

# Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St  
Hastings MI 49058



Website: [www.grace-hastings.org](http://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  
September 14, 2025

# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## September 14, 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

**P** You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C** a people holy to the Lord our God.

**A** Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children

**C** Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

**P** One does not live by bread alone,

**C** but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

### Gathering Song

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

ELW 789

### Greeting

*The pastor and the assembly greet each other.*

**P** The love of God, made known in Christ Jesus our Lord and poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

**A** Let us pray... O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray.

**C** Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## **First Reading**

**Exodus 32:7-14**

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

📖 A reading from **Exodus**.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” <sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup> Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

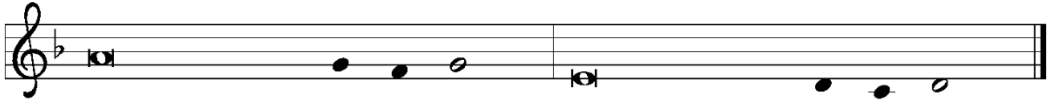
<sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?

<sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” <sup>14</sup> And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalms 51



### Refrain




Have mer - cy on me, O God, ac - cord - ing to your stead - fast love.

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

<sup>2</sup> **Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup> For I know | my offenses,  
and my sin is ev - | er before me.

<sup>4</sup> **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.** 


<sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup> **Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

<sup>7</sup> Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur - | er than snow.

<sup>8</sup> **Let me hear | joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a clean | heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir - | it within me.** 

## Second Reading

## 1 Timothy 1:12-17

*The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

📖 A reading from **1 Timothy**.

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

📖 The word of the Lord.

👏 Thanks be to God.

*Arise in body or spirit.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 15:1-10**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

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

**☩** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**℟** 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**

***Lord, I Lift Your Name on High***

**ELW 857**

*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**.*

Ⓐ Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Ⓐ Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Yahiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate, our synod companion Lutheran Church of the Savior, Kalamazoo; First Congregational Church, Lake Odessa; First Presbyterian Church, Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken*. God of Grace,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of Grace,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. 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,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain *especially Jennie Anderson, the family of Pastor Michael Anton, Mark Arens, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Greg Franks, Lori and John Giacalone, Opal Gillons, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Amy Hansen, Ruth Hill, Joy Jenks, Steve Kaiser, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Dana Lepien, Michelle Luedke, Larry Maupin, Dawn McElgunn, Bev McManaway, Ed McManaway, Linda Melcher, Sandy Mikolajczyk, Martha Misak, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Diane Neeb, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Valeria Poholski, Tammy Rodriguez, Lynnze Rudesill, Kathy Surratt, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, Linda Trongo, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Tom and Kathy*. Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of Grace,

☑ **Receive our prayer.**

**A** Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of Grace,

**G** **Receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of Grace,

**G** **Receive our prayer.**

**P** We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

**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.)*

*Refrain/Estrillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -  
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón  
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



*To stanzas* y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. *Last time* ten - drás.  
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té  
1 Take my hands and let them move  
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,  
3 Take my voice and let me sing  
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;  
at the im - pulse of thy love;  
not a mite would I with - hold;  
al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -  
take my feet and let them be swift and  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry  
take my lips and let them be filled with  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

*Refrain/Estrillo*



pul - so de tu a - mor.  
beau - ti - ful for thee.  
pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
mes - sag - es from thee.  
be thy roy - al throne.

## 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.
- 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

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P** 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

## 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.

☞ 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.**

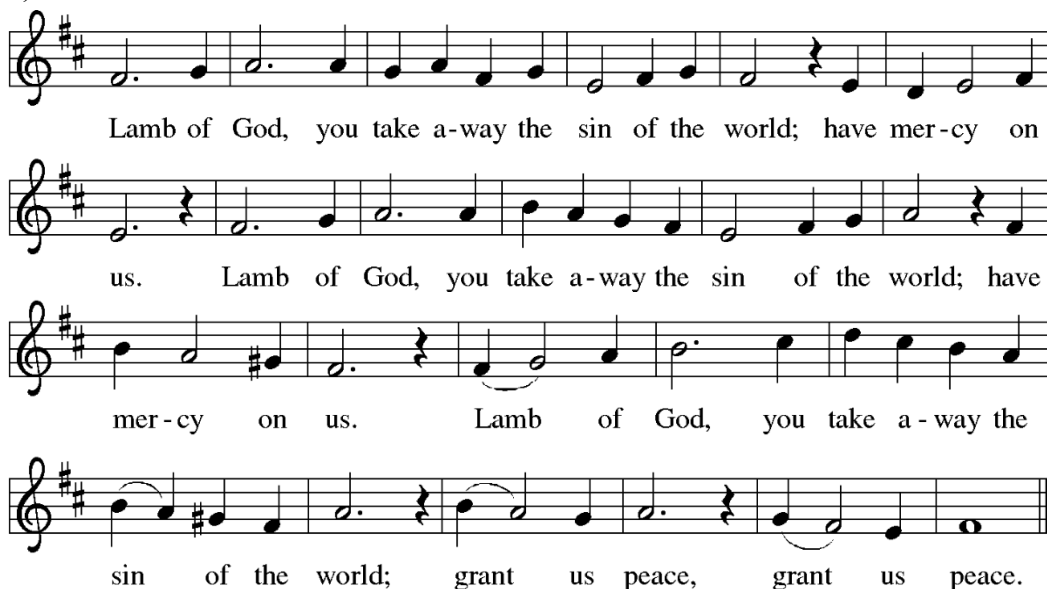
## Invitation to Communion

☞ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated.*

## Jesus, Lamb of 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.

## Communion Songs:

*I Know that My Redeemer Lives*  
*We Walk by Faith*

ELW 619

ELW 635

## 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.
- G** 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.
- G** Amen.

## Sending Song

## Go to the World

ACS 991



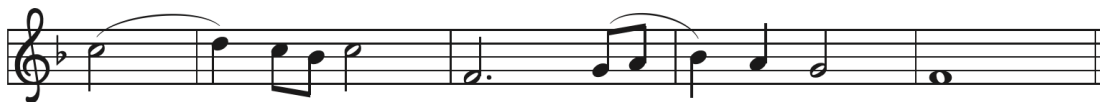
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Sending

☒ Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

☒ Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

**9:30 am**

**Assisting Minister – Randy Teegardin**

**Lector – Gwen Hansen**

**Musician – Cindy Olson**

**Cantor – Anna Scheck**

**Pastor – Ken Scheck**

**Fellowship – Jeanette Markwart**

## God Gathers Us

The sense of heartache that sets in when a treasured keepsake goes missing can be profound. How many times have we panicked when searching for a special item that is not where we think we left it? We may spend hours, days, *months* searching for what was lost, even when the trail goes cold.

We ourselves tend to get lost from time to time. We forget where we belong. We lose track of our belovedness. We grumble and complain, and the joy that once sustained us slips away. This sort of separation is hard on our hearts. It is hard on our spirits. And it is hard on our relationships. But these are exactly the places where Jesus meets us and regathers us into God's love. No matter where we find ourselves wandering, Jesus is there already, turning over every last piece of furniture in the cosmic house to find us when we've gotten lost, to free us when we've gotten lodged in difficult places. And when we are found, the heavens celebrate with us, breaking bread and pouring wine and giving thanks for the chance to be together again. What a remarkable thing!

Indeed, God has drawn near to us already. In bread and wine, in water and word, we know the faithfulness of a God who won't rest until we all are cared for and all of life's relationships are made right. We are, each and all, recipients of the generous love of the Christ who eats with us, who seeks us out when we are lost, and who gathers us back again and again to celebrate abundant life, togetherness, and the joy of restorative community.

Thanks be to God, who goes with us along the way and never ceases to gather us back into such divine folds of love.

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**Called to the Church Triumphant** Our brother in Christ, Reverend Doctor Michael Anton. Visitation will take place here at Grace Lutheran Church on Friday, September 19 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Service will be at Hastings Performing Arts Center on Saturday, September 20 at 11:00 am. There will be a time of visitation at the Hastings Performing Arts Center beginning at 10:00 am.

**Adult Forum** continues studying the book of Hebrew. The class will be right after worship.

**Noisy Offering** is being collected today to benefit Barry County Cares.

**Women of Faith** will meet on Tuesday, here at Grace, at 11:00 am. All women are welcome.

**A Fall Hot Dog Roast** is scheduled for **Sunday, September 28th** after service at the church. Please sign up on the bulletin board and indicate the number attending. We will roast hot dogs on an open fire and share other fall treats with a Corn Hole game available. All food and treats are provided by Social Activities. If you don't want a Hot Dog, Doughnuts and Cider will be available. Please bring children and grandchildren! Don't forget lawn chairs! Looking forward to fun fellowship!

Please join the ***Hastings Women's Club*** at Culver's on Tuesday, **September 16th, 5pm-8pm** for our next fundraiser supporting our "Jumpstart Your Future" Scholarship Fund. Dine-in or Drive-thru, we will receive a portion of the proceeds on all sales during those 3 hours only. Don't eat at Culver's? We also accept donations - cash or check! Thank you for your continued support. Please contact Deborah Wilke at 269-953-8216 with your questions.

School is back in session! Please consider donating to the **Hand2Hand Program** which helps local needy students! **September needs** are: Individual Snacks, Slim Jim's, Snack Pack Pudding, Granola Bars, Individual Applesauce, Ramen Noodles, Mac & Cheese, Raisins, and Individual Instant Oatmeal packets. Items are due by September 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for any donation – Outreach Committee.

**Crop Walk** Information is available beginning today for the Crop Walk. You can find information and materials to get sponsors on the table in the Gathering Area. If you desire, there are envelopes to give money toward this ministry.

**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; **NEW office hours are 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Monday-Wednesday.**

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. We welcome and affirm all people, which includes the LGBTQIA+ community. 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. Jesus searches us out, just as a Shepherd searches a lost sheep. Let us know the grace and love of God that we receive in our lives.

Please use this QR  
Code to access  
online giving.



**Stewardship Information**

Attendance: 52 Views: 216  
Weekly Giving: \$995.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.02

**Grace Projects Goal**    \$ 25,252.00  
Received To Date        - \$ 8,072.00  
**Total Needed**            \$ 1,7180.00  
Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$3,250.00