

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
October 26, 2025

Reformation Day

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The color for Reformation day is red, which represents the fire of the Holy Spirit. Luther's Rose, a primary emblem of the Lutheran church, is comprised of the following: a black cross, for faith in Christ crucified; the red heart, for faith in the Savior; the white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace; the blue sky, symbolizing that such joy of faith in the Spirit is the beginning of the heavenly joy to come; and the golden ring surrounding all, to signify the endless bliss that heaven will bring.

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

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 596

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.

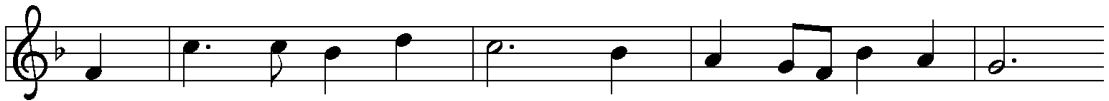
☑ And also with you.

Song of Praise

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

ELW 651

vv. 1-4



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

Prayer of the Day

☐ Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age.

☑ Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

📖 A reading from **Jeremiah**.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalms 46



Refrain



The LORD of hosts is with us; the



God of Ja - cob is our strong - hold.

¹ God is our ref- uge and strength,
a very present ¹ help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the ¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths ¹ of the sea;**

³ though its waters ¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble ¹ with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- ¹ y of God,
the holy habitation of ¹ the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall ¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the ¹ break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the ¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth ¹ melts away. **

⁷ The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works ¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- ¹ on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in ¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the ¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that ¹ I am God;**

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted ¹ in the earth.”

¹¹ The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold. 

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

📖 A reading from **Romans**.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

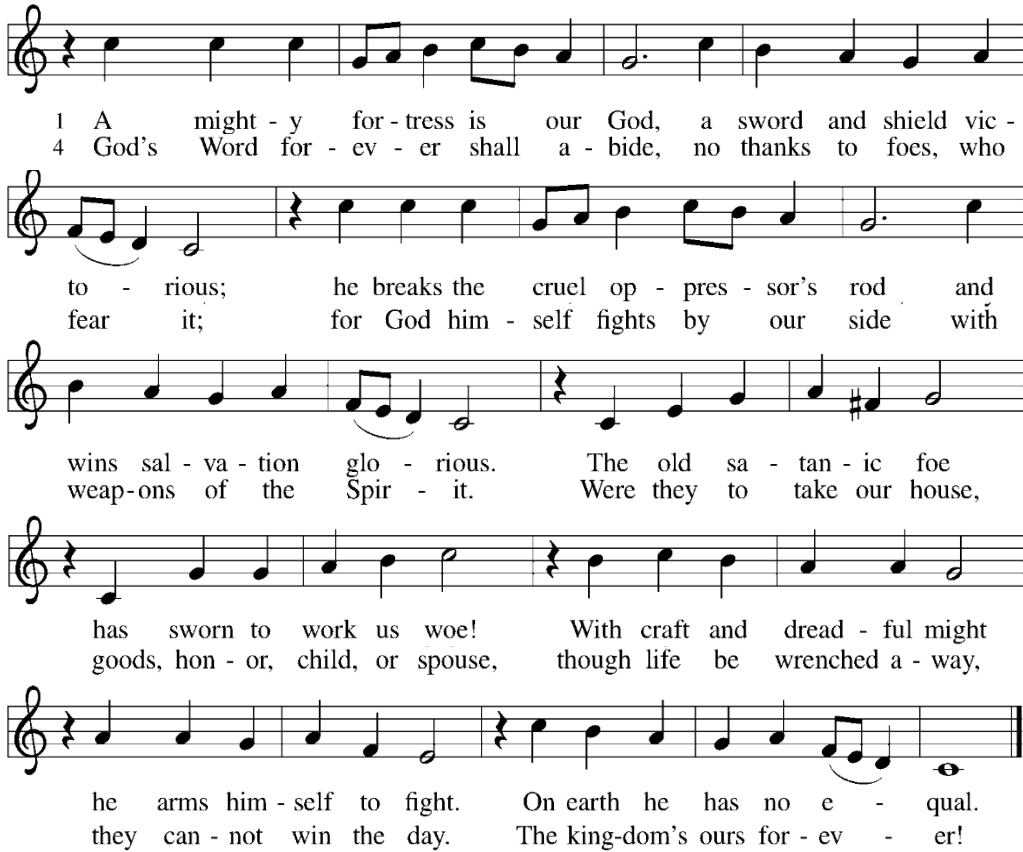
²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Gospel Reading**John 8:31-36**

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

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

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C 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

ELW 581

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 Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate, our synod companion Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lansing; Harvest Community Church in Lake Odessa; Hastings Assembly of God; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of Grace,

C Receive our prayer.

A Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of Grace,

C Receive our prayer.

A Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. 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,

C Receive our prayer.

A Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill *especially Jennie Anderson, Mark Arens, Debby Bellmore, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Kim Domke, Lloyd Doughty, Greg Franks, 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, the family of Wayne Snyder, Kathy Surratt, Karen Thompson, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, and Tom and Kathy*. Be our stronghold at all times. God of Grace,

C Receive our prayer.

A Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of Grace,

C Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross.

C Amen.

Please arise in body or spirit.

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Offering Song

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 185

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are: 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many eighth and quarter notes. There are several slurs and ties used to connect notes across measures.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

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.

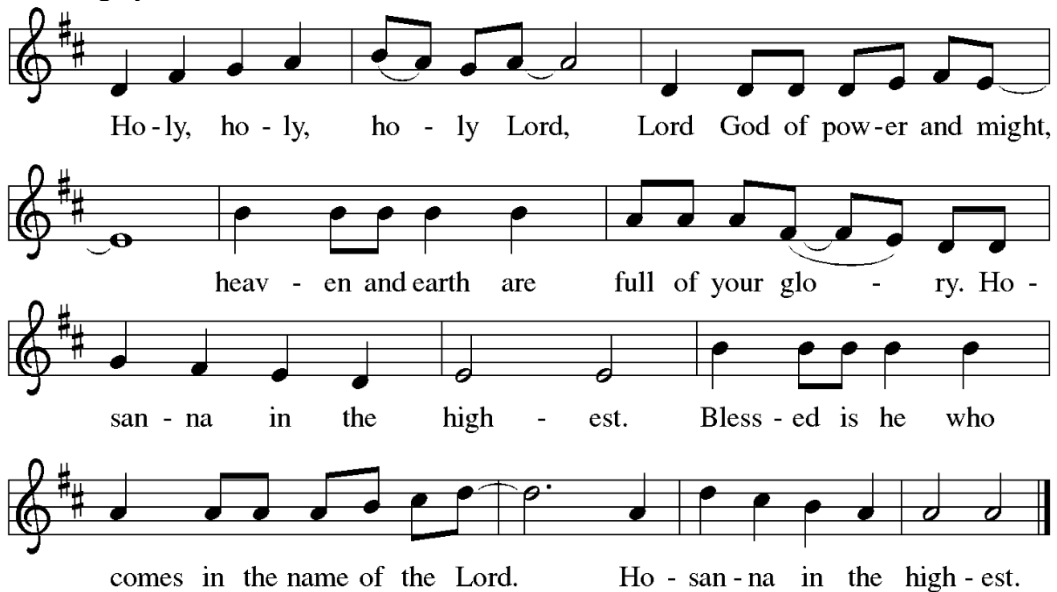
P Lift up your hearts.

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 - er and might,
heav - en 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

P 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

ℙ 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.

☞ Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

Communion Songs:

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.

Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW 474

I Received the Living God

ELW 477

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 Song

Drawn to the Light

ELW 593

Sending

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

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Dave Neeb

Musician – Cindy Olson

Cantor – Mary Kuhlman

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Fellowship Hour – Heritage Meal

Home, Sweet Home

Whether you have lived in several places or very few, you probably have a method for transforming a space to live into a home. Maybe you put family photos on the walls, set out mementos, or spread a favorite quilt on the bed. These touches are important if we want to feel like we belong in a new space.

Jesus offered the gift of belonging to people who newly believed in him, but they had a hard time accepting it. He said if they would continue, or abide, in his word, they would be his disciples, know his truth, and be set free. They would receive the gift of belonging to his household forever.

To us the listeners' response is surprising, as if the new believers had shut their ears as soon as they heard Jesus say, "The truth will make you free." They didn't want to accept that there was anything they needed to be set free from. On a deeper level, they didn't want to believe that someone else would need to set them free. Jesus' words invite us to reflect on where our freedom comes from, and where we belong, as his disciples.

On Reformation Sunday, we celebrate how the Holy Spirit is constantly reforming the church, the community of Jesus' disciples. We give thanks for the gospel message that Jesus saves us from sin and death through his cross and resurrection. We don't have to earn our salvation; we can simply trust that Jesus is the one who makes it possible. That's how we receive genuine freedom—as a gift of God's grace. Thanks to Jesus, we have a permanent home. No matter how many times we move, we abide with Jesus forever. This festival day encourages us to keep listening to Jesus' word, growing in faith as his disciples, and giving thanks that with him, we are always at home.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Adult Forum is not meeting today, as we have the Heritage Meal. 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.*

GraceGrams are ready for pick-up today.

Sharing God's Grace with All People, especially the outcast. We, Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, Michigan, believe we are all created in God's image and are all called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us in our common journey, which includes the LGBTQIA+ community. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, race, nationalities, ethnic background, sexual orientations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels, and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will continually strive to "Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." Micah 6:8

Daylight Savings Time Ends on November 2nd. Don't Forget to Set Back your Clock, so you can get that extra rest!

Pasty Sale It's not too late to get your pasty order. Unbaked are \$7.00 each and Baked are \$8.00 each.

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 know the power of God's Word, Our Faith and God's Grace in our lives.

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Stewardship Information

Attendance: 42
Weekly Giving: \$1,080.00

Views: 201
Budget Amount: \$4,363.02

Non-Budget Social Activities: \$50.00

Grace Projects Goal: \$ 25,252.00

Received To Date: -\$ 15,086.00

Total Needed: \$ 10,166.00

Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$1,355.00

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 is TODAY after the service. Hope to see you then!!

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** is tomorrow, 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 decorations for our Fall, Laughter and Fun will be used for our Trunk or Treat. Come and get your picture taken!

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.**