

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

Phone: (269) 945-9414
(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
October 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 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

Arise in body or Spirit

Opening Sentences

A You are the treasured people of the Lord,

G a people holy to the Lord our God.

P 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.

A One does not live by bread alone,

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

Gathering Song

God Extends an Invitation

ELW 486 (red book)

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... Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance.

G Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

📖 A reading from **Isaiah**.

¹ O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

📖 The word of the Lord.

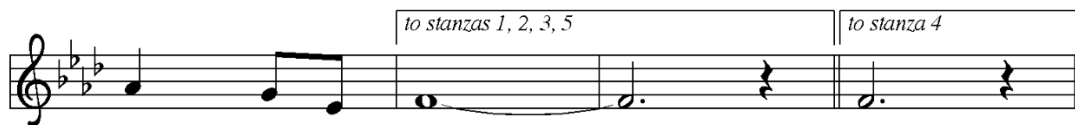
🙌 **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

📖 A reading from **Philippians**.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

📖 The word of the Lord.

👉 **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 599

God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;
to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while
time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

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

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

☐ 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

Now We Join in Celebration

ELW 462 *(red book)*

Please be seated.

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Gracious God.** The assembly prays, **Your mercy is great.***

☐ Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence

☐ Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Walk with and guide *Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate; our synod companion churches, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Alpena; Middleville United Methodist Church; Most Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Middleville; Minister of Music Cindy, and Pastor Ken.* Gracious God,

☑ **Your mercy is great.**

☐ We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Gracious God,

☑ **Your mercy is great.**

☐ We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. 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).* Gracious God,

☑ **Your mercy is great.**

A We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering, *especially Jennie Anderson, Vickey Argo, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Kay Corrigan, Byron Cramsie, Kim Domke, Celina Eichler, Greg Franks, Melanie Franks, the family of Tom Girrbach, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Bill Halstead, Amy Hansen, Aurora Hawkins, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Walker Heise, Autum Henion, Christine Jenkins, Joy Jenks, Martha Klenk, Gabby Kriebiehl, Ricky Long, Cathy Martell, Larry Maupin, Dick Melcher, Carrie Miller, Virginia Moomey, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Bob Power, Lincoln Osborn, Samantha Replogle, Steve Sensiba, Rob Smelker, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Gary Teegardin, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Ron Waege, the family of Jerry Wagner, and Clyde Watson Jr.* Gracious God,

G **Your mercy is great.**

A We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Gracious God,

G **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Gracious God,

G **Your mercy is great.**

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; 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

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW 679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.



Now we join Christians all over the world in worshipping God through the sharing of our financial resources. If you are a first-time visitor, you are our guest and we do not expect you to give an offering. For members and friends, the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran Church is completely dependent upon your generous giving. Offering plates are located near the baptismal font.

Offering Prayer

- A** Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.
C 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. 173

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n 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, 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.

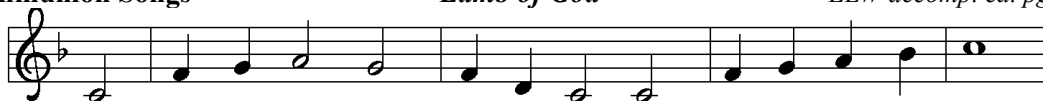
☑ **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated.

Communion Songs

Lamb of God

ELW accomp. ed. pg. 176



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*Come, Let Us Eat
Thine the Amen*

ELW 491 *(red book)*

ELW 826 *(red book)*

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

Rejoice Ye, Pure in Heart

ELW 873 *(red book)*

Sending

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

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Vickey Argo

Musician – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Cup Bearer – Jan Schreiner

Usher – Bill Freedlund

Fellowship – Jeanette Markwart

Noisy Offering collected today (bowl was “mistakenly” put out last week) will benefit Barry County Cares. Noisy Offering is collected the second Sunday of each month.

There will be a free screening of the documentary “Jesus Was a Migrant” today, October 11th, at the Hastings 4 Theater. This showing is offered by Roundtable Companions for Racial Equity. There are brochures with more information on a few of the tables in the Gathering Area.

The nursery is available weekly during the worship service. Our Attendant is Aurora Hawkins.

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.

Pasty Sale November 7: Unbaked \$7.00 & Baked \$8.00. Dough making is Wednesday, November 4. Signup sheets for helping and ordering are on the bulletin board.

Currently, hand2hand is helping provide food for 76 students. The foods being collected are: Microwave popcorn, Protein bars, Trail mix, Raisins, Slim Jims, Individual cereal & oatmeal, Cheez-its, Fruit snacks, Fruit cups, Individual Applesauce, Mac 'N Cheese Cups or boxes, Ramen Noodles, Granola bars, and Cereal bars. **Any amount of any of these items is greatly appreciated.** This list is expected to remain pretty much the same throughout the school year. We will know soon how many students are in need. These food items help students who may otherwise be HUNGRY during the weekend when not receiving meals at the schools. **Items are due Sunday, October 25th. Thank You!!** - Outreach Committee

“The Annual Fall Heritage Potluck is scheduled for Sunday, October 25th. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board so we can have an idea of how many will attend and meal contributions! Thanks!”

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Monday, October 26, 10am – 4pm. The theme is Halloween Special: Let's Get Batty. If you would like to contribute refreshments for the donators, please see the list of needs on the signup list on the bulletin board.

Trunk - or – treat Join us in sharing the fun, on October 31, by handing out candy and some good cheer for this annual event 5:00 until 7:00 pm. Doors open at 4 pm for decorating

AED Training is being offered. If you are interested in learning how to use this saving device, you will have an opportunity to sign up in the near future. Let us be prepared to help those how might need this life saving device.

Brown Bag Bible Study is in the middle of a real cliff hanger. Join us **Thursdays from noon to 1pm at church** as we discuss the final message from Jesus in the book of Revelation. Communion is offered before each study begins.

Women of Faith (WOF) meets on **Tuesdays from 11am – noon.** We have started a new **Bible Study: Spiritual Gifts.** All women are welcome.

“God's Creation” 2027 wall calendars are available for \$10 each. (Get yours soon – when they're gone, they're gone.)

It's time for a new photo directory! Plans are made for a photographer to be at Grace after church on Sunday, November 1st. (Backup date: November 22nd) A directory will be created from these pictures and available for purchase, as desired. More information to come!

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 Jesus tells a story about how we are invited to be a part of a wedding feast. God clothes us and gives us all we need. We are called to wear love, kindness and generosity.

Please use this QR
Code to access
online giving.



Stewardship Information

Attendance: 38	Views: 206
Weekly Giving: \$1,500.00	Budget Amount: \$4,363.00
Noisy Offering (put out a week early): \$24.00	
Offerings received to date through September 27	\$ 39,544.60
Offerings received on October 4	+ \$ 1,500.00
Year to date total offerings (<i>fiscal year</i>)	\$ 41,044.60
Grace Projects: \$1000.00	Non-Budget (Outreach): \$300.00

Welcomed In

A crowd gathered in the church basement like they did every third Thursday of the month. They walked past the kitchen window. They grabbed their plates. They filled up cups of ice water and coffee and swung by the dessert table on their way to folding chairs situated around circular folding tables throughout the room. Conversations bubbled up as old friends greeted each other around the free meal provided, as it was every month. Everyone was welcome, no questions asked.

This image of a free meal in the church basement, attended by any and all comers, is reminiscent of the wedding feast the king gives in today’s parable. When those who are invited fail to show up, the king sends his servants out into the entire surrounding countryside to bring to the meal any and all who will attend. The king doesn’t check credentials; the king doesn’t ask questions. The joy of the wedding feast is open to all.

The parable tells us of one guest without a wedding robe, who winds up outside the joy of the feast. This can cause us to worry or despair. Do we have a wedding robe fit for the kingdom of heaven? What happens to us if we do not? Our baptism in Jesus, however, reminds us that we have no need to fear. We have been clothed not with a robe but with the grace of Jesus, which assures us that we, who have been gathered into the feast of the reign of God, have a place and an inheritance among God’s people. Gathered around that table of grace, we too are sent to share the good news and welcome others into the reality of God’s reign.

From sundaysandseasons.com.
Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.