

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

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Office Hours: Mon - Wed 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 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.

L Leader **A** Assisting Minister **C** Congregation

Welcome

Gathering Music

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

L 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.

L One does not live by bread alone,

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

Gathering Song

Borned Cry

ELW 732

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

L 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 . . . Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world.

C Give us this bread, that he may live in us and we in him, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

📖 A reading from **Isaiah**.

- ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

📖 The word of the Lord.

📖 **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading *Gifts to Share* by W.D. Pharris

read by Phil Poholski

- | | |
|--|--|
| I. I will rise in the early morning;
the community's waiting for me.
With a spring in my step, I'm walking
with my friends and my family. | II. God invites all the poor and hungry
to the banquet of justice and good
where the harvest will not be hoarded
so that no one will lack for food. |
| III. May we build such a place among us
where all people are equal in love.
God has called us to work together
and to share everything we have. | |

Song of Witness

Go Tell it on the Mountain

ELW 290

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21



 Refrain



You o - pen wide your hand and sat - is -



fy the de - sire of ev - 'ry liv - ing thing.

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

⁹ LORD, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works.

**¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.**

**¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,
and you give them their food | in due season. **

¹⁶ You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

¹⁷ You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works.

**¹⁸ You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.**

**¹⁹ You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;
you hear their | cry and save them. **

²⁰ You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.

²¹ My mouth shall speak the praise | of the Lord;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev- | er and ever. 

Responsive Reading *Bring Peace to Earth Again* by Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

read by Kate Watson

- I. Where armies scourge the countryside,
and people flee in fear,
where sirens scream through flaming nights,
and death is ever near.
- II. Where anger festers in the heart,
and strikes with cruel hand;
where violence stalks the troubled streets,
and terror haunts the land.
- III. Where homes are torn by bitter strife,
and love dissolves in blame;
where walls you meant for sheltering care
hide deeds of hurt and shame.
- IV. O God, whose heart compassionate
bears every human pain,
redeem this violent, wounding world
till gentleness shall reign.

Song of Praise

How Great Thou Art

ELW 856

Second Reading

Romans 9:1-5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

- L** A reading from **Romans**.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—

² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

- L** The word of the Lord.

- © Thanks be to God.**

Song of God's Beauty

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

Responsive Reading *O God, We Love You* by K. Scheck

read by Amy Poholski

O Love that will not let us go; we rest in your loving face. We give praise for your loving care, which is your never-ending grace. Your light comes to us each day and gives us joy on the way. Your beauty restores all life, even in the midst of strife. We give you honor and praise each and every day, as we go along our way.

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW Liturgies accomp. ed. pg. 138



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

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

👉 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

👉 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song of Providing

On Eagle's Wings

ELW 787

Please be seated.

- I. I will bless the Lord at all times.
Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord;
for God has been so good to me.
- II. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord, who answered me;
from all my troubles I was set free.
- III. Worship the Lord, all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
in God we need put all our trust.

Please arise in body or spirit.

Song of the Word

Speak, O Lord



1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food of your ho - ly Word.
2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.



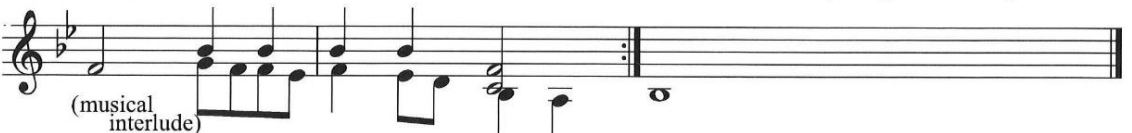
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness - that the
Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our
Truths un - changed from the dawn of time that will ech - o down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty.
grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.



Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.
Words of power that can ne - ver fail; let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.



(musical
interlude)

Response to the Word: Creed and Confession

- A** In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**
(Ephesians 1:13-14)

- A** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

- L** Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
C **pray in the Holy Spirit.**
(Jude 20)
- A** If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
C **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

- L** God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self examination.

L Gracious God,
C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.
Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

L The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.
C Amen

Sharing the Peace of God

A Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another,
live in peace. *(2 Corinthians 13:11)*
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you. *(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)*

Please sit or kneel.

Song of Discipleship

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore

ELW 817

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Merciful God.** The assembly prays, **Receive our prayer.***

A With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

A For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Walk with and guide *Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate; our synod companion churches, Augustana Lutheran Church in Tustin; Gull Lake Bible Church in Hickory Corners; Harvest Community Church in Lake Odessa; Minister of Music Cindy, and Pastor Ken.* Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

A For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

Ⓐ For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and 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).* Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit *especially for Jennie Anderson, Vickey Argo, the family of Shirley Beck, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Aurora Collins, 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, Martha Klenk, Michelle Luedke, Ed Markwart, Lexi Markwart, Cathy Martell, Larry Maupin, Dick Melcher, Carrie Miller, Virginia Moomey, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Lincoln Osborn, Corrina Palmer, Ricky Palmer, Josh Reynolds, 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.* Merciful God,

Ⓐ For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Ⓐ With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

📖 Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

📖 Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

☞ **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.**

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

Ⓐ May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

☞ Amen.

Ⓐ May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

☞ Amen.

Ⓐ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

☞ Amen.

Sending Song

This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677

Sending

Ⓐ Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Postlude

9:30 am

Leader – Mark Anton

Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo

1st Reading & Response – Phil Poholski

Psalm & Response – Kate Watson

2nd Reading & Response – Amy Poholski

Gospel Reading & Response – Gwen Hansen

Musician – Cindy Olson

Usher – Erin & Greg Franks

Fellowship - Diane Neeb

The nursery is available weekly during the worship service.

Zion Lutheran Church, Woodland, will have a Celebration of 170 years of Worship & Service on Sunday, August 23rd. Worship is at 11am, immediately followed with lunch, and then games for kids and a hymn sing. Grace is considered part of Zion's history and invited to join in this event.

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. Today we are given many signs of grace. God gives us an abundance. Let us be filled with God's grace and share it with others.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR
Code to access
online giving.

Attendance: 63 Views: 185
Weekly Giving: \$929.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.00



Offerings received to date through June \$200,752.29
Offerings received in July + \$ 7,729.00
Year to date total offerings \$208,481.29

Non-Budget Giving: Grace Projects (Parking Lot) \$ 60,843.00
Social Activities (Car Show Luncheon) \$ 201.00
Outreach \$ 200.00
Helping Hands \$ 200.00

Update on the Parking Lot Project. Please be careful when entering the building. We have gotten our ducks in a row to enter into a contract with the asphalt company. We are thankful for the very generous gift from the Anton Family that makes this phase of our parking lot project possible. We are blessed by everyone who has shared generously with Grace.

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.

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.

The Cereal City Band Concert is scheduled for Sunday, August 16 at the Kellogg Manor. Concert is 3-5pm. Those interested can sign on the bulletin board. Please indicate if a ride is needed. We will confirm reservations for Heroes Restaurant in Delton for dinner after the concert. Please mark if you will attend the dinner so we have an accurate count.

Our next Blood Drive will be August 24, 2026, 10am-4pm. Our theme: Pajama Party. Please consider donating blood by calling 1-800-RedCross or by signing up online. Tell your family and friends. There will soon be a Refreshment Need sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area, should you wish to donate some food for the cause.

True Abundance

In our gospel reading, Jesus hears about John the Baptizer's death and wants to be alone, to withdraw "to a deserted place" (Matthew 14:13). But the crowds follow him, the disciples follow him, and it seems everyone wants something from him. Jesus' response is compassionate, and he meets their needs, healing those who were sick. Then evening falls, and the disciples come to him with a request: "You've healed everyone. Now send them home. They can buy food in the villages for themselves."

Some compassion is needed here for the disciples too. With the twelve of them plus Jesus, there are at least thirteen people to feed with what they have—just five loaves and two fish. That's not enough even for them.

So Jesus does this miracle—he takes what he is given and multiplies it so everyone has something to eat, and there are twelve baskets left over. (Twelve baskets means one for each disciple to carry and then realize that true abundance comes from Jesus!)

The miracle fed the people, but it also taught the disciples that, with Jesus, there is always compassion and always enough to share. After feeding the thousands, each disciple now had a basket full of food. By sharing what they had, through Jesus they received back more than they had to begin with.

This is the true message of Matthew's text today: God gives us what we need, we share what we have with others, and in the end, we are given more than we could ever imagine. This is loving the neighbor. This is being God's grace in the world. At no time is sending people away God's answer. Jesus taught his disciples this important lesson, and we continue to learn and struggle with it today.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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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.