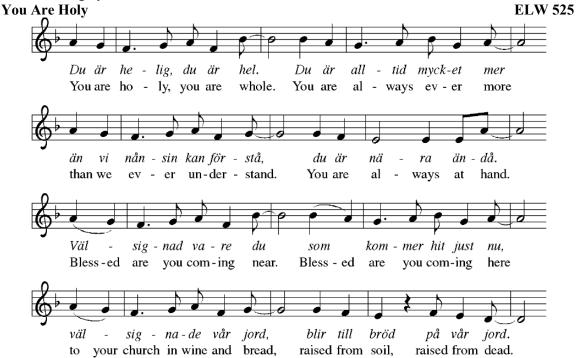
▶ Lift up your hearts.

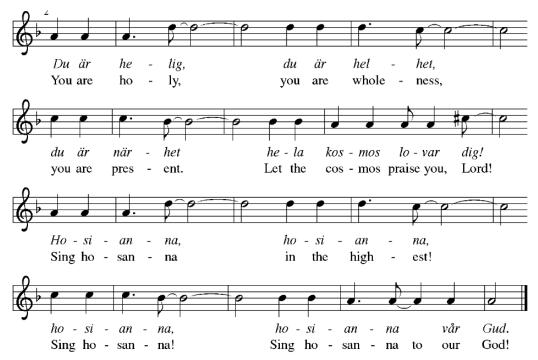
# **G** We lift them to the Lord.

▶ 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.
- **G** Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

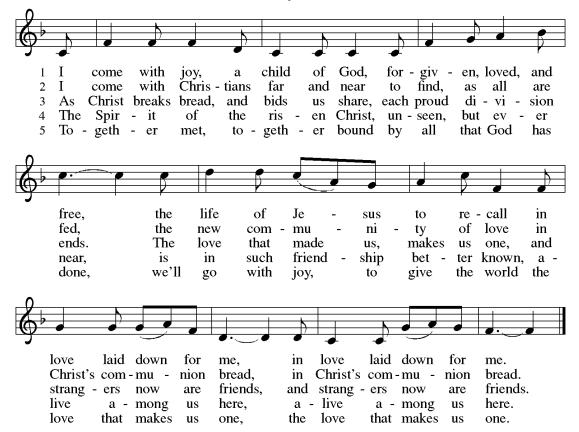


#### Jesus, Lamb of God

**Communion Song:** 



I Come with Joy



# **Prayer after Communion**

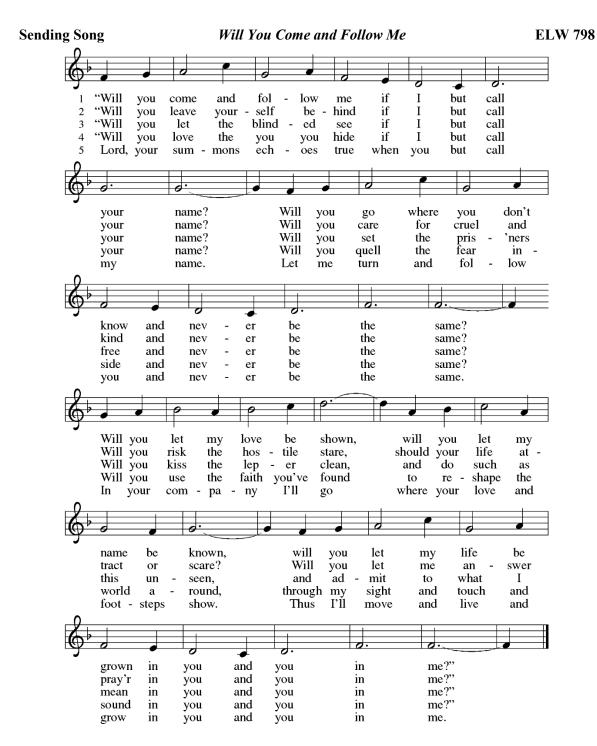
- ▲ Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.
- Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.

# **Mission Minutes**

# Arise in body or spirit

# Blessing

# G Amen.



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Sending

**A** Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

<u>9:30 am</u> Assisting Minister – Randy Teegardin Lector – Carla Neil Musician – Cindy Olson Cantor – Ken Scheck Pastor – Ken Scheck Fellowship – Jamie Heise

# **Real Healing**

Today we resume our journey through the Gospel of Luke. Luke has a clear agenda: to share the gospel to the ends of the earth—to whomever, however, and whenever the opportunity presents itself! Luke boldly declares that the gospel is the gift of healing offered for all creation.

It is with this evangelical and healing bias that we approach this scripture passage. The nakedness, the tombs, and the swine speak to a reality of a lack of ritual purity. The world is not perfect. Demons in turn remind us of the various pressures and temptations that surround and distract us from God's presence and holiness. The swineherds are confused. On one hand, a man is healed; on the other, they lose their livelihood when the swine throw themselves over a cliff. And all of this happens in Gentile land: Jesus shares the good news in non-Jewish lands and to non-Jewish people. Jesus is willing to enter the reality of life. Jesus is willing to enter the reality of our lives.

What better message for Luke to share than that Jesus meets this broken human being right where he is. No need to clean up beforehand. No need to be someone he is not. No need to play any games or wear different hats. He simply gets to be himself. Jesus meets him and shows him that he is seen, not only in his truth of the moment, but also in the fullness of his humanity.

Demons, be gone. Confusion, be gone. Peace enters. Love enters. God enters and envelops each of us in true healing. To know we are enough with God is the heart of healing. Then comes an invitation to share news of the healing Jesus does each day.

What has Jesus done for you today? From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

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 God, who comes to us with the power of healing and wholeness in our lives.

	Stewardship Information	
Please use this QR Code to access	Attendance: 39Weekly Giving: \$1,040.00Budget Amou	Views: 216 nt <b>:</b> \$4,366.17
online giving.	Cost of ALL materials for Landscaping ProjectBrat Sale Received To DateGift Towards Landscaping ProjectLandscaping is Paid Off, Extra to General FundGrace Projects Goal \$ 25,252.00Received To Date-\$ 4,600.00Total Needed\$ 20,652.00Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$0	<b>\$789.31</b> \$670.00 <u>\$200.00</u> + <b>\$80.69</b>

**Women of Faith** will meet at Tyden Park on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 11am – noon, for coffee and fellowship. Bring your own drink. If it rains, plan to meet here at Grace. All women are welcome. We are having casual summer meetings, without an official study resource.

**Devotional materials** for July, August, and September are available for pick up in the Gathering Area.

**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 Cindy Olson; **office hours 11:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Wednesday.** Anna will start a full-time job with the Barry Community Foundation on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Cindy is the PA-in-training!

Adult Forum Please join us after worship with Pastor Ken, with a study on Hebrews.

**The Annual Church Picnic** is today 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.

**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.