

# 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 - Wed 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

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Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
July 05, 2026

# Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 05, 2026

*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

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

## Gathering Song

*Give Me Jesus*

ELW 770

## Greeting

*The pastor and the assembly greet each other.*

- P** The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray . . . You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised.  
**C** You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**First Reading**

**Zechariah 9:9-12**

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

📖 A reading from **Zechariah**.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

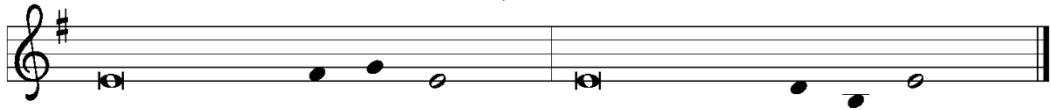
<sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

📖 The word of the Lord.

👏 **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 145:8-14



### Refrain



The LORD is gra - cious and full of com - pas - sion, the



LORD is full of com - pas - sion.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **LORD, you are | good to all,  
and your compassion is over | all your works. ☩**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,  
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom  
and speak | of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know | of your power  
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
through- | out all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all | those who fall  
and lifts up those who | are bowed down. ☩

## Second Reading

**Romans 7:15-25a**

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

☐ A reading from **Romans**.

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

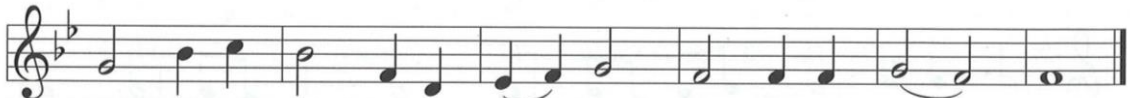
*Arise in body or spirit.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*TFF accomp. ed. pg. 37*



☑ 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

**Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

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

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup> ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup> “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

☐ 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.

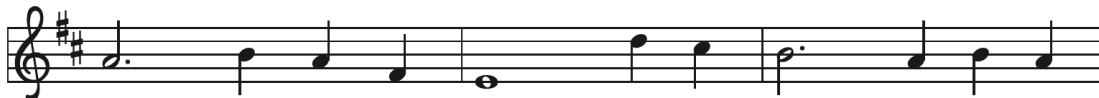
**Song of the Day**

**Come to Me, O Weary Traveler**

ACS 1017



1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - 'ler; come to  
2 "Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not  
3 "Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my  
4 "Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - 'ler; rest in



me with your dis - tress; come to me, you heav - y -  
fear, my bur - den's light; do not fear the path be -  
yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -  
me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is



bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."  
fore you; do not run from me in fright."  
side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty."  
gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

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** Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence*

**A** Gathering God, send your Spirit on the church you have called out from every nation. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act in the public square when your purpose is being thwarted. Bless rostered and lay leaders with clarity and courage as they center your people in the gospel. Walk with and guide *Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate; our synod companion churches, Saron Lutheran Church in St. Joseph; Freeport United Methodist Church; The Gathering Place in Freeport; Minister of Music Cindy, and Pastor Ken.* God of grace.

**C** **Receive our prayer.**

**A** All your works praise you, O God. From the Arctic to the Caribbean, from the Atlantic to the western islands, these lands and waters have sustained its peoples over many centuries. As we take our part in creation's praise, revive our wonder at what you have fashioned, and enliven our will to ensure its health for future generations. God of grace,

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

**A** Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. As the United States of America marks its declaration of independence, give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, and curb every abuse of that trust, so that both here and abroad, justice, humility, and peace may flourish. 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** You are the Mother of exiles, O God. Extend your arms to all who are tired, who live with poverty, the tempest-tossed, all who yearn to breathe free. Embrace people seeking refuge; those incarcerated, detained, or disappeared; and neighbors fearing those they once trusted. Give healing and hope to people in any oppression and need, *especially for Jennie Anderson, Vickey Argo, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Kay Corrigan, Kim Domke, Celina Eichler, Greg Franks, Melanie Franks, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Bill Halstead, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Walker Heise, Autum Henion, Christine Jenkins, Joy Jenks, the family of Anne Johnson, Martha Klenk, Michelle Luedke, Ed Markwart, Cathy Martell, Larry Maupin, Dick Melcher, Carrie Miller, Virginia Moomey, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Lincoln Osborn, Corrina Palmer, Ricky Palmer, Emma Poholski (pregnancy), Rob Smelker, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Gary Teegardin, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Ron Waege, Clyde Watson Jr., and Tom and Kathy*. God of grace.

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

*Here other intersessions may be offered.*

**A** We remember before you those who have died in every generation: Jan Hus, executed for protesting the ecclesial system; Benedict, teacher of a prayerful life; and those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us, and with saints of every tribe and nation, into the holy city you have prepared. God of grace.

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

**P** Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**G** **Amen.**

*Please arise in body or spirit.*

## Sharing the Peace of God

☐ The peace of Christ be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

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

## Offering Song

### *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*TFF accomp. ed. pg. 41*

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

☐ Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.

☑ **Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**

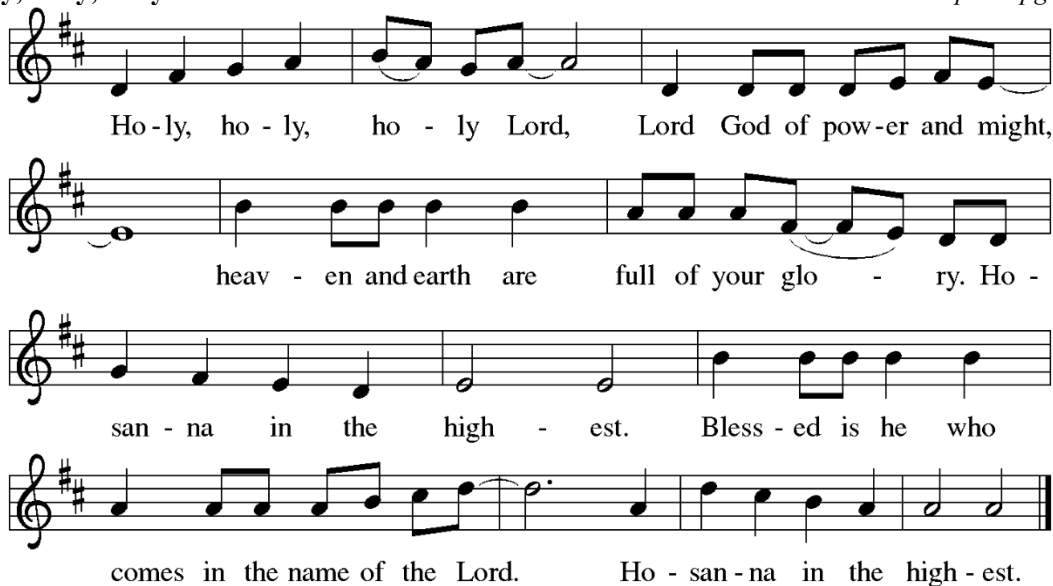
☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

☐ It is our duty and delight, that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, through Jesus Christ who calls us to follow the way of humble service and love, and so, with the church on earth all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

*TFE accomp. ed. pg. 21*



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

- Ⓟ We should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation.
- ☒ **By dying on the cross, Jesus has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.**
- Ⓟ 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.**
  
- Ⓟ With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith.
- ☒ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- Ⓟ Pour your Holy Spirit upon us as we share this meal in the body and blood of our Lord.
- ☒ **Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful people until we feast at your table in glory.**

## 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.*

## Communion Songs

## Lamb of God

TFF accomp. ed. pg. 44

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.

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*  
*Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling*

ELW 726  
ELW 608

## 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.
- C** 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

- A** 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.
- C** Amen.

## Sending Song

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW 765

### Sending

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

## Postlude

**9:30 am**

**Assisting Minister – Traci Wales**

**Lector – Phil Poholski**

**Cantor – Vickey Argo**

**Musician – Cindy Olson**

**Pastor – Ken Scheck**

**Cup Bearer – Brenda Teegardin**

**Usher – Dave Neeb**

**Fellowship - Diane Neeb**

**Women of Faith will not be meeting in July and August.** We will resume September 15, 2026. Our next Bible study topic will be revealed closer to September. Have a nice summer everyone.

## **Invited**

Jesus offers a comforting invitation, “Come to me,” amid a reflection on the mystery of God’s wisdom and the failure by some to recognize it. Instead of making the search for wisdom into a game of hide-and-seek, Jesus sheds any presumption that God’s wisdom belongs only to the elite or adventurous. He declares that the gift of wisdom is accessible and available not just for the smart or those who have earned it in some way; it is for the willing, the burdened, and the heavy-laden. Do not worry about going to find secret knowledge. No need to try harder to figure it out. Just receive his invitation to come.

But in our culture, with so much energy and attention devoted to what we can earn, how do we hear this simple invitation from Jesus? When we find that the wise and intelligent are no closer to obtaining this gift from God, does that give us pause? Is all the effort to find the hidden things Jesus is speaking about part of the burden he asks us to lay down? How can we experience the rest Jesus gives?

The expression “come to Jesus” has varied usage in the broader culture, but our gatherings for the Lord’s supper reveal something about Jesus’ invitation and God’s gifts. When we receive the sacrament, we acknowledge a gift given—one that we need. When we come forward, we may not fully understand exactly how receiving those elements is “coming to Jesus,” but the space is made. We can accept Jesus’ invitation without knowing its full implications. And while the invitation is personal, it also helps us recognize that the community is united in a common response.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://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 challenged at times by people who seem to judge us and others. There are other burdens that come our way. Jesus calls us to give all burdens to him so that we can experience rest.

### Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 44 Views: 196  
 Weekly Giving: \$4,005.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.00  
**Online Giving in June: \$3,768.12**

Offerings received to date through May	\$181,816.17
Offerings received in June	+ \$ 18,936.12
Year to date total offerings	<u>\$215,936.29</u>

<b>Grace Projects Goal</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	Non-Budget income
Received To Date	- <u>\$30,016.00</u>	\$436.00 (Grace Projects)
Total Needed	\$ 0.00	\$100.00 (Helping Hands)

**Update on the Parking Lot Cement Project.** THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE CEMENT PROJECT A SUCCESS! Please be careful when entering the building. Work in the flower beds continues and will be finished in the next few weeks. We are blessed by your generosity.

**Brown Bag Bible Study, Thursdays Noon – 1pm:** Have you ever been confused about the book of Revelation? Come join us as we discuss this book and our thoughts. Remember Communion is offered before each study begins.

**The nursery is available weekly during the worship service.**

**Parish Administrator** Cindy Olson’s office hours are **10 am to 2:30 pm Mon – Wed.**  
**Pastor Ken’s office hours are 10 am to 12 noon Mon & Wed.**

**The Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on July 12 after worship. Please plan to attend, so that we have quorum. **Reports are past due please turn them in as soon as possible.**

**Faith books** are still available in the Gathering Area. Please feel free to take as many books and you would like. We thank Steve Wales (Pat’s son) for providing these books for us.

**The lunch served at the car show on July 26th is in need of Cookies / desserts for the meal. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.** Please sign up and indicate what you would like to bring and the amount so we can get an accurate count. **Also there is another sheet to sign up to provide help with the meal clean up activities.** We appreciate your willingness to help with this event. A reminder: **Worship under the tent is at 10:00 that morning.**