

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

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
October 19, 2025

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 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

Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Merciful and loving God,

☞ **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

☞ Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

☞ **Amen.**

Gathering Song

Day By Day

ELW 790

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

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

☞ **And also with you.**



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
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let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayer of the Day

- A** O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries.
C Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

L A reading from **Genesis**.

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

L The word of the Lord.

© Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121



Refrain



My help comes from the LORD, the mak-er of heav-en and earth.

¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?

**²My help comes | from the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your ¹ foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you ¹ fall asleep.

⁴ Behold, the keep-¹er of Israel
will neither slum-¹ber nor sleep;

⁵ the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
⁶ **the sun will not strike | you by day,**
nor the | moon by night.

⁷ The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,**
from this time forth for- | evermore. 

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

 A reading from **2 Timothy**.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Seek Ye First

WOV 783

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by
righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the
add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
mouth . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

☐ 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

Give Me Jesus

ELW 770

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 Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.
A brief silence.

A We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate, our synod companion Advent Lutheran Church in Lake Anne; Gull Lake Ministries and Gull Lake Bible Church in Hickory Corners; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of Grace,

G Receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos. God of Grace,

G Receive our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials (*names of officials*) humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world. 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.

A We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer, *especially Jennie Anderson, Mark Arens, Debby Bellmore, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Lloyd Doughty, Lori and John Giacalone, the family of Opal Gillons, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Amy Hansen, Walker Heise, Ruth Hill, Joy Jenks, Michelle Kaufman (pregnancy), Dana Lepien, Larry Maupin, Dawn McElgunn, Bev McManaway, Ed McManaway, Linda Melcher, Sandy Mikolajczyk, Martha Misak, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Diane Neeb, Lisa Nurenberg, Corrina Palmer, Lynnze Rudesill, Kathy Surratt, Karen Thompson, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Tom and Kathy.* God of Grace,

G **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ. God of Grace,

G **Receive our prayer.**

P We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Song

Create in Me a Clean Heart

W&P 35

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve
you; cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that
I might be re - newed. So fill me and
heal me, and bring me back to you. Cre -
ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve you.

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:



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te_a - do - ra.
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to_e-res Se - ñor.
 My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

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

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

G Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

Communion Songs:

Canticle of the Turning

ELW 723

Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love

ELW 708

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW 773

Sending

A Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

G Thanks be to God.

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Anna Scheck

Lector – Amy Poholski

Musicians – Kristi Winick and Carla Neil

Cantor – Mark Anton

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Fellowship Hour – Bill and Lorraine Freedlund

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. Let us always be in prayer and ask God to help us in all our needs.

Please use this QR
Code to access
online giving.

Stewardship Information

Attendance: 43 Views: 198
Weekly Giving: \$2,495.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.02



Noisy Offering: \$43.90
Non-Budget Outreach: \$25.00

Grace Projects Goal: \$ 25,252.00
Received To Date: - \$ 13,731.00
Total Needed: \$ 11,121.00
Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$305.00

The **Hand2Hand Program** helps to provide needs for 77 local students each weekend. Please consider assisting us by contributing the following items, due by October 26th: Slim Jim’s, Snack Pack Pudding Cups, Granola Bars, Ramen Noodles, Mac & Cheese Cups, Fruit Snacks, Yoo-Hoo Chocolate Milk, Individual Instant Oatmeal packets, and Microwave Popcorn. Items can be placed in the box inside the entrance to the building. Any donation is greatly appreciated.– Outreach Committee.

The **Annual Heritage Meal** will be held on **Sunday, October 26th** after the service. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please list how many will attend and if you plan to bring a heritage entree or a dish from another category. Hope to see you then!!

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** is Monday, October 27th. Refreshments are needed for those who give blood. Please see the sign-up in the Gathering Area for items needed if you would like to provide any food for the day.

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 are 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Monday-Wednesday.**

Prayerful Perseverance

How should we pray? What should we pray for? We might sometimes treat prayer like putting coins in a divine vending machine, and some rely on the story of the persistent widow to claim that God will indeed shower us with blessing if only we pray “enough.” Yet, despite fervent prayer, we don’t always get that job, the illness comes anyway, the doubts continue. If we take literally the claims of those who promise prosperity for God’s people, the condition of humanity suggests none of us has been persistent enough. Because, after all, life happens to all of us.

In Jesus’ parable, the woman is not praying strictly for herself; rather, she is praying for justice. A better word may be “vengeance.” The persistent widow is coming to the judge and crying out, “Avenge me! Avenge me against my adversaries!” Her focus is laser-sharp, and she does not give in to distractions. She waits with fervent hope that there will come a day when the judge brings balance, restores what has been lost, and humbles those who have done wrong. The widow is asking for something much larger than her daily needs. She is pleading on behalf of the world.

Like Jacob in Genesis 32, sometimes we wrestle with God, pleading for our own blessing. Our striving can feel overwhelming or even pointless. But Jesus invites us to focus and be persistent, to cry out to him day and night.

Though our prayers are not always answered in the way we want or expect, we can count on God to keep promises. We can count on a day when we are all restored. We can count on a time when God will avenge all of us against the crushing force of death. We can hang our hope on the fact that God receives our persistence with love, patience, and grace.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Adult Forum is not meeting today, as Pastor Ken is at Zion. Join us next week for our study of Ezekiel and find out what God’s vision for humanity was about in their lives.

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

All Saints Day If there is a loved one you would like to add to the list for All Saints Day, please sign them up on the list in the Gathering Area by Sunday, October 26, or email Cindy at parishadmin@grace-hastings.org.

Trunk or Treat is on Friday, October 31st from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The doors will be open at 4 p.m. to allow time for decorating, creating a fun and inviting space for our guests. Candy can be left on or under the table in the Gathering Area. *If you are willing to help, please sign up on the bulletin board.*