

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 - Wed 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
August 16, 2026

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 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.

Gathering Music

*“Aria”
(written in 1783)*

by Giuseppe Giordani
Carla Neil, piano

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

P You are the treasured people of the Lord,

G a people holy to the Lord our God.

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

G 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,

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

Gathering Song

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

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.

G And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray . . God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.

G Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

📖 A reading from **Isaiah**.

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67



Refrain



Let all the peo - ples praise you, O



God, let all the peo - ples praise you.

¹ May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health a- | mong all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth.** 

⁵ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. 

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

📖 A reading from **Romans**.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

📖 The word of the Lord.

👏 **Thanks be to God.**

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 15:21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

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

👏 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

📖 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

Arise in body or spirit.

Song of the Day

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612

Please be seated.

Prayers

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

🙏 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

Ⓐ For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Walk with and guide *Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate; our synod companion churches, Grace Lutheran Church in Vassar; Hastings Church of the Nazarene; Hastings Free Methodist Church; Minister of Music Cindy, and Pastor Ken.* Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. 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 are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind, *especially for Jennie Anderson, Vicky Argo, 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, Autumn Henion, Christine Jenkins, Joy Jenks, Martha Klenk, Michelle Luedke, Ed Markwart, Lexi Markwart, Cathy Martell, Larry Maupin, Dick Melcher, Carrie Miller, Virginia Moomey, Sandy Mosteller, Kate Muraski, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Lincoln Osborn, Corrina Palmer, Ricky Palmer, Josh Reynolds, Steve Sensba, Rob Smelker, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Gary Teegardin, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Ron Waage, Clyde Watson Jr., and Tom and Kathy.* Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Ⓐ For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,

☞ **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- A** For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,
- G** **Receive our prayer.**
- P** 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.
- 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

Come to the Table

ELW 481



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

- A** Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.
- G** **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

ELW accomp. ed. pgs. 142-143

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, 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, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

All Are Welcome
One Bread, One Body

ELW 641
ELW 496

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

Ⓐ 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

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

ELW 651

Sending

Ⓐ Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo

Lector – Randy Teegardin

Cantor – Mark Anton

Musician – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Cup Bearer – Brenda Teegardin

Usher – Gwen Hansen

Fellowship - Bill & Lorraine Freedlund

Noisy Offering collected today will benefit Barry County Cares. Noisy Offering is collected the second Sunday of each month. (Apologies for not having the bowl out last week.)

School is back in session!! The list of items needed for hand2hand are on the wall in the entryway to the church.

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.

Cindy will NOT be in the office the week of August 24, until the afternoon of Thursday, 8/27.

Pastor Ken's office hours are 10 am to 12 noon Mon & Wed.

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.

The Barry County Relay for Life will be from noon on Saturday, September 12 until noon on Sunday, September 13. It will be held at Tyden Park. Register to walk or support our Grace walkers partnering with a team called GIVE4GOOD. www.relayforlife.org/barrymi Luminaria are available at Grace. Bags are due back on September 6th. Contact Kim Domke or Amy Poholski for more information.

Breaking Boundaries

Jesus did not stay within the boundaries of his time, much to the frustration of authorities. He broke through not just geographic boundaries but religious, ethnic, and social boundaries as well.

Jesus intentionally broke geographic and ethnic boundaries in visiting the Canaanite communities of Tyre and Sidon. Canaanites and Jews had often been in conflict, so it was not that surprising when the disciples attempted to prevent a Canaanite woman from seeing Jesus. She was breaking boundaries herself in asking that Jesus heal her child. Jesus' first response seems harsh, but as the woman persisted and acknowledged him as "Lord" (something the disciples had been slow to grasp), he healed her child.

In this encounter, Jesus demonstrated that God's love cannot be held back by boundaries created by humans based on who we are, where we are from, what we have done, our background, our position in society, and more. God's grace and restoration are available to all, with no exceptions. And yet, history is filled with accounts of bias, discrimination, oppression, segregation, persecution, and genocide. Tragically, this continues today in a multitude of ways and a multitude of places.

As present-day disciples, we are called to follow Christ in breaking boundaries, challenging biases, and welcoming all to celebrate God's love at the font and the table. So, what boundaries do we need to break to work for peace and proclaim the good news? How are we and our congregations fighting bias, discrimination, oppression, and persecution wherever we can? How are we persistently asking Christ to heal and restore fractured communities and nations around the world?

From 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. Sometimes the words of Jesus seem harsh, as he lives out his life. Today is an example of that with the way he interacts with a Canaanite woman. Let us show grace and love, even to our enemies.

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR
Code to access
online giving.



Attendance: 48	Views: 222
Weekly Giving: \$1,597.50	Budget Amount: \$4,363.00
Zion Lutheran Church: \$5,706.57	

Offerings received to date through July	\$211,592.55
Offerings received in August	+ \$ 3,227.50
Year to date total offerings	\$214,820.05

Non-Budget Giving: Grace Projects: \$ 430.00
Noisy Offering: \$4.35

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. **When work begins, the parking lot will have a gravel-type surface, for up to two weeks.** 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. **We will inform you when the parking lot will be completely closed, which will be for one day only.**

The Cereal City Band Concert at the Kellogg Manor is today, 3-5pm.

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.

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.

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 Social Activities Committee will meet next on Monday, August 31st, at 1:30pm.